

HAPPY CIRCLES II



HOOKED ON HÄKELMASCHEN

The design of this cushion cover is similar to my Happy Circles wall hangings. Here, too, I experimented with random colour placement. This time I only used five colours in different shades of green and blue-green.

The cushion cover is designed for a 50 x 50 cm (20 x 20 in) cushion. The cover itself measures about 46 cm (18 x 18 in).

I based the size on a piece of advice I found online. It said that, for a square cushion, the cover should be about 5 cm (2 in) smaller than the cushion itself to achieve an attractive, bulky look. Strictly speaking, my measurements are not quite correct, but it still worked perfectly for me.

The front side of the cushion cover is made up of 16 different squares, arranged in a 4 x 4 layout. Each square measures approximately 10 x 10 cm (4 in). After being joined, they are framed with a small border to reach the desired size.

I opted for a plain square design for the back. The design is mainly cream, interrupted here and there by a coloured stripe.

Of course, it is also possible to assemble the back from individual squares as well. This will, however, change the yarn consumption stated below.



If you want to enlarge the cover a little, you can do this very easily. Simply add one or more rounds to the border on the front panel and enlarge the back panel in the same way. Make sure that the number of stitches on the front and back is the same. Please note that this also affects the amount of yarn required.



Materials

My sample is made with Stylecraft Special DK and a 3,75 mm hook. For the circles I used left overs in 5 different colours

1820 - Duck Egg (Colour A)
1725 - Sage (Colour C)
1027 - Khaki (Colour E)

1065 - Meadow (Colour B)
1822 - Pistachio (Colour D)

And about 170 g of the main colour for squaring the circles and working the back

1005 - Cream (Colour F)

Besides you will need

yarn needle, scissors
optional: a bigger hook (4,5 or 5 mm) for joining and
stitch markers

Finished Size

about 46 cm (18 inch)

Skill Level

easy



Pattern Frontside

Making the circles

The colour of each circle changes with each round. Please replace Colours 1 - 3 according to the 'Layout and Colour Placement' diagram on next page.

Round 1

Colour 1 *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 2 attach colour 2 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 3 attach colour 3 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 F attach colour F 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 more times omitting the last corner sts; slst to first true dc
 [per side: 6 dc, 4 hdc, 2 sc, 1 ch1-corner sp]

Round 5

Colour F ch2 (*counts as first dc*); dc in next stitch; *(1 dc, ch2, 1 dc) in ch1-sp, dc in next 12
 sts**; repeat from * to ** 2 more times; (1 dc, ch2, 1 dc) in next corner sp; dc in
 next 11 sts; invisible join to the first true dc
 [per side: 14 dc, 1 ch2-corner sp]



Layout and Colour Placement

1 - Duck Egg 2 - Meadow 3 - Sage	1 - Khaki 2 - Sage 3 - Pistachio	1 - Meadow 2 - Pistachio 3 - Khaki	1 - Sage 2 - Meadow 3 - Pistachio
1 - Sage 2 - Khaki 3 - Duck Egg	1 - Sage 2 - Duck Egg 3 - Meadow	1 - Khaki 2 - Pistachio 3 - Duck Egg	1 - Duck Egg 2 - Khaki 3 - Meadow
1 - Pistachio 2 - Duck Egg 3 - Meadow	1 - Duck Egg 2 - Meadow 3 - Khaki	1 - Meadow 2 - Duck Egg 3 - Sage	1 - Meadow 2 - Sage 3 - Pistachio
1 - Khaki 2 - Meadow 3 - Sage	1 - Duck Egg 2 - Sage 3 - Pistachio	1 - Pistachio 2 - Sage 3 - Khaki	1 - Pistachio 2 - Khaki 3 - Duck Egg

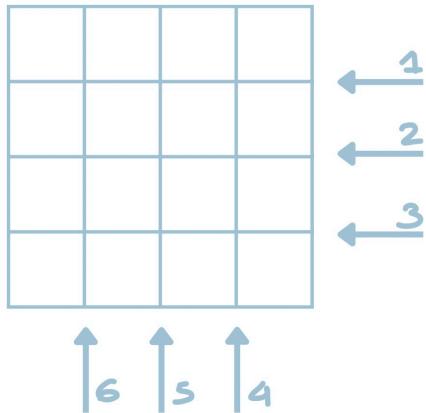
Joining the squares

The join is made using the Zig Zag Slip Stitch Join and Colour D (Pistachio).

