Postcards with Love

CROCHET ALONG BLANKET

Designed by Eleonora Tully for King Cole

Send a postcard to friends and family when you're away on travels or maybe just send an impromptu postcard from home to loved ones far away! Sharing a message, sights, adventures and memories... A little bit of joy popping through a letterbox... postcards sent with love but this time we'll be crocheting them!

	Big Value DK 50g *100% acrylic, 145m/158yds*	Cottonsoft DK 100g *100% cotton, 210m/229yds*
Yarn A:	*Buttercup (4090) x 2	Buttercup (1600) x 1
Yarn B:	Turquoise (4044) x 3	Azure (3366) x 2
Yarn C:	Sage (3445) x 2	Sage (1576) x 1
Yarn D:	Jade (4046) x 2	Opal (3460) x 2
Yarn E:	Cream (4021) x 9	Ecru (711) x 5
Yarn F:	Red (4029) x 2	Cherry (719) x 1
Yarn G:	French Navy (4043) x 2	French Navy (741) x 2
Yarn H:	Pink (4033) x 2	Candy Floss (3462) x 1
Yarn I:	Orange (4028) x 3	Clementine (3464) x 2
	4.50mm hook	4.00mm hook

__Yarn A__ Alternative: Big Value Baby DK 50g, Primrose (4064) x 2
__Yarn E__ Alternative: Big Value Baby DK 50g, Cream (4065) x 9

Pattern Notes

This blanket is made using a combination of different squares and rectangles. The pattern starts with a large central square. Four smaller squares and four rectangles are then crocheted, joined together and attached to the central square. These are crocheted around before further squares and rectangles are crocheted and joined. A border is crocheted around the entire blanket.

The starting/turning chains count as the first stitch of each round or row throughout, unless otherwise indicated. It may help to put a stitch marker into the top of the starting/ turning chains at the beginning of each round or row making it easier to identify them as a stitch and the correct place to insert your hook at the end of the round or subsequent rows.

The Cottonsoft DK yarn crochets up a little smaller than the Big Value DK. Each square measures approximately 16 cm x 16cm using Cottonsoft DK and rectangles are 16cm x 30cm. Using Big Value DK each square is approximately 17cm x 17cm and rectangles are 17cm x 31cm. These measurements will vary slightly between the different squares and rectangles. They all end with the same amount of stitches so when joined stitch by stitch, the squares and rectangles will ease together.

Tension

Cottonsoft DK: 18 standard treble stitches across and 11 rows measures 10cm x 10cm using a 4.0mm hook.

Big Value DK: 17 standard treble stitches across and 10 rows measures 10cm x 10cm using a 4.5mm hook.

Measurements

Blanket measures approximately 122cm x 122cm (48in x 48in) using Cottonsoft DK and 127cm x 127cm (50in x 50in) using Big Value DK.

Follow along step-by-step on our YouTube channel

Join in on our CAL group on Facebook and share

Abbreviations
in UK crochet terminology

blo: back loop only
ch: chain
ch-sp(s): chain space(s)
dc: double crochet
dc2tog: double crochet 2 stitches together
dtr: double treble
FPdtr: Front Post double treble (see Special Stitches)
FPquadtr: Front Post quadruple treble (see Special Stitches)
FPtrtr: Front Post triple treble (see Special Stitches)
htr: half treble
mm: millimetres
mtr: mosaic treble (see Special Stitches)
RS: right side
ss: slip stitch
st(s): stitch(es)
tr: treble
trtr: triple treble
WS: wrong side
yoh: yarn over hook

Special Stitches

Front Post double treble: complete a double treble st as normal (the stitch starts by wrapping yarn around hook 2 times) but insert hook around the stem of the st inserting hook from right to left going from the front to the back and then round to the front again.

Front Post quadruple treble: complete a quadruple treble st as normal (the stitch starts by wrapping yarn around hook 4 times) but insert hook around the stem of the st inserting hook from right to left going from the front to the back and then round to the front again.

Front Post triple treble: complete a triple treble st as normal (the stitch starts by wrapping yarn around hook 3 times) but insert hook around the stem of the st inserting hook from right to left going from the front to the back and then round to the front again.

Mosaic treble: complete a treble st as normal but insert hook into missed st in the same colour directly below, 3 rows down. Work the stitch in front of the 2 rows of chains.

Sunshine & Flower Wheel

As we think about postcards to send, this first central square begins with a bright yellow sun and then bunches of red flowers. When writing a postcard it may be those sunny days we want to share with loved ones through the pictures we choose, and then the words we write are a little like sending someone flowers. Postcards with love...

