

Shell Stripes Baby Afghan

By Ruth Volk 2013-02-02



This is worked in two colors, using any worsted weight yarn you prefer.

You will need 12 ounces of yarn, and a size H crochet hook.

For the blanket pictured, I used 2 6-oz skeins of Carron Simply Soft – 1 Pistachio, 1 Pagoda. Finished size should be around 25 inches wide by 33 inches long.

With first color, chain 79 (multiples of 6, plus 1) – should be 24 inches. To make bigger, just chain additional multiples of 6.

Row 1: Work 4 dc in fifth chain from hook. *Skip 2 stitches, sc in next stitch. Skip 2 stitches, work 4 dc in next stitch (=shell). Repeat from * across, ending with a dc in the last stitch. Do not break off. Attach second color with a slip stitch in the top of the last dc.

Row 2: Ch 1 Sc in same stitch as joining. Sc in the next three stitches. * Ch 1 [Yo, pull up a loop in the next stitch, yo and pull through 2 loops on hook] 3 times. Yo and pull through all 4 loops on hook (= reverse shell). Ch 1. Sc in the next 2 stitches. Repeat from * across, ending with sc in the last 4 stitches. Do not fasten off. Put a stitch holder in this color and pick up the first color. Ch the first color up to the top of the row just worked and slip stitch into the first stitch. Chain 3 and turn.

Row 3: Skip 1 stitch. *Work 4 dc (shell) in next stitch. Skip the next stitch and the ch-1, sc in the top of the reverse shell of the prior row. Skip the next ch-1 and the next sc. Repeat from * across ending with a shell, skip 1 stitch, dc in top of last stitch. Put a stitch holder in this color and pick up color number 2. Chain this color to the top of the row just worked and slip stitch in the top of the first stitch.

Repeat rows 2 and 3 until blanket measures 27 inches long, ending with color 2 (row 2). Finish off color 2. Pick up color 1 and sc across the last row – 66 stitches.

Note that the blanket should now be around 19 inches wide – the pattern condenses the blanket a bit from the original chain width of 24 inches, so don't be alarmed. The edging will enlarge the blanket to the ideal size.

Edging. Round 1: Work 3 sc into the corner, and continue working a round of sc all around the outside of the blanket. On the opposite end (the starting chain), work 66 stitches evenly across the end (this will *not* be 1 stitch in each chain). When the round is completed, slip stitch into the initial stitch of this round. Finish off yarn.

Round 2: Join color 2 with a slip stitch into the last stitch just worked. This should be at the corner. Ch 3. In the same joining stitch work [2 dc, ch 1, 2 dc] (=split shell). Skip 1 stitch, work a split shell in next stitch. *Skip 3 stitches, work a split shell in the next stitch. Repeat from *

around, but at the corners skip only 1 stitch between split shells. Join with a slip stitch into the 3rd chain of the initial chain of this round. Finish off yarn.

Round 3: Join color 1 to the next chain space in the middle of the split shell. This should be the split shell at the corner. Chain 6, dc in same space. Between shells work [dc, ch 3, dc] (= wide V stitch. In the space in the middle of the next split shell, work a wide V stitch [dc, ch 3, dc]. Continue around working a wide V stitch in the middle of each split shell, but at the corners work an additional wide V between shells at the point where you skipped just 1 stitch on the prior round. Join with a slip stitch into the 3rd chain of the initial ch-6. Don't fasten off this time, just put a stitch holder in.

Round 4: Join color 2 with a slip stitch into the next chain space. Ch 1, work 3 sc in same space. *Ch 2, work 3 sc into next chain space. Repeat from * around. Join with a slip stitch in the first stitch of the round. Finish off this color.

Round 5: Pick up color 2, chain 1 and slip stitch into the chain space of the last round. Chain 1, sc twice in the same space. *Chain 4, sc in the 3rd chain from hook, ch 1. Work 2 sc in the next chain space. Repeat from * around. Slip stitch into top of initial sc. Finish off. Hide yarn tails.