

Sunshine & Showers

Crochet Along Blanket



When my children were small I looked forward to the summer holidays and the fact that they had the whole of August off. When they were really little the summer holidays seemed long and at times it was hard work trying to keep them occupied for weeks, but as they got older and were more independent the summer holidays were a time when we would do fun things together, relax and really recharge our batteries! Now that my children are both grown up I do miss the school holidays, but still have that feeling that August is a time for fun and recuperation before the hard work of autumn.

MATERIALS

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

	Meadow (1065)	1 ball
	Lime (1712)	1 ball
	Khaki (1027)	1 ball
	Fondant (1241)	1 ball
	Pale Rose (1080)	1 ball
	Raspberry (1023)	1 ball
	Storm Blue (1722)	1 ball
	Turquoise (1068)	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:
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This month you are going to make the top and bottom edging of the blanket. The edging is made from repeated flower motifs in summer shades. It is not particularly complicated, but it does involve a lot of yarn ends, so you will get good practice at sewing them in!

The majority of the Sunshine & Showers blanket is made by working rows of crochet stitches, however crochet can also be worked in the round so I felt it was important that the blanket incorporated this method at some point.

You need to make a total of 21 flowers in order to create the edging for each end of the blanket. The flower centres are made first. Use three of the green shades for this and make seven motifs in each shade.

Start Crocheting

Flowers

(make 2 strips of 21 flowers)

Flower Centre

● Using **Meadow** and **4.5mm hook**, make 4ch, join with a sl st to form a ring.

Round 1: 1ch (does not count as a st) 10dc into ring, sl st to join, fasten off.

●●● Make 13 more flower centres using **Meadow**, then make 14 using **Lime** and 14 using **Khaki** so a total of 42 pieces have been made.



Flower Petals

Although each flower has a total of five petals when complete, you are going to work four petals onto each flower centre first, leaving a gap of two stitches on each flower centre - the fifth petal of each flower will be worked into these stitches later on.

Flower One

● **Row 1:** Using **Fondant** and **4.5mm hook** join yarn into any dc made on a Khaki Flower Centre by working 1ch + 2ch, tr2tog over same st & next st, 3ch, sl st into st at base of 3-ch, sl st into next st [3ch, tr2tog over same st and next st, 3ch, sl st into st at base of 3-ch, sl st into next st] twice, 3ch, tr3tog working 1st into same st & 2 sts into next st changing yarn shade to Pale Rose on the final step of the last st (as you pull yarn through tr3tog). (4 petals made)



● Using **Pale Rose**, 2ch.



Flower Two

●● Using **Pale Rose**, tr3tog over 2 sts of **Lime** Flower Centre working 2sts into 1st and 1st into next st, 3ch, sl st into st at base of 3-ch, sl st into next st, [3ch, tr2tog over same st and next st, 3ch, sl st into st at base of 3-ch, sl st into next st] twice, 3ch, tr3tog working 1st into same st & 2sts into next st changing yarn shade to Raspberry on the last step of the st (as you pull yarn through tr3tog).

● Using **Raspberry** 2ch.



Flower Three

● ● Using **Raspberry**, tr3tog over 2 sts of **Meadow** Flower Centre working 2sts into 1 st and 1st into next st, 3ch, sl st into st at base of 3-ch, sl st into next st, [3ch, tr2tog over same st and next st, 3ch, sl st into st at base of 3-ch, sl st into next st] twice, 3ch, tr3tog working 1st into same st and 2sts into next st changing yarn shade to **Pale Rose** on the last step of the stitch (as you pull yarn through tr3tog).

● Using **Pale Rose** 2ch.

Flower Four

Work as Flower Two

● ● ● The last four flowers set the yarn shade repeat for the 'petal' part of the flowers, work as set using the flower centres in a three-shade repeat - **Khaki, Lime, Meadow** - and using the pink shades in the correct order. Work as set until a total of 21 flowers have been made, do not change yarn shade on the final flower, draw yarn through the last st using Fondant.



● ● The string of 21 crocheted flowers ends with a **Fondant** Flower worked into a **Meadow** centre. Place last st on a holder.



● Sew in all yarn ends except the attached **Fondant** yarn.



● **Row 2 (RS):** Remove st holder and place st on hook. Using **Fondant**, 1ch, (does not count as a st), miss 1 ch, 1dc into next ch, 4ch, tr4tog over remaining 2 sts of same Flower Centre, changing yarn shade to **Pale Rose** on the final step of the st (as you pull yarn through tr4tog).



● Using **Pale Rose** 8ch, tr4tog over remaining 2 sts of next Flower Centre, changing yarn shade to **Raspberry** on the final step of the st (as you pull yarn through tr4tog).



● ● Using **Raspberry** 8ch, tr4tog over remaining 2 sts of next Flower Centre, changing yarn shade to **Pale Rose** on the final step of the st (as you pull yarn through tr4tog).

Work as set, changing yarn shade as you work along the row (do not change yarn shade on final flower) draw yarn through last st using **Fondant**, 4ch, 1dc into top of tr2tog made on next petal, fasten off.



Sew in yarn ends attached to all petals - leave tail ends that sit at beginning of 8ch to be sewn in later on. You can choose to weave these ends in whilst working the next row if you wish, but they may still need a little sewing to make them secure.



● **Row 3:** With RS facing, using **Lime** and **4.5mm hook** join yarn into first dc made at beginning of last row by working 1ch (does not count as a st), 1dc into same st, 4dc into next ch-sp, * 4dc into next ch-sp, working around 8-ch made on previous row and 2-ch made on Row 1 tr3tog, 4dc into next (same) ch-sp; repeat from * 18 times, 4dc into final ch-sp, 1dc into next st changing yarn shade to Meadow on the final step of the last st, turn. **(190 sts)**



● **Row 4:** Using **Meadow**, 1ch (does not count as a st) 1dc into next 8 sts, * dc2tog over next 2 sts, 1dc into each next 7 sts; repeat from * to last 2 sts, 1dc into each next 2 sts changing yarn shade to Storm Blue on the final step of the last st, turn. **(170 sts)**

● **Row 5:** Using **Storm Blue**, 1ch (does not count as a st), 1dc into each st to end, turn. **(170 sts)**

Row 6: 1ch (does not count as a st), 1dc into each st to end, fasten off. **(170 sts)**



You will find that the edging strip you have made is approximately 4-5cm (1½-2in) wider than the last row of the main blanket piece. The edge strip will ease into size as you join the pieces together.



Joining Row

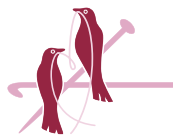
Hold main piece of blanket and edging strip together with wrong side facing you so that the right sides of the work are facing into each other.

● Using **Turquoise** and **4.5mm hook**, insert hook into first st on edging and the first st at top of main blanket piece so that 2 sts are on the hook, yarn round hook and draw through, 1dc into each matching pair of sts until 85 sts have been joined, miss 1 st on blanket piece, continue to match pairs of sts to the end of the row, fasten off.

Sew in yarn ends.

Work another piece to match. Each piece should measure approximately 25 x 92cm (10 x 36in).





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