

CHERRY BLOSSOM CROCHET BLANKET

Two coordinating squares | Textured blossoms and floral appliqué



A nine-square arrangement inspired by the supplied blanket photograph. Cover art is an illustrative rendering; follow the written instructions for stitch placement.

Project overview

This blanket alternates raised pink floral squares with white squares carrying a crocheted branch and blossoms. Each square is intended to measure approximately 11 × 11 in (28 × 28 cm). A three-by-three arrangement measures roughly 33 × 33 in before any joining allowance or outer border. Finished size depends on gauge, blocking, joins and border.

Skill level: Intermediate. Terminology: US crochet terms. Hook: US H/8 (5 mm). Supplies: Worsted or Aran weight yarn, yarn needle and scissors.

Sample quantities per square: Raised square: about 100 yd center color plus 25 yd border color. Appliqué square: about 75 yd white, 35 yd gray/taupe, 13 yd pink, 5 yd brown. These are estimates from the supplied instructions; allow extra yarn for joining, outer border and swatching.

Gauge: The raised square is approximately 4½ in across after Round 2. Match the finished dimensions of both square types before joining.

Abbreviations

ch / sp / st(s)	chain / space / stitch(es)
sc / hdc / dc / tr	single / half double / double / treble crochet
sl st / sk / YO	slip stitch / skip / yarn over
FPhdc	front post half double crochet
BegTrCL / TrCL	beginning treble cluster / treble cluster
DCLG / TrCLG / QCLG	double / triple / quadruple cluster group

A starting ch-2 counts as hdc, ch-3 as dc and ch-4 as tr unless a round says otherwise. For cluster rounds, work into the small closing chain at the top of a cluster when possible.

Square A — raised floral texture

Cluster stitches

BegTrCL: Ch 3, then make two unfinished tr in the indicated place. YO and draw through all three loops. TrCL: Make three unfinished tr in the indicated place, then YO and draw through all four loops.

DCLG: (TrCL, ch 3, TrCL) in one place. TrCLG: (TrCL, ch 3, TrCL, ch 3, TrCL) in one place. QCLG: (TrCL, ch 3, TrCL, ch 3, TrCL, ch 3, TrCL) in one place.

FPhdc: YO, pass hook around the indicated stitch from the front, draw up a loop, YO and pull through three loops.

Center rounds — Color A

Round 1. Ch 4 and join into a ring, or use a magic ring. Work BegTrCL and ch 5. Repeat (TrCL, ch 5) five more times in the ring. Join to the first cluster. 6 clusters and 6 ch-5 spaces.

Round 2. In the joining stitch, make BegTrCL, then (ch 3, TrCL) twice. Work a TrCLG in each of the remaining five clusters from Round 1. Join. Six groups of three clusters.

Round 3. Work (BegTrCL, ch 3, TrCL) in the joining stitch; DCLG in next cluster; skip next cluster. Work TrCLG in next cluster (corner), DCLG in next cluster; skip next cluster. Work DCLG in next cluster, TrCLG in next cluster (corner); skip next cluster. Work DCLG in each of next two clusters; skip next cluster. Work TrCLG in next cluster (corner), DCLG in next cluster; skip next cluster. Work DCLG in next cluster, TrCLG in next cluster (corner); skip next cluster. Join to first cluster. 28 clusters, 16 ch-3 spaces.

Round 4. Work (BegTrCL, ch 3, TrCL) in the joining stitch. Twice: skip a cluster, work DCLG in the next. *Work QCLG in the center cluster of the next TrCLG corner. Three times: skip a cluster, work DCLG in the next.* Repeat from * to * twice more. Work QCLG in the center cluster of the final corner. Skip one cluster and join. 40 clusters, 24 ch-3 spaces.

Round 5. Work (BegTrCL, ch 3, TrCL) in the joining stitch. Three times: skip a cluster, work DCLG in the next. *Skip one cluster and work QCLG in the third cluster of the next Round 4 QCLG. Four times: skip one cluster, work DCLG in the next.* Repeat from * to * twice more. Skip one cluster, work QCLG in the third cluster of the last Round 4 QCLG; skip one cluster and join. 48 clusters, 28 ch-3 spaces.

Short border — Color B

Round 6. Attach border yarn in the center ch-3 space of any corner QCLG. Make (ch 3, dc, ch 1, 2 dc) in that space. Work the following sequence six times along the side: FPhdc around the top of the next cluster, 3 hdc in the next ch-3 space, FPhdc around the top of the following cluster. In the next corner space work (2 dc, ch 1, 2 dc). Repeat this side-and-corner sequence for the other sides, omitting the final corner because it was made at the start. Join to the top of the starting ch-3 and fasten off.

