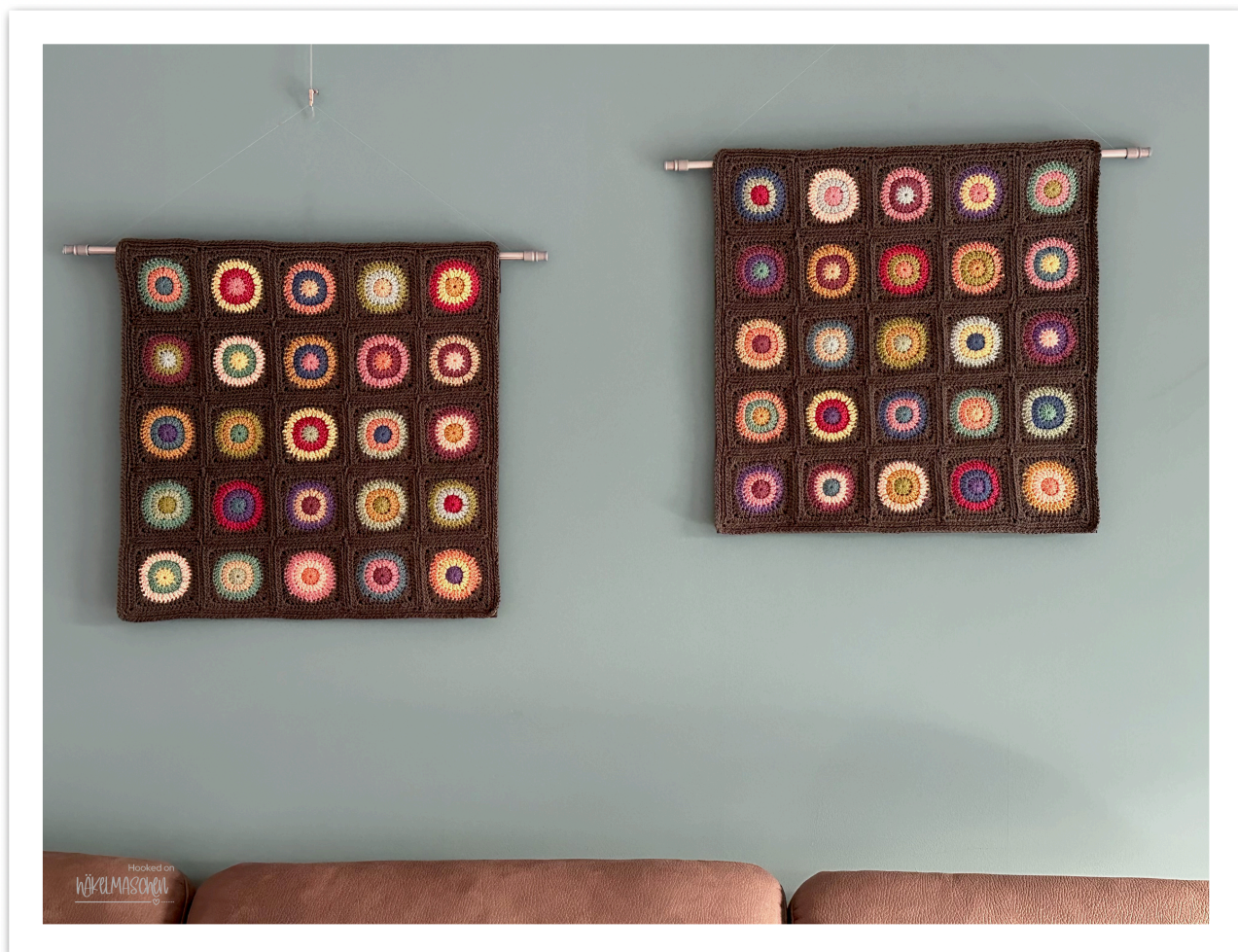


HAPPY CIRCLES



HOOKED ON HÄKELMASCHEN

These pretty wall hangings are the result of an experiment. I had often read about the random arrangement of colours using a random generator and just wanted to give it a try. To try it out, I crocheted some colourful circles and then turned them into squares. After I had finished the first panel, I was so delighted with the result that I made another one. Both are now hanging as wall decorations in my living room above the couch.



Each panel is made up of 5 x 5 squares. Each square measures approx. 10 x 10 cm (4 inch) which makes about 52 cm (20½ inch) for the finished panel, including a small border.

It's a great project for using up leftover yarn. The individual squares make it easy to adjust the finished size. The panels can therefore also be used for other projects, e.g. a cushion cover, a bag or even a cosy blanket. It's all up to your imagination!