This first central square is made with the right side (RS) facing at all times.

Using Yarn A, make 4ch, ss to first ch to join into a ring (or make a magic circle).

In Rounds 1 and 2 the beginning 3 ch does not count as a stitch. This helps the centre of the sun to be extra neat by filling out the gaps.

Round 1 (RS) 3ch (does not count as st), 12tr into the ring, ss to first tr to join. [12 sts]

Round 2 3ch (does not count as st), 2tr in same st at base of 3 ch, 2tr in each st to end, ss to first tr. [24 sts]

Round 3 3ch (counts as first tr), 1tr in same st at base of 3 ch, 1tr in next st, (2tr in next st, 1tr in next st) to end, ss to top of first 3 ch, fasten off. [36 sts]

Round 4 Join Yarn B into any st, 3ch (counts as first tr here and throughout), 1tr in same st, 1tr in each of next 2 sts, (2tr in next st, 1tr in each of next 2 sts) to end, ss to top of first 3 ch. [48 sts]

Round 5 3ch, 1tr in same st at base of 3 ch, 1tr in each of next 3 sts, (2tr in next st, 1tr in each of next 3 sts) to end, ss to top of first 3 ch. [60 sts]

Round 6 3ch, 1tr in same st at base of 3 ch, 1tr in each of next 4 sts, (2tr in next st, 1tr in each of next 4 sts) to end, ss to top of first 3 ch, fasten off. [72 sts]

Round 7 Join Yarn A into any st, 1ch (does not count as st), 1dc in same st, 1dc in each of next 6 sts, miss next st instead working 1FPquadtr around the tr directly below it 4 rows below in Round 3, *1dc in each of next 7 sts, miss next st instead working 1FPquadtr around the tr directly below it 4 rows below in Round 3 (leave 3 sts in-between the raised sts in Round 3), repeat from * seven times more, ss to first dc, fasten off. [72 sts]

Round 8 Join Yarn B into central dc st of the 7 sts between any two raised sts, 3ch, 1tr in each of next 3 sts, miss next st instead working 1tr into previously missed st below it in Round 6 *(ensure hook goes under the top of the raised st to encase it and neaten - when you get to each raised st in this round crochet under it into the missed st in Round 6)*, 2tr in next st, (1tr in each of next 5 sts, 2tr in next st) to end, ss to top of first 3 ch, fasten off. [84 sts]

Round 9 Join Yarn C into any st, 3ch, 1tr in same st, 1tr in each of next 6 sts, (2tr in next st, 1tr in each of next 6 sts) to end, ss to top of first 3 ch, fasten off. [96 sts]

Round 10 Join Yarn D into any st, 3ch, 1tr in same st, 1tr in each of next 7 sts, (2tr in next st, 1tr in each of next 7 sts) to end, ss to top of first 3 ch, fasten off. [108 sts]

Round 11 Join Yarn E into any st, 3ch, 1tr in same st, 1tr in each of next 8 sts, (2tr in next st, 1tr in each of next 8 sts) to end, ss to top of first 3 ch. [120 sts]

A square will now be created around the circle.

Round 12 1ch (counts as first dc), 1dc in each of next 8 sts, *1htr in each of next 2 sts, 1tr in each of next 3 sts, 1dtr in each of next 3 sts, 1trtr in next st joining with Yarn C at last yoh of the st (do not fasten off Yarn E, this will be re-joined later), 1trtr in next st, (2trtr, 1ch, 2trtr) all in next st, 1trtr in next st re-joining with Yarn E at end of st (ensure Yarn E is trailing behind along the tops of the sts, but not too tight as this strand of yarn will be crocheted over in the next round to neaten, fasten off Yarn C), 1trtr in next st, 1dtr in next 3 sts, 1tr in next 3 sts, 1htr in next 2 sts **, 1dc in each of next 9 sts, repeat from * three times ending final repeat at **, ss to first 1 ch. [33 sts on each side with 4 x corner 1-ch-sps]

Round 13 1ch (counts as first dc), 1dc in each of next 8 sts, *1htr in each of next 2 sts, 1tr in each of next 3 sts, 1dtr in each of next 3 sts joining with Yarn F at last yoh of the final st (fasten off Yarn E and crochet the next sts around the loose strand of yarn from Round 12 to neaten), (miss next st, 3dtr in next st) two times, 2ch, miss next 1-ch-sp, 3dtr in next st, miss next st, 3dtr in next st rejoining with Yarn E at end of final st, fasten off Yarn F, miss next st, 1dtr in next 3 sts, 1tr in next 3 sts, 1htr in next 2 sts **, 1dc in each of next 9 sts, repeat from * three times ending final repeat at **, ss to first 1 ch. [37 sts on each side with 4 x corner 2-ch-sps]