Count check: The supplied instructions state 140 stitches here, but six side repeats of five stitches plus four corner stitches give 34 stitches per side, or 136 total. The cluster placements also need a physical sample to confirm the intended path across each side. Do not rely on the stated 140-stitch count for joining.

Optional older, wider border — use instead of short Round 6

Round 6. Join Color B in the center ch-3 space of a QCLG corner. Make ch 2 and 4 hdc in that space. On each side, five times work: FPhdc around the next cluster, hdc in the next ch-3 space, FPhdc around the next cluster, hdc between the next two clusters. Then work FPhdc around the next cluster, hdc in the next ch-3 space, FPhdc around the next cluster and 5 hdc in the next corner space. Repeat around, taking care not to work the initial corner twice; join to the starting ch-2. Source count: 112 stitches.

Round 7. Ch 2; hdc in each stitch around. In the middle hdc of every five-hdc corner group work (2 hdc, ch 1, 2 hdc). Join. Source count: 124 hdc plus four corner chains.

Round 8. Repeat Round 7 if a wider frame is wanted. Fasten off. Source count: 140 hdc plus four corner chains.

Square B — cherry blossom branch

White foundation — Color C

For Rounds 2–8, each corner spans two stitches: (2 dc, tr) in the first and (tr, 2 dc) in the next. At the start of each round, ch 4 is the first tr in a split corner.

Round 1. Ch 4 and join into a ring, or use a magic ring. Ch 3, work 11 dc in the center and join to the top of ch-3. 12 dc.

Round 2. Ch 4, work 2 dc in the joining stitch. Three times: dc in next stitch, (2 dc, tr) in next stitch, (tr, 2 dc) in next stitch. Dc in next stitch, (2 dc, tr) in next stitch; join to the top of ch-4. 28 stitches.

Round 3. Ch 4, 2 dc in the joining stitch. Three times: dc in next 5 stitches and make a full split corner across the next two stitches. Dc in next 5 stitches, (2 dc, tr) in next stitch; join. 44 stitches.

Rounds 4–8. Repeat the Round 3 sequence, working 9, 13, 17, 21 and 25 dc along each straight side respectively. Join each round. Counts: 60, 76, 92, 108 and 124 stitches. Fasten off after Round 8 only.

Gray/taupe edging — Color B

Round 9. Optional: work into the third loop of each stitch for a raised ridge. Join B in the second tr of any corner; (ch 3, 2 hdc) in this stitch. Three times: hdc in each of next 29 stitches, (2 hdc, dc) in next stitch, (dc, 2 hdc) in next stitch. Hdc in next 29 stitches, (2 hdc, dc) in next stitch; join to top of ch-3 and fasten off. 140 stitches, 35 per side.

Five-petal flowers — make three or four per appliqué square

With pink, ch 4 and join into a ring, or use a magic ring. Ch 1 (not a stitch) and work 10 sc into ring. Without joining, repeat five times: (sc, 3 dc, sl st) in next sc, skip next sc. Join to the first sc. Fasten off with a sewing tail. Five petals.

Crocheted branch — make one per appliqué square

With brown, ch 31. Work in the back bumps: sl st in second chain from hook and the next eight chains. Twice, ch 12 for an offshoot, sl st in the second chain from hook and the next ten chains, then sl st in the next five chains of the original 31-chain foundation. Finish the main branch with sc in the next nine chains, hdc in the next chain, dc in the last chain. Fasten off with a long sewing tail.

Position the appliqués

Lay the branch diagonally over the white square and sew it in place, keeping the square flat. Arrange the blossoms at the branch tips and along the offshoots, then stitch them securely. Weave in tails on the back.

Layout and finishing

Row 1	Blossom branch	Raised texture	Blossom branch
Row 2	Raised texture	Blossom branch	Raised texture
Row 3	Blossom branch	Raised texture	Blossom branch

Make five appliqué squares and four raised squares for this arrangement. Block them to the same dimensions. Join adjacent edges with your preferred seam or crochet join, working one row at a time, then connect the rows. Add an outer border if desired; its stitch count depends on the join and final blocked dimensions.

Maker’s check before publishing or gifting: The source text does not provide a tested seam, a defined outer border or reconciled stitch counts for the short border of Square A. Work one square of each kind and confirm fit before committing yarn for the entire blanket.

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