Stylecraft

Crafternoon Treats

Frida's Flowers Project Bag
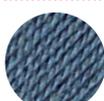
Pattern and Crochet Along

Frida's Flowers Project Bag

This stash bag/project bag has been designed by Kathryn of Crafternoon Treats as a really useful crochet bag to store your yarn and your growing Frida's Flowers blanket in the exciting Stylecraft crochet-along that starts in April 2016.
It's made in Stylecraft Special Chunky (with a little bit of Stylecraft Special DK) and is inspired by the colours and art of Frida Kahlo, which Jane has used as the basis of her fabulous new flower blanket.

STYLECRAFT SPECIAL CHUNKY YARN REQUIRED

No. of 100g balls

	Black 1002	2
	Plum 1061	1
	Parchment 1218	1
	Denim 1302	1
	Meadow 1065	1
	Gold 1709	1
	Spice 1711	1

STYLECRAFT SPECIAL DK YARN REQUIRED

No. of 100g balls

	Bright Pink 1435	1
	Fiesta 1257	1

FABRIC REQUIRED

- Flowering or patterned cotton or other fabric of your choice: enough to cut 10 lining squares 13 inches (32.5cm) square plus five pieces of plain cotton or other fabric 18 inches (45cm) by 13 inches (32.5cm) for pockets.
- Lace for embellishment
- 80 inches (2 metres) of 10mm black piping cord to reinforce the top of the bag and the handle

EQUIPMENT

For the crochet bag:
- Size 5mm crochet hook (size H or size 8 in the USA and size 6 Canada)
- Blunt ended needle for sewing in ends
- Sharp scissors

For the lining:
- Table protector, stiff interfacing or other stiffening material: enough for 5 squares 12 inches (30cm) square.
- Matching sewing thread
- Sewing machine
- Needle
- Ruler and cutting mat
- Thermal pen (marks disappear when ironed) or tailors chalk

APPROX. MEASUREMENTS

The finished squares of the bag are approximately 11 and a quarter inches square (28cm) so the finished bag is almost 12 inches (30cm) square.

TENSION

Use an even tension throughout.

STITCHES AND ABBREVIATIONS

chain	ch
slip stitch	ss
single crochet	sc
half double crochet	hdc
double crochet	dc

Popcorn stitch: Work 4dc then pull up the final loop and remove the hook. Insert hook into the top of the first dc, then into the loop of the 4th dc. Yarn over and pull through all loops on the hook. Ch 3 before making a popcorn stitch in the next space.

Standing dc: Hold new yarn behind your work, yarn over hook twice, insert into stitch and pull through a loop. Yarn over and pull through 2 loops, trapping the tail end behind. Yarn over and pull through 2 loops.

Standing sc: Hold new yarn behind your work, yarn over hook once, insert into stitch and pull through a loop. Yarn over and pull through 2 loops, trapping the tail end behind.

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ABOUT THE PATTERN

You will need to make four flower squares and one base square. Each square is lined individually and sewn in place before crocheting them together as a cube. To finish, add a border round the top and make crochet handles.

- If you want the bag to be slightly smaller, go straight from round 11 to round 14 (made with Stylecraft Special DK fiesta and bright pink held together), missing out rounds 12 and 13.
- You can use the flower squares in whatever order you like around the sides of the bag – that is totally up to you.
- You can choose to add a stiffened box lining (if you have good sewing skills you may prefer this) rather than lining the squares individually.
- You can add shorter or longer handles by using a smaller or larger number of chains as the handle base.

TUTORIALS

For detailed step-by-step tutorials on the Crafternoon Treats blog, click this link: The Frida's Flowers project bag Quick Start Guide

COLOUR SEQUENCES FOR THE BAG

Flower square 1
Round 1: Gold (chunky)
Round 2: Meadow (chunky)
Round 3: Bright pink (DK) and Fiesta (DK) worked together
Rounds 4/5: Plum (chunky)
Rounds 6,7,8: Black (chunky)
Round 9: Denim (chunky)
Round 10: Gold (chunky)
Round 11: Meadow (chunky)
Round 12: Spice (chunky)
Round 13: Parchment (chunky)
Round 14: Bright pink (DK) and Fiesta (DK) worked together
Round 15: Black (chunky)

