

# Sunshine & Showers

## Crochet Along Blanket



May is the month when the grass is at its greenest and the British countryside is bright and fresh. When designing the first part of the Sunshine & Showers sampler blanket I wanted to capture the idea of green rolling hills and lush meadows. Within this set of patterns I will talk you through basic stitches and colour changes, as well as showing you how to make a wave stitch pattern.

### MATERIALS

#### Stylecraft Special DK

100% Premium Acrylic,  
100g, 295m (322yds)

	Duck Egg (1820)	1 ball
	Storm Blue (1722)	1 ball
	Khaki (1027)	1 ball
	Meadow (1065)	1 ball

### EQUIPMENT

- Stitch Markers
- 4mm, 4.5mm hooks
- Knitter's needle

### TENSION

20 sts x 22 rows = 10cm (4in)  
measured over dc

### Finished size:

186 x 95-96cm (73¼ x 37½-38in)

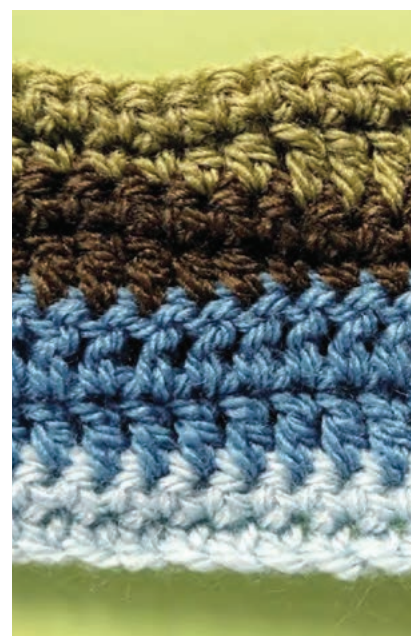
### Blanket construction:

The blanket is made in four pieces, which will be joined together later on. You need to repeat each stage so that you have the correct pieces of crochet completed to the same point at the end of each pattern stage.

For basic stitch terms and tutorials take a look at the [Janie Crow YouTube channel](#) or the [free technique documents on the website](#).

### Contact

If you have any queries regarding the patterns you can email:  
[mail@janiecrow.co.uk](mailto:mail@janiecrow.co.uk)





## Start Crocheting

● Using **Duck Egg** and **4.5mm hook**, make 172ch.

**When working your foundation row** it is important that you do not twist your chain. The image on the left shows the Right Side (RS) of the chain and the image on the right shows the Wrong Side (WS) of the chain.



To help when counting the chain you could decide to put a marker in at every 10 or 20 sts.



**Foundation row:** Miss 1 ch, 1dc into each ch to end, turn. **(171 sts)**



**At the end of the row** your tail end will be to the left-hand side. When you have the RS facing, the tail will always be to the left-hand side. It is common for crochet to want to curl up, so don't panic if you have some twisting going on at this stage. To count your stitches over double crochet, count the chains that run along the top of the row. It is really important that you count your stitches all the time to make sure you haven't lost any along the way!

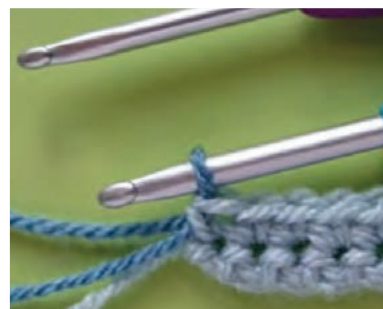
● **Row 1:** 1ch (does not count as a st), 1dc into each st to end, changing yarn shade to **Storm Blue** on the final step of the last st, turn.

### Change yarn shade as follows:

Do not complete the final stitch of the row so that two yarn loops remain on the hook. Draw the new shade through the loop on the hook to complete the stitch.

**Change hook size** by slipping the yarn loop onto the new hook.

● **Row 2:** Using **Storm Blue** and **4mm hook**, 3ch (counts as 1tr), miss st at base of 3-ch, 1tr into each st to end, turn.



**Working rows of crochet** is rather like preparing to build a brick wall in that the height of the next row of stitches is set before you start your row or round of stitches. This is done by working a turning chain (tch). In this case working 3ch makes the turning chain. The 3ch counts as the first stitch of the row.

You need to miss the stitch directly at the base of the 3 chain stitches and work your treble crochet stitch into the next stitch. Work a treble crochet stitch into every stitch to the end of the row.

● **Row 3:** 3ch (counts as 1tr), miss st at base of 3ch, 1tr into each st, working final st into 3rd ch of 3ch made at beginning of last row, changing yarn shade to **Khaki** on the final step of the last st, turn.





Unlike knitted stitches, crochet stitches do not sit directly on top of each other on every row, instead they work in a brick-like formation. This makes it easy to start loosing stitches over subsequent rows.



To count your treble stitches, count the post made by the stitches and not the chain that runs along the top of them. In order to keep your stitch count correct (remembering that your first 3 ch counted as your first stitch), you will need to make a stitch into the turning ch (3ch) made on the previous row.

You will also need to change your yarn shade by drawing the new shade through on the final step of the last stitch.



● **Row 4:** Using **Khaki** and **4mm hook**, 3ch (counts as 1tr), miss st at base of 3ch, working 1st into each st on previous row work as folls, 1 tr, 2 htr, \* 3 dc, 2 htr, 3 tr, 2 htr; repeat from \* 15 times, 3 dc, 2 htr, 2 tr, working last tr into tch on previous row, turn.



The pattern you have worked is called **wave stitch**. The pattern can be made up of lots of stitch variations - for this one I have used double crochet (dc), half treble crochet (htr) and treble crochet (tr).

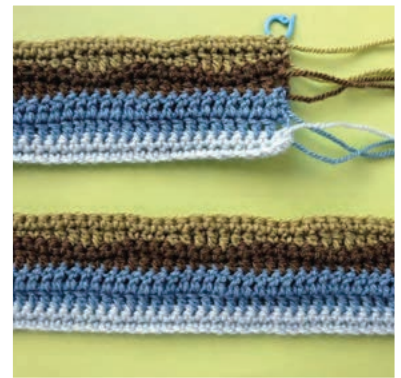
● **Row 5:** Using **4.5mm hook**, 1ch (does not count as a st), 1dc into each st to end, changing yarn shade to **Meadow** on the final step of the last st, turn. (171 sts)



● **Row 6:** Using **Meadow** and **4mm hook**, 1ch (does not count as a st), working 1st into each st on previous row work as folls, 2 dc, \* 2 htr, 3 tr, 2 htr, 3 dc; repeat from \* to end, omitting 1 dc on final pattern repeat, turn.



● **Row 7:** Using **Meadow** and **4.5mm hook**, 1ch (does not count as a st), 1dc into each st to end, place last st on stitch holder. You can cut yarn ends to approximately 10cm (4in) long. You need to make another piece to match.



You can cut yarn ends to approximately 10cm (4in) long. You need to make another piece to match.

It is a good idea to sew your yarn ends in at this point. In subsequent instalments I will talk you through weaving in some of your yarn ends as you crochet. This cuts down on the amount of sewing you need to do.





**When sewing in behind double crochet,** thread your sewing needle through the reverse side of each stitch as shown. After a few stitches, work a stitch back over a yarn loop to create a small knot and sew away from the edge for a few more stitches.



**When sewing in behind treble crochet,** thread your sewing needle up through the post of the first treble (or 3ch) to get the yarn to the point between the rows of stitches where the fabric appears to be at its thickest. Sewing along the row (in the same way as for double crochet) at this point means you are less likely to see the yarn end. When all yarn ends are sewn in you can trim them.



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