If you want to learn more about my colour experiment, you can find my blog posts here

[I needed a bit of colour - Colour Experiment Part 1](#)

[Random Layout - Colour Experiment Part 2](#)

[Step by Step: A new wall decoration - Colour Experiment Part 3](#)



Materials

any yarn you like and appropriate hook size
yarn needle, scissors, stitch markers

Please note, depending on which yarn is used and your personal tension, the finished size may vary.

My samples are made with Stylecraft Special DK and a 3,75 mm hook. For the circles I used

1023 Raspberry	1277 Violet	1725 Sage
1026 Apricot	1302 Denim	1820 Duck Egg
1065 Meadow	1420 Camel	1834 Lincoln
1067 Grape	1710 Stone	1835 Buttermilk
1080 Pale Rose	1722 Storm Blue	1836 Vintage Peach

The circles are squared with 1063 Graphite.

Finished Size

52 x 52 cm (about 20½ inch)

Skill Level

easy

Colours and layout Panel 1

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Colours and layout Panel 2

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Photo tutorial joining the squares

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Abbreviations and stitches used

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Pattern

Making the circles

Round 1

Colour A *start with a Magic Ring*
ch2 (*counts as first dc*), 11dc in the ring
close the ring and slst loosely to the first dc; fasten off - **[12 dc]**

Round 2

Colour B attach colour B in any st and ch2 (*counts as first dc*), dc in same stitch;
* 2 dc in next stitch**; repeat from * to ** around; slst loosely to the first true dc;
fasten off - **[24 dc]**

Round 3

Colour C attach colour C in any st and ch2 (*counts as first dc*), 1 dc in same stitch, 1 dc in next st; * 2 dc in next st, 1 dc in next st**; repeat from * to ** around; slst loosely to the first true dc; fasten off - **[36 dc]**

Squaring the circles

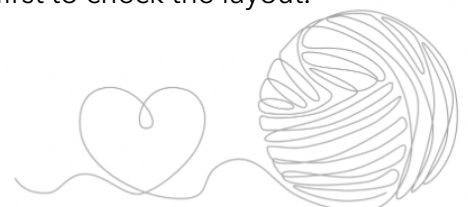
Round 4

Colour D attach colour D in any st and ch2 (*counts as first dc*); (1 dc, ch1, 2 dc) in same stitch; *1 dc, 2 hdc, 2 sc, 2 hdc, 1 dc in the following 8 sts; (2 dc, ch1, 2 dc) in next st **;
repeat from * to ** 3 times omitting the last corner sts; slst to first true dc - **[per side: 6 dc, 4 hdc, 2 sc, 1 ch1-corner sp / 48 sts, 4 ch1-corner sps in total]**

Round 5

Colour D ch1 loosely (*doesn't count as a stitch*) and hdc in same stitch (*the one you slipped stitched in at the end of round 4*); *(2 hdc, ch2, 2 hdc) in ch1-sp, hdc in next 12 sts**; repeat from * to ** 2 times; (2 hdc, ch2, 2 hdc) in next corner sp; hdc in next 11 sts; invisible join to the second hdc - **[per side: 16 hdc, 1 ch2-corner sp / 64 sts, 4 ch2-corner sps in total]**

Once all the squares have been completed, it is best to lay them out first to check the layout.



Joining the squares

You can use any joining method you like to connect the squares. I have decided in favor of a slip stitch join of which I unfortunately do not know whether it has a specific name.

I have seen this join in various places using single crochet, half double crochet or even double crochet.

With this join, the actual stitch is only crocheted in one of the two squares to be connected. The opposite square is joined by pulling the loop through the corresponding opposite stitch.

I finally decided to use a simple slip stitch instead of single crochet or half double crochet because it creates a really nice flat ridge.

The stitches are only worked through the back loops (the inner loops). The hook is always inserted from top to bottom (from the right side of the square to the wrong side).

I first worked the horizontal joins, afterwards the vertical joins. Here a short version of what to do:

- Lay out the first two rows of your squares in the order in which you want to join them.
- Working from right to left:
- With a slip knot on the hook start in the first corner space of the bottom square (the one closest to you) Work a slip in the chain stitch directly before the first hdc.
- Then remove the hook from the loop and insert it (from top to bottom) into the corresponding chain of the upper square, grab the loop again and pull it through.
- Slip stitch in the first hdc of the bottom square and afterwards pull the loop through the corresponding stitch of the upper square
- Repeat this until you get to the next ch2- corner spaces
- In the corner space just work a join on the first chain and leave the second chain unworked.
- Continue with the next two squares as described above
- At the end of the row, fasten off

Repeat these steps until all squares are joined horizontally. Afterwards work the vertical joins in the same way.