Flower square 2
Round 1: Parchment (chunky)
Round 2: Gold (chunky)
Round 3: Bright pink (DK) and Fiesta (DK) worked together
Rounds 4/5: Spice (chunky)
Rounds 6,7,8: Black (chunky)
Round 9: Parchment (chunky)
Round 10: Denim (chunky)
Round 11: Meadow (chunky)
Round 12: Parchment (chunky)
Round 13: Plum (chunky)
Round 14: Bright pink (DK) and Fiesta (DK) worked together
Round 15: Black (chunky)

Flower square 3
Round 1: Gold (chunky)
Round 2: Spice (chunky)
Round 3: Bright pink (DK) and Fiesta (DK) worked together
Rounds 4/5: Parchment (chunky)
Rounds 6,7,8: Black (chunky)
Round 9: Plum (chunky)
Round 10: Meadow (chunky)
Round 11: Spice (chunky)
Round 12: Denim (chunky)

Round 13: Gold (chunky)
Round 14: Bright pink (DK) and Fiesta (DK) worked together
Round 15: Black (chunky)

Flower square 4
Round 1: Parchment (chunky)
Round 2: Gold (chunky)
Round 3: Bright pink (DK) and Fiesta (DK) worked together
Rounds 4/5: Spice (chunky)
Rounds 6,7,8: Black (chunky)
Round 9: Parchment (chunky)
Round 10: Denim (chunky)
Round 11: Meadow (chunky)
Round 12: Parchment (chunky)
Round 13: Plum (chunky)
Round 14: Bright pink (DK) and Fiesta (DK) worked together
Round 15: Black (chunky)

The base square
Round 1: Gold (chunky)
Round 2: Meadow (chunky)
Round 3: Bright pink (DK) and Fiesta (DK) worked together
Rounds 4: Spice (chunky)
No round 5
Rounds 6,7,8: Black (chunky)
Round 9: Parchment (chunky)
Round 10: Plum (chunky)
Round 11: Meadow (chunky)
Round 12: Denim (chunky)
Round 13: Spice (chunky)
Round 14: Bright pink (DK) and Fiesta (DK) worked together
Round 15: Black (chunky)

Top of the bag and the handles: black and plum

THE FLOWER SQUARE PATTERN

Work on the right side unless otherwise stated.
Foundation ring: Ch4. Join with a sl st to form a ring.
Round 1: Ch2 (does not count as a stitch). 12dc into the ring, working over the tail end, then close with a sl st into the top of the first dc. Fasten off. Pull the first tail end taut and weave in to close the ring. [12 stitches]
Round 2: Join the next yarn colour by making a standing dc into any stitch. Dc into the same stitch. 2dc into each stitch around the circle. Close with a sl st into the top of the standing dc. Fasten off [24 stitches, 12 petals]
Round 3: Work in Stylecraft Special DK fiesta and bright pink held together and make a standing dc into any space. Make 3dc into the same space, then work these 4dc into a popcorn stitch. Ch 3. Popcorn stitch into each of the next 11 spaces, followed each time by ch3. Close the round with a sl st into the top of the standing dc. Fasten off. [12 popcorn petals, each separated by 3ch]
Round 4: Join the next yarn colour into the centre of one of the popcorn petals. Sc, ch3. *Sc into the next popcorn stitch, then ch3** Repeat from * to ** 10 more times. Join to the top of the first popcorn stitch using a sl st. Do not fasten off.
Round 5: Into each chain space between the popcorn stitches (HINT – the pink chains) work: 1sc, 1hdc, 1dc, 1hdc, 1sc. Join to the first sc with a sl st. Fasten off. [12 petals]
Round 6: Turn your work to work on the wrong side.

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Join the black yarn into any of the chain spaces made in round 4 (HINT – not the pink chains). 3sc into this chain space and the next. Corner: 3dc, 2ch, 3dc into the next chain space. *3sc into the next 2 chain spaces, then 3dc, 2ch, 3dc for the corner.** Repeat from * to ** 2 more times. Close the round with a sl st into the top of the first sc. Do not fasten off.

Round 7: Work on the right side. Ch3 then 2dc into the space below. 3dc into the next 2 spaces. At the corner, work 3dc, 2ch, 3dc into the chain space. *3dc into the next 2 spaces. At the corner, 3dc, 2ch, 3dc into the chain space.** Repeat from * to ** 2 more times. Join to the top of your first dc in the first dc group using a sl st. Do not fasten off.

