



UK Terms

Crochet Along

Stylecraft



Bird of Paradise

Frida's Flowers Blanket - Block 3

Block 3 – Bird of Paradise

When I design a project made up of lots of different motifs and pieces I tend to design from the middle out. In the case of Frida's Flower Blanket I designed Ring of Roses (which has now become Block 6) first, followed by the central motif so that I had an idea of the formation of the focal point of the blanket and could then design the pieces to slot in around them. I suppose in effect I worked in the reverse way to you, starting with the more complicated pieces first, then designing the simpler motifs.

In 1943 Frida Kahlo painted a picture called 'Self Portrait with monkeys, bird of paradise flower'. It is a painting that I really love, partly because the monkeys look like they are protecting Frida and are a little worried about her, but also because of the beautiful Strelitzia flower (bird of paradise) and leaves that Frida has painted in behind her.

This block is a little harder to make than the blocks you have already made. You need to make 4 so it is my suggestion that you work in stages, completing the 4 pieces in unison to each of your chosen stages, even if this means doing just a round at a time on each one.

The next block will be available 17 May.

Block 3 – Bird of Paradise (make 4) – Yarns used:



3567
Plum



3672
Poppy



3662
Sunflower



3097
Leaf



3665
Ivory



3093
Black



3095
Greek Blue



3656
Toffee



3669
Nocturne

EQUIPMENT

4mm (UK 8 / US G/6) crochet hook used throughout
Sewing needle

MEASUREMENT

Pre blocked – 19.5cm wide at widest point

ABBREVIATIONS

ch(s) chain(s)

cm centimetre(s)

dc double crochet

htr half treble

mm millimetre(s)

RS right side

sp(s) space(s)

ss slip stitch

st(s) stitch(es)

tch turning chain

tr treble

tr2tog work 2 treble sts together (1 st decreased)

tr3tog work 3 treble sts together (2 sts decreased)

WS wrong side

NOTES:

Fastening Off and rejoining Yarn

You will achieve a much neater colour change if you complete rounds and fasten off the yarn, rather than joining mid stitch. When fastening off a yarn at the end of a round, the slip stitch that you have made to join can look like a stitch when you are working the following round. Make sure you count correctly and do not count the slip stitch as a stitch when working subsequent rounds.

Dealing with yarn ends

I tend to sew yarn ends in as I go along – doing this makes the finishing process much easier as you will have less to do. Sewing yarn ends in as you go along also means that you are less likely to loose stitches or make errors with your tension.

Joining your pieces

You will join them together using double crochet and a 4mm hook. To save yarn, you could use slip stitch instead, but will need to use a larger hook (4.5mm).

When joining, corner sts on the motifs need to be used more than once.

Pattern Note

MP: Make Popcorn

Make 5tr, remove hook from last loop.