Your tension should be consistent throughout the whole join. I would advise going up at least one hook size. This makes it easier to work loosely and evenly. I used a 4,5 mm hook.



If you are not familiar with the Zig Zag Slip Stitch Join you can find detailed descriptions on the internet. Personally, I found the explanations on the [Sunflower Cottage Crochet](#) website the most helpful. There you will find written tutorials, as well as lots of pictures and videos for both, right-handed and left-handed crocheters.



Arrange the squares according to the final layout.

The diagram on the left shows the order in which the squares are connected, starting at the point marked by arrow #1.

- Start with the Zig-Zag join in the corner space of the first square of the top row, then work a slip stitch in the corner space of the first square of the row below.
- Continue joining the row stitch by stitch. When you reach the next corner spaces, work a slip stitch in each of the spaces, then proceed in the same way with the corners of the next squares.
- Continue in this way until you reach the end of the row. After the last corners are joined, cut the yarn and weave in the ends.
- Then continue with the next row of squares in the same way. Take care that the squares do not turn. It is helpful to secure them with a locking stitch marker while stitching them together.
- Once the horizontal rows are joined, continue with the vertical join. This is done in the same way. At each crossing point, simply skip the horizontal join.



Border

Round 1

Colour D

Start in any corner-sp with a standing hdc; (1 hdc, ch2, 2 hdc) in same corner-sp, *hdc in next 14 sts; 2 hdc in corner-sp; skip join; 2 hdc in next corner-sp;** repeat from * to ** 2 more times; hdc in next 14 sts
Repeat this for all 4 sides, replacing the standing hdc with a normal hdc; cut yarn and end with an invisible join
[per side 72 hdc, 1 corner-sp]

Round 2

Colour F

attach yarn in any corner-sp and ch2 (*counts as first dc*); *dc in next 72 sts; (1dc, ch2, 1dc) in next corner-sp**;
repeat from * to ** 3 more times omitting the last dc, slst to first true dc (*the one after the ch2*)
[per side 74 dc, 1 corner-sp]

Round 3

Colour F

ch2 (*counts as first dc*), dc in next 72 sts; (1 dc, ch2, 1dc) in corner sp; *dc in next 74 sts; (1 dc, ch2, 1 dc) in corner sp**;
repeat from * to ** 2 more times; dc in next st; cut yarn and end with an invisible join to the first true dc
[per side 76 dc, 1 corner-sp]



Pattern Backside

*Please note: The ch2 made before turning always becomes the first double crochet (dc) of the next round. Closing the round in the “first **true** dc” completes this stitch. The same applies to the ch1 followed by a round of single crochet.*

Round 1 start with a magic ring and ch2,
Colour F 2 dc in the ring, ch2; *3 dc, ch2**; repeat from * to ** 2 more times; close the ring and slst to first true dc - **mark this side as right side** - ch 2; turn
[12 dc, 4 corner-sps in total]

Round 2 dc in next st; (2 dc, ch2, 2 dc) in corner-sp;
Colour F *dc in next 3 st, (2 dc, ch2, 2 dc) in corner-sp**; repeat from * to ** 2 more times;
dc in last st; slst to first true dc; ch 2, turn
[per side: 7 dc, 1 corner-sp]

