



Golden Squares Shawl

Designed by Mary Stanton

I wanted to create a shawl for our local prayer shawl ministry that was a little different and that had a modern vibe. Open and lacey crochet work appeals to me and the square openings create the contemporary feel I was looking to achieve. When designing the shawl, multiples of three were used throughout, to represent the Trinity. This pattern is written using U.S. crochet terminology.

Materials Used:

Yarn - Lion Brand Homespun in Golden (approx 3.5 skeins)

Hook – Size L/11 – 8.00 mm

Stitches Used & Abbreviations:

Foundation Single Crochet – fsc

Single Crochet – sc

Half-Double Crochet – hdc

Double Crochet – dc

Triple Crochet – tc

Slip Stitch – sl

Chain - ch

Beginning your project:

The shawl may be made as wide or as narrow as you would like, just make sure that your stitch count is an odd multiple of 3. Example: $19 \times 3 = 57$, or $17 \times 3 = 51$

I begin with a foundation single crochet (fsc) because this is the method I prefer. If you are not familiar with this method, give it a try - - there are a number of video tutorials

available on YouTube. As an alternate you may create a chain and then single crochet the appropriate number of stitches.

The prayer shawl that I made (and the pattern directions) began with 57 fsc, which creates a very generous shawl width wise. However, it also required more than the 3 skeins of yarn that I had originally planned to use. My plan is to remake this shawl with 51 stitches across, which (hopefully) should meet the goal of 3 skeins.

For this shawl I used Lion Brand Homespun, which is a bulky weight #5, but any similar weight yarn could be substituted. If you use a lighter weight yarn and a smaller hook, simply adjust the pattern by adding multiples of three to the width; remembering to keep the multiples an odd number. You may also add to the length, by increasing the number of dc row repeats in Rows 32 – 40 by multiples of 3 (i.e. 12, 15, 18, etc. total rows of dc instead of the 9 in the pattern).

Shawl Pattern:

Row 1: fsc 57; turn

Row 2: ch 1 (this does not count as a stitch), hdc 57; turn

Row 3: sl into first stitch, ch 4 (this DOES count as your 1st triple crochet), tc 2; *(ch 3, tc 3) repeat from * across row to the end; turn

Rows 4 – 7: Repeat Rows 2 & 3 twice [Note: you will work the hdc into the tc and over the chains]

Rows 8 – 9: Repeat Row 2

Rows 10 – 15: Repeat Rows 2 & 3 three times

Row 16: Repeat Row 2

Row 17: ch 2 (this does not count as a stitch), dc 57; turn

Row 18 – 28: Repeat Row 17 [Note: You will have 12 rows of dc at the end of 28]

Row 29 - 30: Repeat Row 2 & 3 once

Row 31: Repeat Row 2

Row 32 – 40: Repeat Row 17 [9 rows of dc] – You’ve now passed the half-way point of the shawl and will begin working the rows in the opposite order to the end.

Row: 41 – 42: Repeat Row 2 & 3 once

Row 43: Repeat Row 2

Row 44 – 55: Repeat Row 17 [12 rows of dc in this section]

Row 56 – 61: Repeat Row 2 & 3 three times

Row 62 – 63: Repeat Row 2

Row 64 – 69: Repeat Row 2 & 3 three times

Row 70: Repeat Row 2

Row 71: ch 1, sc 57 and finish off. I prefer to use a needle finish and then I can weave in my ends at the same time. Weave in all ends.

Fringe:

Fringe is optional, but adds a nice finishing touch. If you are using Homespun, I highly recommend that you knot the ends of your fringe to prevent fraying.

Cut 80 pieces of fringe by wrapping the yarn around a CD or DVD case and then cutting one side of the wrapped yarn. Beginning at one corner, and using two pieces of yarn, insert your hook under top 2 bars of the sc and pull through a double loop. Pull the ends of the fringe through the loop and snug-up tightly to the shawl fabric. Skip 2 sc and place a double fringe in the 3rd sc. Repeat across to the end, and place a double fringe at the end corner.

Fringe the opposite end with the remaining 40 pieces of fringe that you have cut and knotted.

Hope you enjoy this project as much as I did.

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