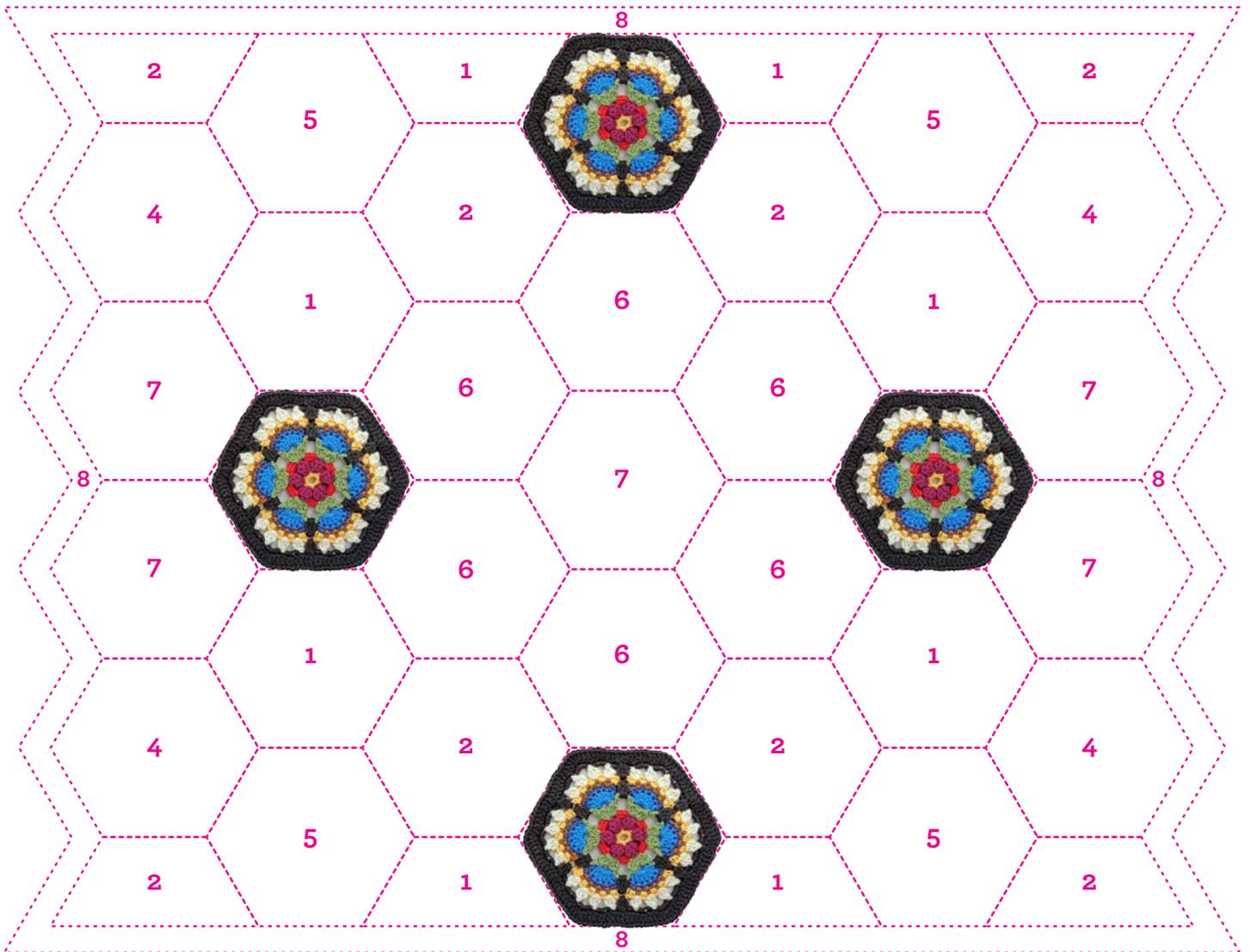
Making sure that the stitch does not unravel, insert hook into top of 1st treble of 5tr group from the front.

Place the yarn loop from the top of the 5th treble back onto the hook so that there are 2 'sts' on the hook.

Wrap yarn round hook and draw through to form a popcorn.

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Block 3 – Bird of Paradise (make 4)



Although every effort has been made to ensure that instructions are correct, Stylecraft cannot accept any liabilities. In the unlikely event that there are errors in the patterns we will work as quickly as possible to issue an addenda.

Stylecraft cannot accept responsibility for the result of using any other yarn.

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METHOD

Using Sunflower & 4mm hook make 5ch, join with a ss to form a ring

Foundation Round: 1ch (does not count as a st), 12dc into ring, ss to join, fasten off (12sts)

Round 1: Using Plum, join yarn into any st by working 1ch + 2ch (counts as 1st tr of popcorn), MP into same st, 3ch, skip next st, * MP into next st, 3ch, skip next st; repeat from * to end, ss to join, fasten off (6 popcorns made)



Round 2: Using Poppy join yarn into any 3ch sp by working 1ch (does not count as a st), 5dc into same ch sp, 1ch, * 5dc into next ch sp, 1ch; repeat from * to end, ss to join, fasten off (30sts & 6ch sps)



Round 3: Using Leaf join yarn into any 1ch sp by working 1ch + 2ch, tr2tog into same ch sp (counts as tr3tog), 3ch, tr3tog into same ch sp, 5ch, * [tr3tog, 3ch, tr3tog] into next ch sp, 5ch; repeat from * to end, ss to join, fasten off



