

The Penny Drops CAL

Part 5: July 8, 2017

Joining panels and outside border

US terms and Stitch Abbreviations:

Bl = stitch in back loop only

Fl = stitch in front loop only

Dc = double crochet

Hdc = half double crochet

Sc = single crochet

Sl st = slip stitch

St/sts = stitch/stitches

Standing sc = standing single crochet - with a slip knot on hook, insert hook into stitch and pull up a loop, yo and pull through both loops on hook.

Sc2tog = single crochet two together - insert hook in fl of the next two sts, yo and pull through these two loops, yo and pull through loop on hook.

Standing hdc = standing half double crochet - with a slip knot on hook, yo, insert hook into stitch and pull up a loop, yo and pull through three loops on hook.

Standing dc = standing double crochet - with a slip knot on hook, yo and insert hook into stitch and pull up a loop, yo and pull through 2 loops, yo and pull through 2 loops.

Fphdc = front post half double crochet

Bphdc = back post half double crochet

Fpdc = front post double crochet

Bpdc = back post double crochet

Rsc = reverse single crochet, also known as the crab stitch

Xdc = cross double crochet - skip 1st stitch, dc in next, dc in skipped stitch to create a cross.

YO = yarn over

* * Repeat instructions between asterisks the amount of times specified. This is normally a repeat for a complete side and will consist of multiple instructions.

() Work instructions between parentheses the amount of times specified. This is a lower level repeat.

[] Hints and notes at the end of each row are written between brackets and italic blue colored letters to help and guide you.

Colours:

Colour A = contrast colour **Colour B** = Caron Cake

Colour C = additional contrast colour if you choose not to use Caron Cake on the border

Size H/8/5 mm crochet hook and a size G/7/4.5 mm for the final row of reverse sc.

The panels should be the same length with a difference of less than 2 in / 5 cm.

Joining the side panels to the centre panel:

Centre panel border is completed.

Side panels have 188 sc along both sides in Colour A

1. Attach right hand side panel to centre as follows: right sides together, foundation row of BOTH pieces on your right, join Colour A *[contrasting colour]* in the first stitch, and sl st in bl in each of the 188 sts. *[bl of the st when the panel is right side up]*.
2. Attach left hand side panel to centre panel in the same way, ensuring that the foundation rows are at the same end.

Outside Border:

Note: I find that both the foundation and bound off end of tss pieces tend to flare out a bit and lay much flatter if the number of sts are decreased. This will be done in the first round of the border.

The entire border will be worked with right side facing up with one possible exception as follows:

There is a round of bphdc that is much faster and easier to do if you turn the piece over and do fphdc instead. I find front post sts less awkward to do and the overall effect is identical.

Round 1:

1. Join Colour A *[contrast colour]* in the top right-hand corner of the bound off edge *[right side panel]* with a standing sc and make 2 more sc in the same space. The sts will be placed in the sc of the one row of edging with sc.
2. Working in the 36 sts across the top of the side panel, *sc in next 4 sts, sc2tog*, repeat from * to * 5 more times, sc in the sc from the left side edging.
There will be 3 sc in the corner, and 31 sts across the top of the side panel.
3. Sc 17 sts evenly across the top of the **centre panel border** section.
Note: If the edging is not perfectly even or “dips” a bit, you can use hdc instead of sc in those spots.
4. Working in the 49 sts across the top of the centre panel, *sc in next 3 sts, sc2tog*, repeat from * to * 8 more times, sc in next 4 sts. **There will be 40 sc sts across the top of the centre panel.**
5. Sc 17 sts evenly across the top of the left side of **centre panel border** section.
Note: If the edging is not perfectly even or “dips” a bit, you can use hdc instead of sc in those spots.
6. You are now at the left side panel, sc in the side panel border st,

7. Working in the 36 sts across the top of the side panel, *sc in next 4 sts, sc2tog*, repeat from * to * 5 more times, 3 sc in the last st (from the left side edging)

Stitch Count: 136 excluding the corner sts

3 sc in the corner

31 sts across the top of the right-side panel

17 across the right-hand side centre panel border

40 across centre panel tss

17 across the left-hand side centre panel border

31 across the top of the left side panel

3 sc in the next corner.

8. sc in each st along left side panel edge (186 sts) and place 3 sc in the last st.
9. Repeat steps 2 – 7 across the foundation row placing 3 sc in the bottom right corner of the right-side panel.
10. sc in each st along the right-side panel edge and join with sl st to the first sc of the 3 sc corner st.

Stitch count:

3 sc in each corner, 186 sc on each side, 136 sc on the each of the foundation and bound off edges.

Round 2: Colour A *The border needs an odd number of sts. In this round, you will do 2 hdc in the same st in the middle don't count, you can just fold the piece in half to find a st) of each side and the top and bottom.*

In the next st *[the centre st of the corner]* ch 1, hdc in same st, ch 1, hdc in same st, *hdc in each st across, *[remembering to increase 1 st]* and hdc, ch1, hdc *[corner]* in the centre st of the 3 sc group. * Repeat from * to* three more times, placing a (hdc, ch1, hdc) in the centre of each corner st, omitting the last (hdc, ch1, hdc). Join with a sl st to the first hdc corner st.

Stitch count: Sides: 189 hdc, foundation and bound off edges: 139, each corner has a ch 1 space.