Round 14 3ch (counts as first tr), 1tr in each of next 16 sts, * miss 3 sts, 3tr into space before next group of 3-dtr, miss 3 sts, (4tr, 2ch, 4tr) in corner ch-sp, miss 3 sts, 3tr into space before next group of 3-dtr, miss 3 sts **, 1tr in each of next 25 sts, repeat from

* three times ending final repeat at **, 1tr in each of next 8 sts, ss to top of first 3 ch, fasten off. [39 sts on each side with 4 x corner 2-ch-sps]

Round 15 Join Yarn G into any corner ch-sp, 4ch (counts as 1 htr and 2 ch), 1htr in same corner ch-sp, *1htr in each st to end of side, (1htr, 2ch, 1htr) in corner ch-sp, repeat from * two times more, 1htr in each st to end, ss to second ch of beginning 4 ch, fasten off. [41 sts on each side with 4 x corner 2-ch-sps]

Round 16 Join Yarn H into any corner ch-sp, 3ch (counts as first tr), (2tr, 2ch, 3tr) in same corner ch-sp,   * miss first 2 sts *(pay attention to miss the first st of the side which is less clear to see on a round of htr sts)*, ((1tr, 1ch, 1tr) all in next st, miss 2 sts) to end of side **, (3tr, 2ch, 3tr) in corner ch-sp, repeat from * three times ending final repeat at **, ss to top of first 3 ch, fasten off. [15 groups on

each side including in the corners with 4 x corner 2-ch-sps]

Round 17 Join Yarn I into any corner ch-sp, 3ch (counts as first tr), (1tr, 2ch, 2tr) in same corner ch-sp,   * miss first st, 3tr in next st, (miss 2 sts, 3tr in next 1-ch-sp) to final 1-ch-sp of side, miss 2 sts, 3tr in next st, miss final st **, (2tr, 2ch, 2tr) in corner ch-sp, repeat from * three times ending final repeat at **, ss to top of first 3 ch, fasten off. [49 sts on each side with 4 x corner 2-ch-sps]

Round 18 Join Yarn E into any corner ch-sp, 4ch (counts as 1 htr and 2 ch), 1htr in same corner ch-sp, *(1htr in each of next 2 sts, miss next st instead working 1htr into space beneath it) until final st of side, 1htr in final st **, (1htr, 2ch, 1htr) in corner ch-sp, repeat from * three times ending final repeat at **, ss to second ch of beginning 4 ch, fasten off. [51 sts on each side with 4 x corner 2-ch-sps]

Postcard One (make 2)

With so many different postcards to choose from, the postcards that we send are all so very personal! We begin by choosing a beautiful picture to show what we want to share. Maybe it's a stunning landscape, a pretty painted scene or something funny. And then do we squeeze as much writing as we can on the back to share our thoughts and adventures? Or do we simply write a few words? Anything goes! As we begin to crochet our postcards, these will all be personal too. We start with a simple beach scene. We can leave it plain and simple or add a beach hut. It's entirely up to you as we crochet our first postcard!

Using Yarn C make 51ch.

Row 1 (WS) 1tr in 4th ch from hook (the 3 missed ch count as first tr), 1tr in each ch to end, turn. [49 sts]

Row 2 (RS) 3ch (counts as first tr here and throughout), 1tr in same st at base of 3 ch, (miss 2 sts, 3tr in next st) until final 3 sts, miss 2 sts, 2tr in final st, turn. [15 groups of 3 tr plus 2 tr at each end]

Row 3 3ch, 1tr in same st at base of 3 ch, *miss 2 sts, (1tr, 1ch, 1tr) all in next st, repeat from * until final 3 sts, miss 2 sts, 2tr in final st, join with Yarn A at end of final st, turn.

Row 4 3ch, 1tr in same st at base of 3 ch, (miss 2 sts, 3tr in next 1-ch-sp) to final 1-ch-sp, miss 2 sts, 2tr in final st, turn. [15 groups of 3 tr plus 2 tr at each end] [49sts]

Row 5 1ch (does not count as st), 1dc in each st to end, turn.

Row 6 (RS) 2ch (counts as first htr), 1htr in next st, 1dc in each of next 3 sts, 1htr in each of next 2 sts, *1tr in each of next 2 sts, 1dtr in each of next 3 sts, 1tr in each of next 2 sts, 1htr in each of next 2 sts, 1dc in each of next 3 sts, 1htr in each of next 2 sts, repeat from * two times to end, join with Yarn E at end of final st, turn.