Tip: Take care not to twist the squares while you are joining them. It is helpful to use locking stitch markers especially when joining the first two rows of squares. This helps to hold the squares together.

And be careful not to work the join not too tightly. It is best to go up a hook size. I used a 4.5 mm crochet hook for mine.

You can find photos of this join on page 9. There is also a more detailed written description on my [blog](#).



Border

Round 1

Colour D

Start with a standing stitch in any corner sp

*(sc, ch2, sc) in corner sp; BLsc in next 16 sts; 1 hdc in corner sp, skip join; [1 hdc in corner sp; BLsc in next 16 sts; 1 hdc in corner sp, skip join] 3 times; BLsc in next 16 sts **; repeat from* to ** 3 more times, slst to the first sc - *[per side: 82 sc, 8 hdc, 1 ch2-corner sp / 360 sts, 4 ch2-corner sps in total]*

Round 2

Colour D

ch 1, *3 sc in corner-sp, BLsc across to next corner sp **; repeat from * 3 more times, slst in BL of first sc - *[per side: 93 sc / 372 sts in total]*

Round 3

Colour D

Slip stitch in back loop of each stitch around - *[372 sts in total]*
fasten off and work away the tails

Finishing

I recommend either blocking the individual squares slightly before joining or alternatively the finished panel. This simply gives a neater finish.

To use it as a wall hanging, I sewed my panel onto a 4 mm thick felt. You can find instructions on how to do this on my [blog](#).



Colour placement and layout Panel 1



A - Storm Blue B - Vintage Peach C - Sage D - Graphite	A - Pale Rose B - Raspberry C - Buttermilk D - Graphite	A - Stone B - Denim C - Vintage Peach D - Graphite	A - Stone B - Duck Egg C - Meadow D - Graphite	A - Camel B - Buttermilk C - Raspberry D - Graphite
A - Duck Egg B - Meadow C - Grape D - Graphite	A - Buttermilk B - Sage C - Apricot D - Graphite	A - Pale Rose B - Denim C - Camel D - Graphite	A - Vintage Peach B - Grape C - Pale Rose D - Graphite	A - Apricot B - Grape C - Stone D - Graphite
A - Violet B - Storm Blue C - Camel D - Graphite	A - Sage B - Camel C - Meadow D - Graphite	A - Lincoln B - Raspberry C - Buttermilk D - Graphite	A - Denim B - Vintage Peach C - Lincoln D - Graphite	A - Camel B - Apricot C - Grape D - Graphite
A - Meadow B - Lincoln C - Sage D - Graphite	A - Storm Blue B - Violet C - Raspberry D - Graphite	A - Grape B - Stone C - Violet D - Graphite	A - Meadow B - Camel C - Lincoln D - Graphite	A - Raspberry B - Duck Egg C - Meadow D - Graphite
A - Buttermilk B - Sage C - Apricot D - Graphite	A - Lincoln B - Stone C - Sage D - Graphite	A - Vintage Peach B - Apricot C - Pale Rose D - Graphite	A - Grape B - Pale Rose C - Storm Blue D - Graphite	A - Violet B - Buttermilk C - Vintage Peach D - Graphite