Round 3: With Colour B or C, join in top right corner space with a standing dc, (dc, ch1, 2 dc) in same sp, *ch1, skip next st *[the hidden st]*, dc in next st, (ch 1, skip next st, dc in next) 69 times. Ch 1, (2 dc, ch 1, 2 dc) in corner space. Ch1, skip next st *[the hidden st]*, dc in next st, (ch 1, skip next st, dc in next) 94 times. Ch 1, (2 dc, ch 1, 2 dc) in corner space. * Repeat from * to * 1 more time omitting final (2dc, ch1, 2 dc). Sl st to beginning dc. Fasten off.

Stitch count: Sides: 99 dc + 96 ch 1 spaces= 195 sts Top and Bottom: 74 dc + 71 ch 1 spaces = 145 sts, Corners: ch 1 space

Round 4: Join Colour A in top right corner space with a standing sc, (ch 1, sc) in same space, *sc in next 2 dc, dc *[in front of ch 1 sp]* in skipped st from previous round, sc in next dc, (dc in next skipped st, sc in next dc) across row, sc in next st, (sc, ch1, sc) in corner space*, repeat from * to * 3 times more omitting final (sc, ch1, sc). Sl st to beginning sc. Fasten off.

Stitch count: Sides: 197 sts, Top and bottom: 147 sts, Corners: ch1 space

Rounds 5 and 6: Repeat rounds 3 and 4.

Stitch count Row 5: Sides 201 sts, Top and bottom: 151 sts, Corners: ch1 space

Stitch count Row 6: Sides 203 sts, Top and bottom: 153 sts, Corners: ch1 space

Round 7: Join Colour B or C in any ch1 corner space (standing hdc, ch 1, hdc) in same space, hdc in each st placing (1 hdc, ch 1, 1hdc) in each corner st, join with a sl st to the first hdc. Fasten off.

Stitch count: Sides: 205 sts, Top and bottom: 155 sts, Corners: ch1 space

Round 8 is a row of bphdc. I find it easier to work fphdc on the "wrong" side of the piece. It gives the same effect but seems faster and less awkward.

Round 8: Join **Colour A** with a standing sc in the ch1 space of any corner, ch1, sc in the same space, if working on the right side of the piece, bphdc around each st, placing (sc, ch1, sc) in each ch 1 corner space. Fasten off.

If working on the wrong side, my preference, fphdc around each st and (sc, ch1, sc) in each corner chain 1 space.

Stitch count: Sides: 207 sts, Top and bottom: 157 sts, Corners: ch1 space

Round 9: Cross double crochet sts:

Join Colour B or C with a standing dc in any corner ch1 space, ch 1, dc in same space, dc in next st, *skip next st, dc in next, dc [in the front) in the skipped st* *[cross dc completed]*.

Repeat from * to * 2nd corner, (dc, ch1, dc) in ch 1 space, dc in next st.

Repeat from * to * 3rd corner, (dc, ch1, dc) in ch 1 space, dc in next st.

Repeat from * to * 4th corner, (dc, ch1, dc) in ch 1 space, dc in next st.

Repeat from * to * Join with a sl st in the first st-dc of the round.

Stitch count: Sides: 209 sts, 103 cross dc groups, Top and bottom: 159 sts, 78 cross dc groups, Corners: ch1 space

Round 10: Join colour A in any corner with a st-dc, ch1, dc in same space, dc in each st around, placing a (dc, ch 1, dc) in each corner. Join with sl st to first dc of the round. Fasten off.

Stitch count: Sides: 211 sts, Top and bottom: 161 sts, Corners: ch1 space

Row 11: Join Colour B or C with a standing hdc in any corner space, ch 1, hdc in same space, *fpdc around next dc, bpdc around next dc*, repeat around placing a (hdc, ch 1, hdc) in corner ch 1 space and joining with a sl st to the first st-hdc. Fasten off.

Stitch count: Sides: 213 sts, Top and bottom: 163 sts, Corners: ch1 space

Row 12: Join Colour A, B, or C with a standing sc in any ch1 corner space. Reverse single crochet around entire edge, adding 1 extra st in each corner. Fasten off.

Note: I love the "bound" look of reverse single crochet [crab st) but find this st very bulky. I usually change to a smaller hook for this st [4.5 mm) so the final row lays flat.



Congratulations! You have now completed The Penny Drops! The next blankets in The Penny Collection are called Pennywise, a great stash buster, and Halfpenny, a baby version. They are currently in testing and will provide an opportunity for learning many more stitch patterns, combining colours and other techniques.

Thank you for joining me on this journey. My mom would be so proud!

Sandy Walker

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Acknowledgements

I would like to extend a big thank you to Laurene from FB CAL – Crochet A Long who saw my posts, plucked me from internet obscurity and invited me to do this as a CAL. She has been a huge support with pattern writing, organizing testing and translations and setting up the CAL.

Thank you to the testers who took the leap of faith, provided their own yarn and spent hours on the project and proof reading the pattern. You are stars!

Thank you to the outstanding designer Bonnie Barker who introduced me to crochet cables and post stitches during the Holiday Cable Throw CAL in December 2016. Our daughter said it best: "This makes your other work look kind of boring."

Debbie Hemsley, designer of The Neave Collection, hosted The Neave Baby Blanket CAL in January 2017. I learned so many stitches and techniques to add to my crochet "toolbox" and changed my view of borders. I always thought of borders as a few rows of edging to tidy things up, rather than an integral part of the overall design.

Bibliography

Darla Sims "99 Crochet Post Stitches" and "63 Crochet Cable Stitches"

Edie Eckman "Beyond the Square Crochet Motifs" and "Around the Corner" for edgings

Darla J. Fanton "50 Tunisian Stitches"

This international community of fibre artists unleashed a streak of post-menopausal creativity that started with my crochet "Odes to Post and Cable Stitches" and continues the theme on Tunisian pieces.