Row 7 (WS) 1ch (does not count as st), 1dc in each st to end, join with Yarn D at end of final st, turn.

Row 8 (RS) 3ch (counts as first tr), 1tr in next st, 1dtr in each of next 3 sts, 1tr in each of next 2 sts, *1htr in each of next 2 sts, 1dc in each of next 3 sts, 1htr in each of next 2 sts, 1tr in each of next 2 sts, 1dtr in each of next 3 sts, 1tr in each of next 2 sts, repeat from * two times to end, join with Yarn E at end of final st, turn.

Row 9 (WS) 1ch (does not count as st), 1dc in each st to end, join with Yarn D at end of final st, turn.

Rows 10 - 13 Repeat Rows 6 – 9, at the end of Row 13 join with Yarn B.

Rows 14 - 19 2ch (counts as first htr), 1htr in next st and each st to end, turn. [49 sts]

Row 20 (RS) 2ch (counts as first htr), 1htr in next st and each st to end, fasten off.

Border
Round 1 (RS) Join Yarn E into first st made in Row 20 (which is the top of the 2 ch made at the start of the row), 1ch (does not count as st), 1dc in same place, 1dc in each st across top edge, 2ch, rotate work ready to crochet across side edge, work 25 dc sts evenly down side edge working into the sides of the rows, 2ch, rotate work ready to crochet across bottom edge, 1dc in base of each st along bottom edge, 2ch, rotate work ready to crochet across next side edge, work 25 dc sts evenly across side edge, 2ch, ss to first dc. [49 sts on top and bottom, 25 sts on each side edge with 4 x corner 2-ch-sps]

Round 2 (RS) 2ch (counts as first htr), * 1htr in each st across to end of side, (1htr, 2ch, 1htr) in corner 2-ch-sp, repeat from * 3 times, ss to top of first 2 ch, fasten off. [51 sts on top and bottom, 27 sts on each side edge with 4 x corner 2-ch-sps]

Beach Hut
Using Yarn F make 12ch.

Row 1 1dc in 2nd ch from hook and each ch to end, turn. [11 sts]

Row 2 (RS) 1ch (does not count as st here and throughout), 1dc in each st, join with Yarn E at end of final st (do not cut Yarn F, this will be carried up the side to be joined again later), turn.

Rows 3 - 4 1ch, 1dc in each st, re-join with Yarn F at end of Row 4 (do not cut Yarn E), turn.

Rows 5 - 14 Repeat Rows 3 - 4 five times alternating between Yarn E and Yarn F every 2 rows, change to Yarn E at end of Row 14.

Row 15 (WS) 1ch, 1dc in each st, turn.

Row 16 1ch, dc2tog, 1dc in each of next 7 sts, dc2tog, turn. [9 sts]

Row 17 1ch, dc2tog, 1dc in each of next 5 sts, dc2tog, turn. [7 sts]

Row 18 1ch, dc2tog, 1dc in each of next 3 sts, dc2tog, turn. [5 sts]

Row 19 1ch, dc2tog, 1dc in next st, dc2tog, turn. [3 sts]

Row 20 (RS) 1ch, dc3tog, fasten off.

Roof Edging
Row 1 With RS facing, join Yarn E into right side of Row 15, 1ch (does not count as st here and throughout), 2dc in same place, work 4dc evenly up side edge of right side of roof, 3dc in top st of roof, 4dc evenly down side edge of left side of roof, 2dc into side edge of Row 15, fasten off.

Row 2 Keep RS facing, join Yarn G into first st of Row 1 of roof edging, 1ch, 2dc in same st, 1dc in each of next 6 sts up right side of roof, 3dc in top st of roof, 1dc in each of next 6 sts down left side of roof, 2dc in final st, turn.

Row 3 (WS) 1ch, 2dc in first st, 1dc in each of next 8 sts up left side of roof, 3dc in top st of roof, 1dc in each of next 8 sts down right side of roof, 2dc in final st, fasten off and weave in all ends.

Door
Using Yarn G make 5ch.

Row 1 (RS) 1dc in 2nd ch from hook and each ch to end, turn. [4 sts]

Rows 2 - 12 1ch (does not count as st), 1dc in each st, turn, fasten off at the end of Row 12 leaving a long tail to sew door onto front of beach hut.

Using photo as a guide, sew door onto beach hut. Then sew the whole beach hut onto postcard.

Join us next week for Postcard Two (Seagulls), & Vintage Heart Squares