Battenberg Blanket

BY SANDRA PAUL
www.cherryheart.co.uk

Good enough to eat...

This arrangement of squishy colourful squares, alternated with a simple squares in a neutral shade made me think of the chequerboard pink and yellow sponge cubes of a Battenberg Cake, a UK teatime favourite from my childhood days. The cake version comes wrapped in a simple marzipan coat, with sugar sprinkles. So I made a border of simple stitches to match, with a dusting of picots along the edges!

Pattern Notes

A full pattern including clearly written instructions, tutorial links and diagrams.
Video tutorial included for special joining technique.

This pattern is written in UK terms
US translation included

Skill Level

Easy/Intermediate

This pattern uses a basic motif with a simple border pattern and a joining method which is a new technique, however a full video tutorial is included.

Yarn

Any yarn type or weight can be used to make a blanket in this style and the yardage amounts required will depend on the weight of yarn you choose and the size of blanket that you require. See 'Making a Battenberg Blanket' on page 4 for more information.

To make a blanket of 1020 (34 x 30) squares in mostly 4ply/fingering weight yarn I used:

Drops Merino Baby

50g/175m (191yards) 100% merino yarn
26 x Off White - 02 (2 of which were used for the border)

Colourful Squares

Approximately 800g/3,200m (3,500yards) of various 4ply/fingering weight sock yarns in a range of colours.

Needles/Hook

3mm (C/D USA) - Or appropriate hook size for your yarn choice.

Materials

Yarn needle

Size

180 x 156 cm (70 x 62")

Gauge

Each square is 5cm (2") across
(With yarn and hook given above)

Useful Information

Page Guide:

Tutorial Links:

Solid Granny Square tutorial (follow first 3 rounds only)
VIDEO - My Solid Granny Square - Right Handed
VIDEO - My Solid Granny Square - Left Handed
VIDEO - Modular Join (JAYG Crocheted Seams) - Right Handed
VIDEO - Modular Join (JAYG Crocheted Seams) - Left Handed

Abbreviations

beg - beginning
dec - decrease
RS - right side
sp/s - space/s
st/s - stitch/es
tog - together
WS - wring side
yo - wrap yarn over the hook

Stitch Terms

This pattern is written in UK crochet terms.
US term translation given on page 8.

Term	UK Stitch	US Term	US Stitch
ch	chain		
ss	slip stitch		
dc	double crochet	sc	single crochet
tr	treble crochet	dc	double crochet

Special Stitches

picot
1dc, 3ch, 1dc.

The link/s above and more help with the stitches included in this pattern can be found on my crochet site:
Cherry Heart's Crochet Corner www.cherryheartcrochet.co.uk

Making a Battenberg Blanket

UK
TERMS

COLOURS AND SIZING

You can use any colours and most types of yarn to make a blanket in this Battenberg style, which yarn weight and fibre content you decide to use will depend on your preference, the size blanket you would like and how it will be used. Likewise, I haven't included any specific number of motifs to make as this will also depend on the size blanket you require. (I have included details of my blanket on page 2 for reference.)

To get the 'Battenberg' look for the main blanket you will need yarn to make half of the total number of squares in a solid neutral shade and yarn in a contrasting shade/s, for the other half. You will also need more yardage in the neutral yarn to use for the border.

JOINING

I came up with a new style of Join As You Go crochet to construct this blanket and I have included some diagrams to help explain this method, as well as the instructions below. However, I also released a tutorial video to show the technique more clearly and I highly recommend you watch that video before you start joining squares. There is right and left-handed version of the video available. Please see Tutorial Links on page 2.

I made all of my Solid (colourful) Squares first, and then joined them with the Joining (neutral) squares afterwards. I preferred that method as it allowed me to plan and arrange the layout of the colourful squares. You don't need to work in the same way, but you will need to make up a few of the colourful squares at a time before you can start joining.

Blanket

SOLID GRANNY SQUARE (COLOURFUL SQUARES)

Worked in the round.

Make loop: 4ch, ss into first ch to form loop.