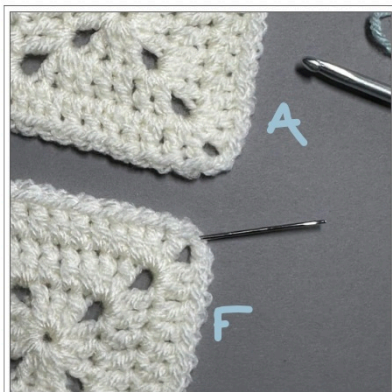
Colour placement and layout Panel 2



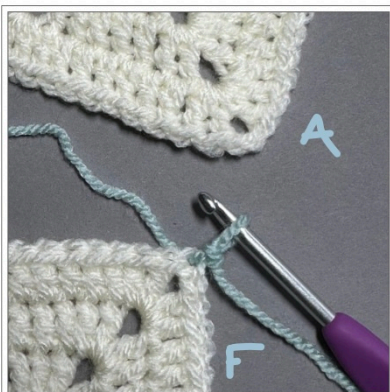
A - Raspberry B - Lincoln C - Denim D - Graphite	A - Pale Rose B - Duck Egg C - Apricot D - Graphite	A - Duck Egg B - Grape C - Pale Rose D - Graphite	A - Pale Rose B - Buttermilk C - Violet D - Graphite	A - Meadow B - Pale Rose C - Sage D - Graphite
A - Sage B - Violet C - Grape D - Graphite	A - Stone B - Grape C - Camel D - Graphite	A - Vintage Peach B - Meadow C - Raspberry D - Graphite	A - Camel B - Meadow C - Vintage Peach D - Graphite	A - Buttermilk B - Storm Blue C - Pale Rose D - Graphite
A - Grape B - Vintage Peach C - Stone D - Graphite	A - Duck Egg B - Stone C - Storm Blue D - Graphite	A - Lincoln B - Camel C - Meadow D - Graphite	A - Denim B - Buttermilk C - Duck Egg D - Graphite	A - Apricot B - Violet C - Grape D - Graphite
A - Camel B - Sage C - Vintage Peach D - Graphite	A - Violet B - Raspberry C - Buttermilk D - Graphite	A - Storm Blue B - Pale Rose C - Denim D - Graphite	A - Stone B - Vintage Peach C - Sage D - Graphite	A - Sage B - Denim C - Lincoln D - Graphite
A - Grape B - Pale Rose C - Violet D - Graphite	A - Storm Blue B - Apricot C - Grape D - Graphite	A - Meadow B - Camel C - Apricot D - Graphite	A - Violet B - Denim C - Raspberry D - Graphite	A - Vintage Peach B - Apricot C - Camel D - Graphite



Photo-tutorial joining the squares



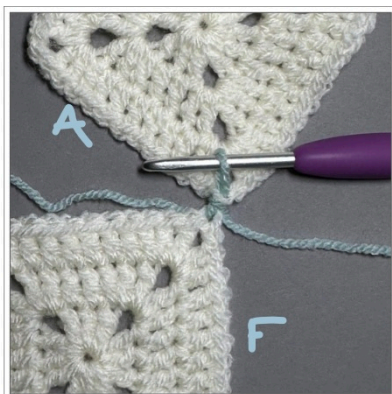
Start on square F - in chain before first hdc



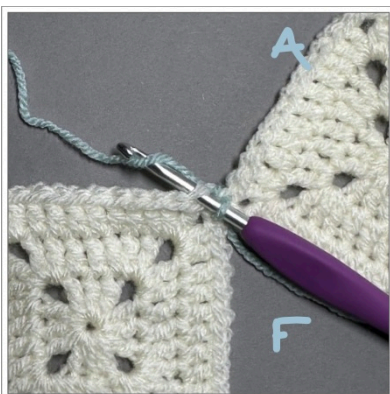
On square F: slip stitch through chain



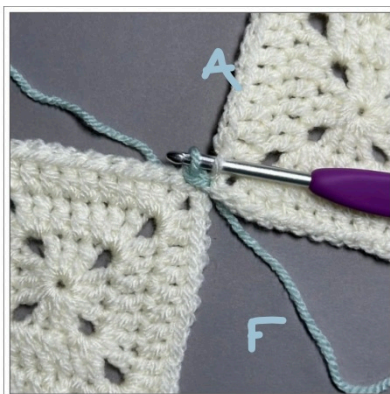
Insert hook in corresp. chain of square A



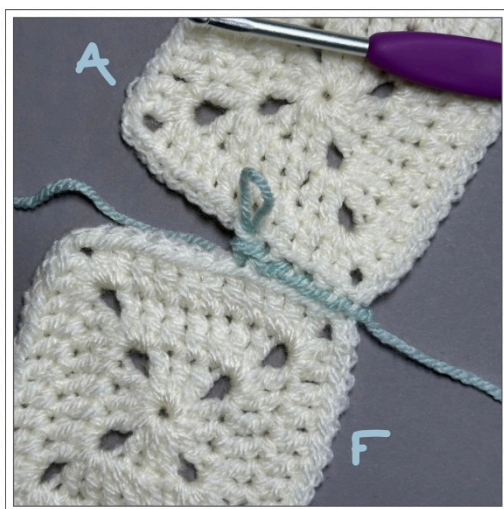
Pull loop through chain of square A



Slip stitch through BL of first hdc on square F



Pull loop through BL of first hdc on square A



Continue like this



Abbreviations and stitches used (US Terms)

sp(s)	space(s)	rnd	round
st(s)	stitch(es)	hdc	half double crochet
slst	slip-stitch	dc	double crochet
ch	chain	BL	Back loop
sc	single crochet	Blsc	Back loop single crochet
()	Stitches within brackets are worked in the same stitch or space	* ... **	marks a repeat

If needed, you can find an explanation of how to work the stitches [here](#)

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