FREE CROCHET PATTERN

# Beginner Granny Square

Learn the classic granny square in four easy rounds of double crochet clusters — the building block for blankets, bags, pillows and more.



| SKILL LEVEL | FINISHED SIZE | YARN WEIGHT |
|---|---|---|
| Beginner | About 4.5–5 in (11–13 cm) square after 4 rounds | Medium / Worsted |
| **HOOK** | **TIME** | **TERMS** |
| 5 mm (US H-8) | About 45 minutes | US terms |

**Gauge:** Not critical for a single square. For a blanket, make every square with the same yarn and hook so they come out the same size.

## Materials

- [ ] Worsted-weight yarn — About 20 yd (18 m) per 4-round square (A smooth, light-colored yarn makes the stitches easier to see)
- [ ] 5 mm (US H-8) crochet hook
- [ ] Tapestry needle and scissors

# Abbreviations

**ch** — chain

**dc** — double crochet

**sp(s)** — space(s)

**rnd(s)** — round(s)

**sl st** — slip stitch

**ch-sp** — chain space

**st(s)** — stitch(es)

**rep** — repeat

**[ ]** — repeat the instructions inside the brackets the number of times stated

***** — repeat from the asterisk as instructed

**( )** — stitch count at the end of a round or row, or a group worked into one stitch

# Notes before you start

- The beginning chain 3 counts as the first double crochet of every round.
- Work every round with the right side facing you — do not turn.
- A corner is (3 dc, ch 2, 3 dc) worked into the same chain-2 space.
- The stitch count shows the total number of double crochet at the end of each round.

# The pattern

## Center ring

- [ ] **Start:** Ch 4 and join with a sl st in the first chain to form a ring. (You can also start with a magic ring.)

## Rounds

- [ ] **Rnd 1:** Ch 3 (counts as dc), 2 dc in the ring, ch 2, [3 dc in the ring, ch 2] 3 times. Join with a sl st to the top of the beginning ch-3. **(12)**
- [ ] **Rnd 2:** Sl st in the next 2 dc and into the ch-2 corner space. Ch 3, (2 dc, ch 2, 3 dc) in the same space, *ch 1, (3 dc, ch 2, 3 dc) in the next corner space; rep from * 2 more times, ch 1. Join with a sl st to the top of the ch-3. **(24)**
- [ ] **Rnd 3:** Sl st in the next 2 dc and into the corner space. Ch 3, (2 dc, ch 2, 3 dc) in the same space, *ch 1, 3 dc in the next ch-1 space, ch 1, (3 dc, ch 2, 3 dc) in the next corner space; rep from * 2 more times, ch 1, 3 dc in the next ch-1 space, ch 1. Join with a sl st to the top of the ch-3. **(36)**
- [ ] **Rnd 4:** Sl st in the next 2 dc and into the corner space. Ch 3, (2 dc, ch 2, 3 dc) in the same space, *[ch 1, 3 dc in the next ch-1 space] twice, ch 1, (3 dc, ch 2, 3 dc) in the next corner space; rep from * 2 more times, [ch 1, 3 dc in the next ch-1 space] twice, ch 1. Join with a sl st to the top of the ch-3. **(48)**

**Tip:** To make a bigger square, keep going. Each new round has one more 3-dc group on every side than the round before, and 12 more double crochet in total.

## Finishing

- [ ] **Fasten off:** Cut the yarn, leaving a 6 in (15 cm) tail, and pull it through the last loop.
- [ ] **Weave in ends:** Weave both tails through the back of the stitches in a few different directions, then trim.

**Tip:** If your square curls, block it: pin it flat to size, then mist cotton or wool with water or hold a steam iron just above acrylic, and let it dry completely.

## Tips

- If your square twists as it grows, check that you are working into the chain spaces rather than into the tops of the stitches.
- Count your corners — every round needs exactly four corners, each with a chain-2 space.
- Keep your chains relaxed so the spaces are easy to work into on the next round.

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