Round 1: 4ch *[counts as 1tr, 1ch]*, (3tr, 2ch) three times, 2tr, ss into 3rd ch of beg 4ch, ss to ch sp.

Round 2: 4ch *[counts as 1tr, 1ch]*, 2tr in same sp, *3tr, (2tr, 2ch, 2tr) in ch sp, repeat from * twice more, 3tr, 1tr in beg ch sp, ss into 3rd ch of beg 4ch, ss to ch sp.

Round 3: 4ch *[counts as 1tr, 1ch]*, 2tr in same sp, *7tr, (2tr, 2ch, 2tr) in ch sp, repeat from * twice more, 7tr, 1tr in beg ch sp, ss into 3rd ch of beg 4ch.

Cut yarn.

JOINING GRANNY SQUARE (NEUTRAL SQUARES)

✳ See diagrams on pages 6-7 and the video tutorials link on page 2.

Worked in the round.

Work as given for 'Solid Granny Squares', do NOT cut yarn at the end of the 3rd row.

Cont…

Make a ss into ch sp, then turn the square over so the back is facing, remove the hook from the working loop and use the hook to pull the loop through the ch sp to the back of the work. Replace the working loop on the hook.

A Joining Round is now worked around the wrong side of the square and is used to join four Solid Granny Squares, one to each side of the Joining Square. For each side you work, take a Solid Granny Square and hold it against the Joining Square with the right sides together and so that the stitches and chain spaces are aligned.

✳ You will now be working into the chains spaces or stitches of both squares at the same time.

Joining Round: 1ch, *1dc into same ch sp, 1dc into each st, 1dc into ch sp. make **1 ch** for the corner, align next square to be joined along new edge and repeat from * three more times to the beg of the round (each time joining a new Solid Granny Square), ss into top of first dc.

Cut Yarn.

Continue joining more squares in the same way, substituting the corner chain (marked in **bold** above) with a slip stitch into the chain space of the joining round of adjacent squares, wherever the corners of Joining Square meet.

Border

Worked in the round.

Join neutral yarn to any corner, then:

Round 1: 1ch, *(1dc, 2ch, 1dc) in ch sp, 1dc in each st to corner, repeat from * to beg of the round, ss into top of first dc, ss into ch sp.

Round 2: 4ch *[counts as 1tr, 1ch]*, 1tr in same ch sp, 1tr in each st to corner, *(1tr, 2ch, 1tr) in corner sp, 1tr in each st to corner, repeat from * to beg of round, ss into 3rd ch of beg 4ch, ss into ch sp.

Round 3: 1ch, *(1dc, 2ch, 1dc) in ch sp, (1ch, skip 1, 1dc in next st) to corner, 1ch, skip 1, repeat from * to beg of round, ss into top of first dc, ss into ch sp.

Round 4: 4ch *[counts as 1tr, 1ch]*, 2tr in same ch sp, *(skip dc, 2tr in ch sp) to corner, (2tr, 2ch, 2tr) in ch sp, repeat from * to beg of round, 1tr in beg ch sp, ss into 3rd ch of beg 4ch, ss into ch sp.

Round 5: 1ch, *(1dc, 2ch, 1dc) in ch sp, (1ch, skip 2, 1dc between sts) to corner, repeat from * to beg of round, 1ch, skip 2, ss into top of first dc, ss into ch sp.

