

# Sunshine & Showers

## Crochet Along Blanket



February can be a pretty dull and dingy affair here in the UK. The weather is rarely anything but cold, grey, wet and overcast so it is a good job that the month is brightened a little by the red hearts of Valentine's Day and the first glimpses of crocuses and daffodils in the garden.

By the end of February we start to feel like spring might just be on its way, so within the crochet patterns for this month I wanted to try to emulate those first sprigs of new leaves and blossom appearing outside in the cold and of course include some love hearts!

### Stylecraft Special DK

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

	Turquoise (1068)	1 ball
	Khaki (1027)	1 ball
	Meadow (1065)	1 ball
	Lime (1712)	1 ball
	Cream (1005)	1 ball
	Raspberry (1023)	1 ball
	Petrol (1078)	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 to make one blanket. 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

● Undo stitch from holder to the point where you can change yarn shade to **Turquoise** on the final step of the stitch, turn.

● **Row 60 (RS):** Using **Turquoise** and **4.5mm hook** and, 1ch (does not count as a st), 1dc into each st to end changing yarn shade to Khaki on the final step of the last st, turn.

● **Row 61:** Using **Khaki**, 1ch (does not count as a st), 1dc into each st to end, turn.



Change to **4mm hook**.

**Row 62:** Using **4mm hook**, 3ch (counts as tr), 1tr into next st, \* miss 2 sts, 2tr into next st, 1ch, 2tr into same st, miss 2 sts, 1tr into next st; repeat from \* to last st, 1tr into next st changing yarn shade to Meadow on the final step of the last st, turn.



### Working around the post of a stitch

On the next 2 rows you need to work a stitch around either the back post of the treble stitch made on the previous row or around the front post. Working around the post of a stitch in this way creates 3D continuous-looking stitches. You can create textural and travelling stitches (that can look like knitted cables and ribs) by working around the front and back posts and can create some other really great effects.

Unlike knitted stitches, which form continuous V shapes on the RS, crochet stitches are made up of more than one part. They have a post (which is the vertical part of the stitch) and a top yarn loop, which forms the chain that runs along the top of the stitch.

On a double crochet stitch the post of the stitch is very small and looks like a V, but on longer stitches like treble and double treble (where more steps are taken to make the stitch) the post of the stitch gets longer and is clearly distinguishable.

Over the next 2 rows you are going to work a new stitch around the post of the stitch, either from the back or from the front, rather than into the chain stitch that runs along the top of the stitches.

### Working a treble around back post (RtrB)

Yarn round hook. From the back of the work insert your hook into the stitch-space (s-sp) to the right of the post of the stitch, then take the hook around the post of the st and through the next st sp (to the left of the post) so that the hook comes through to the back of the work.

Complete your treble in the usual way.



● **Row 63 (WS):** Using **Meadow** 3ch (counts as 1 tr), 1RtrB (1tr around back post of next st), \* miss 2 sts, 2tr into next st, 1ch, 2tr into same st, miss 2 sts, 1RtrB around back post of next st; repeat from \* to last st, 1tr into 3rd ch of 3-ch made at beginning of last row changing yarn shade to Lime on the final step of the last st, turn.



### Working a treble around front post (RtrF)

Yarn round hook. From the front of the work insert your hook into the stitch-space (st-sp) to the right of the post of the stitch, then take the hook around the back of the st and through the next st sp (to the left of the post) so that the hook comes through to the front of the work.

Complete your treble in the usual way.



● **Row 64:** Using **Lime**, 3ch (counts as 1 tr), 1RtrF (1tr around front post of next st), \* miss 2 sts, 2tr into next st, 1ch, 2tr into same st, miss 2 sts, 1tr around front post of next st; repeat from \* to last st, 1tr into 3rd ch of 3-ch made at beginning of last row changing yarn shade to Cream on the final step of the last st, turn.



○ **Row 65:** Using **Cream**, 3ch (counts as 1 tr), 1RtrB (1tr around back post of next st), \* miss 2 sts, 2tr into next st, 1ch, 2tr into same st, miss 2 sts, 1tr around back post of next st; repeat from \* to last st, 1tr into 3rd ch of 3-ch made at beginning of last row, turn.

### Heart Pattern

To make the heart pattern on the next row you need to carry your pink shade of yarn across the back of the work between hearts. The method for moving the yarn is called stranding as in the knitted Fair Isle technique. In this instance you are asked to strand (carry) the yarn across 3 sts, but if you had a pattern which asked you to carry across more than about 5 stitches then you would be wise to catch the yarn in mid way or a couple of times to avoid large loops of yarn at the back. I have included an image of the back of the work so that you can see what mine looks like.

The colour changes between the hearts is done in the same way as for the bobbles we made back in October and if you have forgotten how to do tr3tog you could refer to the flower edging made in August where we worked a tr4tog.



● **Row 66:** 3ch (counts as 1 tr), \* 1tr into next st, tr2tog over next 2 sts changing yarn shade to **Raspberry** on the final step of the st, using Raspberry, tr3tog into next ch-sp changing yarn shade back to Cream on the final step of the st, using Cream, 1tr into same ch-sp changing yarn shade back to Raspberry on the final step of the st, using Raspberry tr3tog into same ch-sp changing yarn shade to Cream on the final step of the st, using Cream tr2tog over next 2 sts; repeat from \* to last 2 sts, 1tr into next st, 1tr into 3rd ch of 3-ch made at beginning of last row, turn.





Now you'll have a clear right side and wrong side which has the colourwork strands showing.



Change to **4.5mm hook**.

● **Row 67:** Using **Cream** and **4.5mm hook**, 1ch (does not count as a st), 1dc into each next 3 sts, \* miss next st (Raspberry), 3dc into next st, miss next st (Raspberry), 1dc into each next 3 sts; repeat from \* to end working final st into 3rd ch of 3-ch made at beginning of last row, turn.

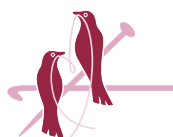
**Row 68:** 1ch (does not count as a st), 1dc into each st to end changing yarn shade to Petrol on the final step of the last st. Turn. (171 sts)



● **Row 69:** Using **Petrol**, 1ch (does not count as a st) 1dc into each st to end, place last st on holder. (171 sts)

Sew in yarn ends.

Work other piece to match. Each piece should measure approximately 46cm (18½in) from bottom edge x 92cm (36¼in) wide.



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