Round 3 dc in next 4 sts; (2dc, ch2, 2 dc) in corner-sp;
Colour F *dc in next 7 sts; (2dc, ch2, 2 dc) in corner-sp**; repeat from * to ** 2 more times,
dc last 2 sts; slst to first true dc; ch2, turn
[per side: 11 dc, 1 corner-sp]

Round 4 dc in next 5 sts; (2dc, ch2, 2 dc) in corner-sp;
Colour F *dc in next 11 sts; (2dc, ch2, 2 dc) in corner-sp**; repeat from * to ** 2 more times;
dc in last 5 sts ; slst to first true dc; ch2, turn
[per side: 15 dc, 1 corner-sp]

Round 5 dc in next 8 sts; (1 dc, ch2, 1 dc) in corner-sp.;
Colour F *dc in next 15 sts; (1 dc, ch2, 1 dc) in corner-sp**; repeat from * to ** 2 more
times; dc in last 6 sts ; slst to first dc; ch2, turn
[per side: 17 dc, 1 corner-sp]

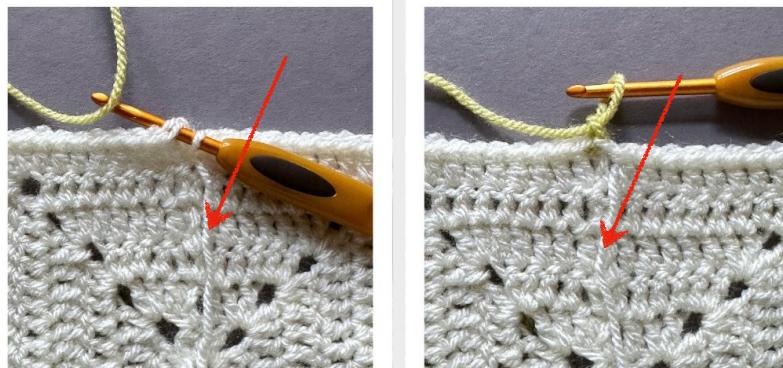


Round 6

Colour F

dc in next 8 sts; (2 dc, ch2, 2 dc) in corner-sp;
*dc in next 17 sts; (2 dc, ch2, 2 dc) in corner-sp**; repeat from * to ** 2 more times; dc in last 8 sts;
after finishing the last stitch bring the working yarn (Colour F) to the front (*the side that is facing you should be the wrong side of the work. By carrying the yarn on the wrong side it can be picked up again later. The transition from one dc row to the next will not be visible on the front of the cushion*); slst to first true dc using colour D (Pistachio); ch1, turn; **don't cut yarn F** [per side: 21 dc, 1 corner-sp]

End of Round 6 - Backside of the panel is facing you



Round 7

Colour D

sc in next 11 sts; (1sc, ch2, 1sc) in next corner-sp.;
*sc in next 21 sts; (1 sc, ch2, 1 sc) in corner-sp**; repeat from * to ** 2 more times;
sc in last 9 sts;
after finishing the last stitch bring the starting yarn tail of Colour D to the back (*so that it lies on the wrong side of the work - the frontside is currently facing you*) and slst to the first true sc picking up Colour F again; ch2 (as the yarn must "bridge" the round of single crochet, *don't make the first chain too tight*), turn
[per side: 23 sc, 1 corner-sp]

End of Round 7 - Frontside of the panel is facing you



Round 8 dc in next 11 sts; (2 dc, ch2, 2 dc) in corner-sp.;
Colour F *dc in next 23 sts; (2 dc, ch2, 2 dc) in corner-sp**; repeat from * to ** 2 more
times; dc in last 11 sts ; slst to first true dc; ch2, turn
[per side: 27 dc, 1 corner-sp]

Round 9 dc in next 14 sts; (2 dc, ch2, 2 dc) in corner-sp.;
Colour F *dc in next 27 sts; (1 dc, ch2, 1 dc) in corner-sp**; repeat from * to ** 2 more
times; dc in last 12 sts ; slst to first true dc; ch2, turn
[per side: 29 dc, 1 corner-sp]

