# Happy Shades Afghan

## By Ruth Volk 4/11/2014

This is simple and relaxing to work, and looks great!  This can be made using any two colors, but I used Carron Simply Soft in Watermelon and Soft Pink (two 6-oz skeins of each).  Two shades of the same color work well, but really any colors will do.
Can be worked to any size.  Gauge does not matter, but I used a size H hook.

Using Watermelon (dark pink), chain a base that is a multiple of 6.
The chain should be around 24 inches wide for baby size, and around 34 inches wide for adult size.

**Row 1 (dark pink):** DC in 4$^{th}$ chain from hook and in the next 3 chains.  *Chain 2, skip 2, DC in the next 4 chains.  Repeat from * across.  Place a stitch holder in the last stitch and drop the Watermelon yarn for later.

**Row 2 (Soft Pink**): Attach Soft Pink with a slip stitch in the top of the initial chain 3.  Chain 1, sc in same stitch as joining, and in the next 3 stitches.  *[YO, bring up a loop in the next chain space] 3 times.  YO and pull through all loops on hook.  Chain 1.  SC in the next 4 stitches.  Repeat from * across. Finish off and hide yarn tail.  This row is worked on the right side of the blanket.  Take a small scrap of yarn and tie a bow somewhere on this side to remind you to work the Soft Pink on this side every time.

**Row 3 (dark pink):**  Pick up the Watermelon yarn and pull the loop through the end stitch of the Soft Pink row. Chain 2, then DC in the same stitch as joining.  DC in the next 3 stitches  *Chain 2, skip 2, DC in the next 4 stitches.  Repeat from * across.  Place a stitch holder in the last stitch and drop the Watermelon yarn for later.

**Row 4 (Soft Pink):** This Soft Pink row should always be worked with right side facing you.( Look for the bow you tied). Join yarn with a slip stitch in the first stitch.  Chain 1, sc in same stitch as joining, and in the next 3 stitches.  *[YO, bring up a loop in the next chain space] 3 times.  YO and pull through all loops on hook.  Chain 1.  SC in the next 4 stitches.  Repeat from * across. Finish off and hide yarn tail.

**Repeat rows 3 and 4** until blanket measures desired length, ending with a row 3 (dark pink).  Blanket length should be around 36 inches for baby size, and 5 feet for adult size.  End with a row 3 (Watermelon). Do not break yarn.

**Edging**   **Round 1:** Using Watermelon, sc around outside edges, working 3 SC in each corner.  Join with a slip stitch in the initial SC.

**Round 2:** Continuing with Watermelon, chain 3. DC in each stitch around, working 2 DC at corners in each of the 3 corner stitches. Join with a slip stitch in the top of the initial chain 3.  Place stitch holder in last stitch and drop this color for later.

**Round 2:**  Join Soft Pink with a slip stitch in the first stitch of round 2. Chain 1, sc in same stitch as joining and in the next

stitch. *Chain 1, skip 1, sc in the next two stitches.  Repeat from * around, but at each corner, do not skip a stitch (3 times). Join with slip stitch in first sc of round. Finish off and hide yarn tail.

**Round 3:**  Pick up Watermelon, chain 1 over the last round, then sc in same stitch. *Chain 2, skip 2 stitches, sc in the next chain space.  Repeat from * around, but at corners chain 3 rather than 2 (3 times per corner).  Join with a slip stitch in first stitch of round.

**Round 4:** Continuing with Watermelon, chain into the next chain space, chain 3, dc in same space.  Work 2 dc in each chain space, chain 1, skip 1, around, but at corners do the following 3 times: (2 dc, ch 1, 2 dc in the next chain-3 space, chain 1).  Join with a slip stitch in the top of the initial chain-3.  Finish off this color and hide yarn tail.

**Round 5:** Join Soft Pink with a slip stitch in the first chain-1 space of round 4.  Chain 1, sc in same space. *Chain 2, skip 2, sc in next chain-1 space.  Repeat from * around.  Join with slip stitch in top of first sc of this round.

**Round 6:**  Continuing with Soft Pink, slip stitch into the next chain space.  Work 2 sc in same space. *Chain 2,  work 2 sc in next chain space.  Repeat from * around. Join with a slip stitch in the top of first sc of this round.  Finish off this color and hide yarn tail.

**Round 7:** Join Watermelon with a slip stitch in the first chain-2 space of round 6.  Chain 1, work 2 sc in same space.  *Chain 1, skip 2, work 2 sc in next chain-2 space.  Repeat from * around, but at corners chain 2 rather than 1 at least 3 times (enough to keep edge from curling).  Join with slip stitch in top of first sc of this round.

**Round 8:** Continuing with Watermelon, slip stitch in the next chain space.  Chain 1.  Work 3 sc in each chain space, but at corners work 4 sc in the 3 corner spaces.  Join with slip stitch in top of first sc of this round.  Finish off and hide yarn tail.