Round 8: Turn your work so you are working on the wrong side. 3ch then 2dc into the space below. 3dc into the next 3 spaces. At the corner, work 3dc, 2ch, 3dc into the chain space. * 3dc into the next 3 spaces. At the corner, work 3dc, 2ch, 3dc into the chain space.** Repeat from * to ** 2 more times. Join to the top of your first dc in the first dc group using a sl st. Fasten off

Round 9: Work on the right side for the rest of the square. Join the yarn in a space before a corner and make an sc. Ch3 then work one sc, 2ch, one sc into the corner space. Ch3, then sc into the next space. Repeat along each side of the square, making one sc, 2ch, one sc into each of the following corner spaces. When you reach the end of the round, ch3 then sl st into the first sc. Fasten off.

Round 10: Join the next colour yarn into a corner space with a standing dc. Work 2dc into the same space. Work 3dc into each space along each side and work 3dc, 2ch, 3dc at each corner. Join with a sl st to close the round and fasten off.

Round 11: As round 9.

Round 12: As Round 10

Round 13: As round 9

Round 14: Use Stylecraft Special DK fiesta and bright pink held together and work as round 10.

Round 15: Using black, make one sc into the top of each stitch, working 2sc into each of the corner spaces. Close with a sl st and fasten off. [152 stitches]

THE BASE SQUARE PATTERN

The base square is flat, so has no 3D flower. It is made in the same way as the flower square in all rounds except:

Rounds 1-2: Same as the main flower square.

Round 3: Work in Stylecraft Special DK fiesta and bright pink held together and make a standing dc into any space. Make 2dc into the same space, then work 3dc into each of the next 11 spaces. Close the round with a sl st into the top of the standing dc. Fasten off. [12 groups of 3dc; 36 stitches]

Round 4: Change to spice and make a standing sc in any of the spaces between the groups of stitches in round 3. Ch3. *Sc into the next space, ch3.** Repeat from * to ** 10 more times. Sl st to the standing sc to close. Fasten off.

Round 5: Omit round 5: the base square has one round less than the flower square.

Round 6: Change to black. Work on the wrong side. Join yarn into any ch space and work 3sc into this ch space and then 3sc into the next ch space. 3dc, 2ch, 3dc into the next ch space. *3sc into the next 2 ch spaces, then 3dc, 2ch, 3dc into the next ch space.** Repeat from * to ** two more times. Close with a sl st but do not fasten off.

Round 7: Turn work and work on the right side. Ch 3 then work 2hdc into the space below. 3hdc, 2ch, 3hdc into the corner space. *3hdc into the next 3 spaces, then 3hdc, 2ch, 3hdc into the corner.** Repeat from * to ** two more times. Close with a sl st but do not fasten off.

Round 8: Turn your work and work as round 8 in the main flower square.

Rounds 9 – 15: Same as the main flower square.

LINING THE CROCHET SQUARES

Base square: Cut 2 squares of cotton 13 inches (32.5cm) square and one square of table protector or other stiffening material 11 inches (27.5cm) square. Put the two cotton squares together, right side to right side, and machine sew together along 2 sides. Insert the stiffening square and sew along the third side, close to the stiffener.

Remove, trim seams as necessary, turn inside out, press and insert the stiffener. Fold in the fourth edge and hand stitch closed to enclose the stiffener. Hand sew in place to the base of the dc stitches in round 15.

Flower squares: For each square, cut 2 squares of cotton 13 inches (32.5cm) square and one square of table protector or other stiffening material 11 inches (27.5cm) square. If you want a pocket, cut another piece of cotton 13 inches (32.5cm) wide and 18 inches (45cm) deep.

Fold the material for the pocket and sew onto one piece of lining material, sewing divisions for the pockets the size you require. I added thin divisions for crochet hooks on some of my linings, and wider divisions on others to store patterns etc.