Continue like this until you have finished Round 22. *Please note:*

- The work is turned after each round.
- In rounds 10 - 22, one or two stitches are increased alternately in the corners. The exact numbers can be found in the table on page 11. The table also contains the exact stitch counts for each round.
- All rounds are crocheted in double crochet, except for rounds 7, 11, 15 and 19. All double crochet rounds are worked in the same way as explained in the instructions of rounds 8 and 9.
- Rounds 7, 11, 15 and 19 are worked in a contrasting colour using single crochet stitches. The same instructions apply to these rounds as to round 7. The colour change is done as outlined in rounds 6 and 7. (*Make sure to always carry the unused yarn of the main colour on the wrong side of the work when changing colours*).
- Rounds 7, 11 and 19 are worked in Colour D (Pistachio), round 15 is worked in Colour A (Duck Egg).

Round 23 dc in next 35 sts; (2 dc, ch2, 2 dc) in corner sp.; *dc in next 69 sts; (2 dc, ch2, 2 dc) corner sp**; repeat from * to ** 2 more times; dc in last 33 sts ; slst to first true dc; ch2, turn
[per side: 73 dc, 1 corner-sp]

Round 24 dc in next 35 sts, skip last st; (2 dc, ch2, 2 dc) in corner sp.;
Colour F *dc in next 72 sts, skip last st; (2 dc, ch2, 2 dc) in corner sp**; repeat from * to ** 2
more times; dc in last 36 sts ; cut yarn, invisible join to the first true dc
[per side: 76 dc, 1 corner-sp]



Stitch counts and increases

Round	Stitches used	Stitches per side	Stitches between corners	Stitches in corner	Start of the round (from ch2 to corner)	End of the round (from corner to starting ch2)
1	dc	3				
2	dc	7	3	2, ch2, 2	1	1
3	dc	11	7	2, ch2, 2	4	2
4	dc	15	11	2, ch2, 2	5	5
5	dc	17	15	1, ch2, 1	8	6
6	dc	21	17	2, ch2, 2	8	8
7	sc	23	21	1, ch2, 1	11	9
8	dc	27	23	2, ch2, 2	11	11
9	dc	29	27	1, ch2, 1	14	12
10	dc	33	29	2, ch2, 2	14	14
11	sc	35	33	1, ch2, 1	17	15
12	dc	39	35	2, ch2, 2	17	17
13	dc	41	39	1, ch2, 1	20	18
14	dc	45	41	2, ch2, 2	20	20
15	sc	47	45	1, ch2, 1	23	21
16	dc	51	47	2, ch2, 2	23	23
17	dc	53	51	1, ch2, 1	26	24
18	dc	57	53	2, ch2, 2	26	26
19	sc	59	57	1, ch2, 1	29	27
20	dc	63	59	2, ch2, 2	29	29
21	dc	65	63	1, ch2, 1	32	30
22	dc	69	65	2, ch2, 2	32	32
23	dc	73	69	2, ch2, 2	35	33
24	dc	76	72	2, ch2, 2	35	36



Joining front- and backside

Use Colour D, Pistachio and a 4,5 mm hook

Zig Zag Slip Stitch join

Place the front and back panels with their wrong sides together. The front side should be facing you.

- start with the first slip stitch in the lower right-hand corner of the back, then continue with the corner space on the front
- Work the join along the right, top and left edges
- In the corners, work a slip stitch into the back first, then into the front and repeat this process so that there are two slip stitches in each corner
- After three sides are joined, insert the cushion and close the last side. Finally, work a slip-stitch in the back and front of the initial corner. Cut the yarn and work away the tails



Abbreviations and stitches used (US Terms)

sp(s)	space(s)	sc	single crochet
st(s)	stitch(es)	hdc	half double crochet
s1st	slip-stitch	dc	double crochet
ch	chain		
()	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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