Round 4: Using Greek Blue, join yarn into any 3ch sp by working 1ch + 2ch, (counts as 1tr), 6tr into same ch sp, 3ch, * skip 5ch sp, 7tr into next 3ch sp, 3ch; repeat from * to end, ss to join, fasten off (42sts & 6ch sps)



Round 5: Using Nocturne join yarn into 2nd ch of any 3ch group made on previous round by working 1ch, (does not count as a st), 1dc into same ch, * 1ch, skip 1ch, 1dc into each next 2sts, [1ch, 1dc into next st] 4 times, 1dc into next st, 1ch, skip 1ch, 1dc into next ch; repeat from * to end, omitting last 1dc on final pattern repeat, ss to join, fasten off



Measurement: 12cm across centre - widest point of petal to petal

Round 6: Using Toffee join yarn into any dc made in ch between petals on previous round by working 1ch (does not count as a st), 1dc into same st, * 2ch, skip 1ch & 2dc, 1dc into next ch sp, [1ch, 1dc into next ch sp] 3 times, 2ch, skip 2dc & 1ch, 1dc into next dc; repeat from * to end, omitting last dc on final pattern repeat, ss to join, fasten off



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Round 7: Using Black and working at the reverse side of the flower (but with RS facing) join yarn through back of central dc of group made on flower on Round 5 (Nocturne) by working 1ch (counts as 1dc), * 5ch, working to the front of the 3 previous rounds tr3tog into 5ch sp made on Round 3 (Leaf), 5ch, 1dc into back of central dc of next group made on Round 5 (Nocturne); repeat from * to end, omitting last 1dc on final pattern repeat, ss to join, fasten off



Round 8: Using Sunflower, join yarn into ch sp made on round 6 (Toffee) to the left of any tr3tog made on previous round by working 1ch (does not counts as a st), 2dc into same ch sp, * [1ch, 2dc into next ch sp] 4 times, 2ch, skip tr3tog, 2dc into next ch sp; repeat from * 4 times [1ch, 2dc into next ch sp] 4 times, 2ch, ss to join, fasten off



Round 9: Using Ivory join yarn into first 1ch sp of 4 x 1ch sps (between 2 sets of 2dc) made on previous round by working 1ch + 2ch, tr2tog into same ch sp (counts as tr3tog), * [3ch, tr3tog into next ch sp] 3 times, 3ch, skip 2dc & 2ch & 2dc, tr3tog into next ch sp; repeat from * to end, omitting tr3tog on final pattern repeat, ss to join, fasten off



Round 10: Using Black join yarn into central ch sp of 4 petal group made on previous round by working 1ch (does not count as a st), 5dc into same ch sp, * 4dc into next ch sp, 2dc into next ch sp, working in front of 3ch sp made on previous round, tr3tog into 2ch sp made on Round 8 (Sunflower), 2dc into same ch sp, 4dc into next ch sp, 5dc into next ch sp; repeat from * to end, omitting 5dc on final pattern repeat, ss to join, do not fasten off (108sts)



Round 11: 3ch (counts as 1tr), 1tr into next st, * 3tr into next st, 1tr into each next 17sts; repeat from * to end, omitting 2tr on final pattern repeat, ss to join, fasten off (120sts)



Sew in yarn ends

Place stitch marker into corner sts (central st of 3tr) if required

Pre Blocked Measurement: 19.5cm at widest point



Joining your pieces

You can join one side of this motif as you make it, if you want to do this, do not fasten off at the end of the last round

Using **4mm** hook & using the layout diagram as your reference, 1ch, holding the correct block in front, with RS facing inwards, 1dc into central dc of 3dc group made at corner of block & the corresponding st on the other block so that your hook is through 2 sts, 1dc into the sts, work 1dc into all corresponding pairs of sts on both pieces all the way along to the central dcs at next corners, working the final dc into the central sts, at corner, fasten off

Repeat for all 4 motifs

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To join the other side of the motif

Using Black or Plum & **4mm** hook & using the layout diagram as your reference, & holding the correct block in front, with RS facing inwards, join yarn into pair of corresponding corner sts on both blocks by working 1ch, work 1dc into all corresponding pairs of sts on both pieces all the way along to the central dcs at next corners, working the final dc into the central sts, at corner, fasten off