Press and then put the pocketed lining together with the plain lining square, right side to right side and machine sew together along 2 sides. Insert the stiffening square and sew along the third side, close to the stiffener. Remove, trim seams as necessary, turn inside out, press and insert the stiffener.
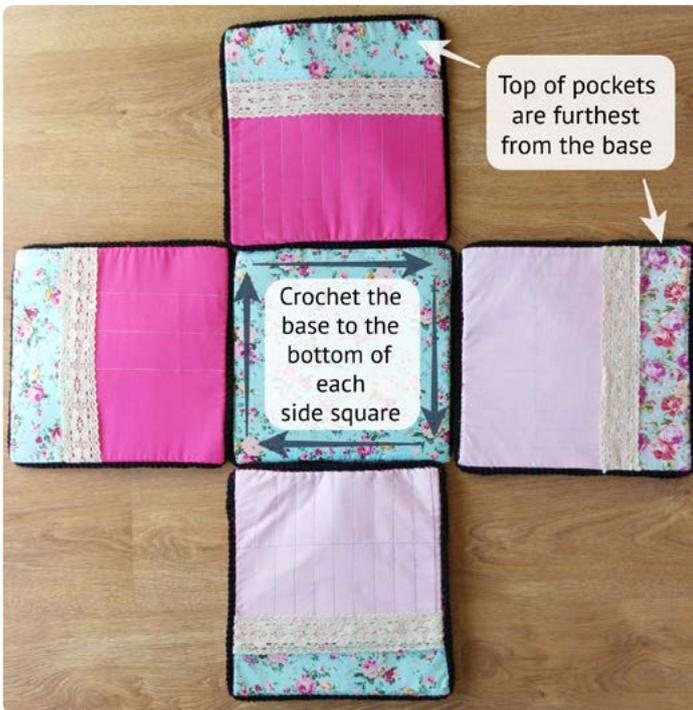
Hand sew some lace to decorate the top of the pocket.

Fold raw edges inwards and hand sew in place to close the bottom seam

Fold in the fourth edge and hand stitch closed to enclose the stiffener. Hand sew in place to the base of the dc stitches in round 15.

ASSEMBLING YOUR BAG

Lay out your five lined squares with the base in the centre and the bottom of the four side squares arranged like this:

Top of pockets are furthest from the base

Crochet the base to the bottom of each side square

Using your crochet hook and black chunky yarn, hold the base square and one of the side squares together, wrong side to wrong side. Start in the corner space and join the yarn, making one sc through both squares. Continue working along, joining both squares together by making one sc through both loops of the edge stitches of both squares.

Repeat for the other 3 sides.

You will finish in a bottom corner. Use the yarn to join the sides of the adjacent squares together before fastening off. Use more black chunky yarn to crochet the other 3 sides together, working in sc stitches from the bottom to the top. At the end of the last side, do not fasten off.

Your bag should now look like a cube:

Join sides with UK dc (US sc) stitches from bottom to top

FINISHING THE TOP OF THE BAG AND ADDING HANDLES

Using black yarn, make 3 rounds of sc all around the top of the bag.

Change your yarn colour. I chose to use plum for my second handle colour, but you can choose any of the Stylecraft Special chunky colours – gold, meadow, denim, parchment or spice.

Decide which squares you want to form the front and back of your bag. Starting in the corner to the right of the front, join the new colour yarn and work 8 sc stitches, then miss 25 stitches and make 50 chains. Rejoin the yarn 7 stitches from the next corner. This chain forms the base of your first handle.

Continue around the second side making one sc into every stitch. Starting from the next corner, work 8 stitches before missing 25 stitches and making 50 chains again. Rejoin the yarn 7 stitches from the next corner, then complete the round along the fourth side. Join with a sl st. Do not fasten off.

Using plum work another complete round of sc stitches. Work in the first 8 stitches and then in each chain of the handle, the final 7 stitches and then along the top of the bag side. Work in the next 8 stitches and then in each chain of the handle, the final 7 stitches and the final bag side. Join with a sl st.

Work 3 more rounds of sc stitches in plum, going along the bag sides and over each handle.

You now need to change back to black and work inside the handles. Join the yarn at the top of the bag and work one sc into each stitch, working up into the bottom of the chain of the first handle.

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Complete 3 more complete rounds inside this handle and then repeat for the second handle.

Using a darning needle threaded with black yarn, sew the edges of the handles together so that they form a tube. Fold over the top of the bag and sew in place using plum yarn. For additional strength you can insert piping cord into the handles and around the top of the bag.

When you are almost at the end of your folding and sewing, join together the two ends of the piping cord using sewing

thread and wrap some yarn around the joint to keep it secure. For the Frida's Flower's project bag I used a black cord and black yarn for the joint.

The only thing that remains to do, if you would like, is to make some extra flowers and embellish your bag. If you don't want to add the flowers, they will make a great garland and there is plenty of yarn left to make loads more.

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.