Round 6: 1ch, *picot in ch sp, skip dc, 1dc in ch sp, skip dc, repeat from * around blanket to beg ch sp, ss into top of first dc.
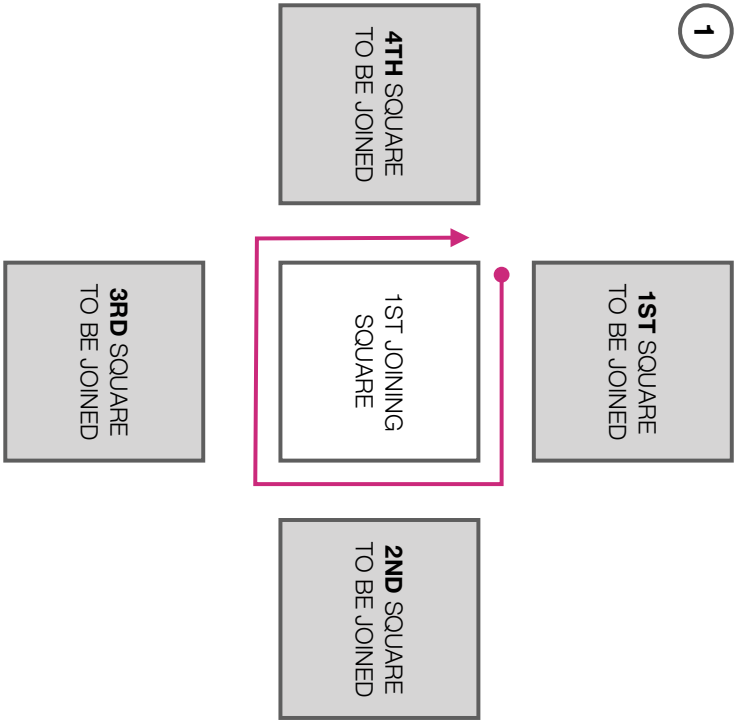
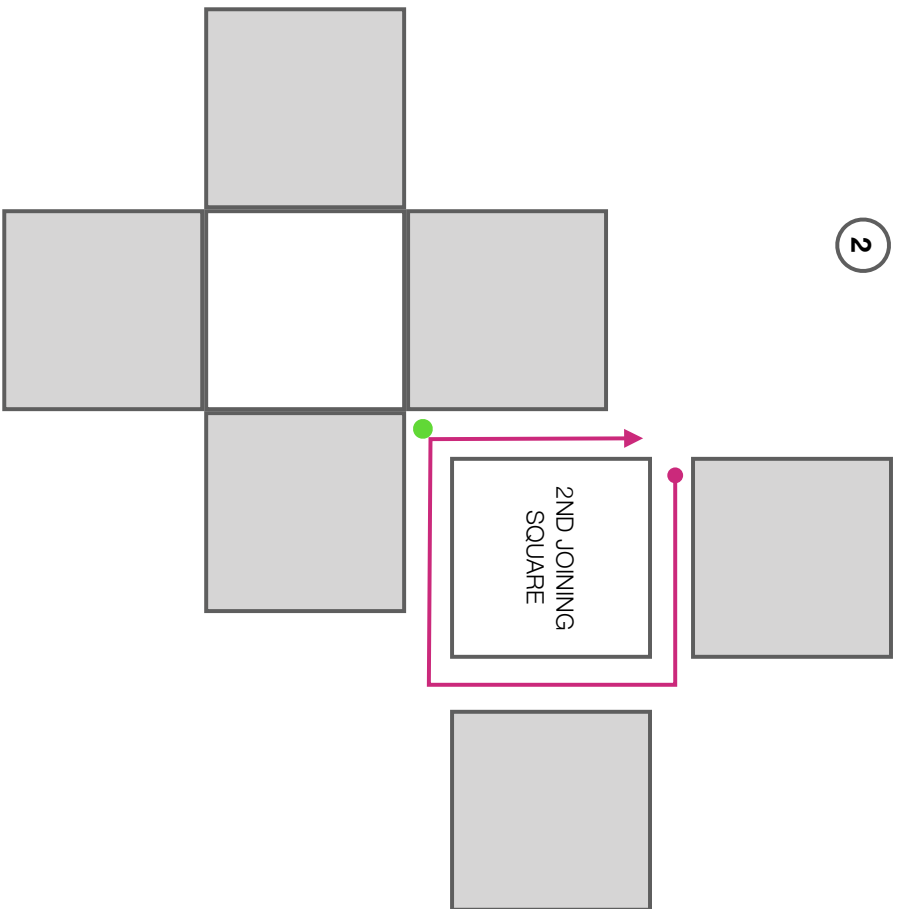Cut yarn.

Finishing

Weave in any remaining ends and block if necessary.

Joining Diagrams

Legend:

- → direction of join
- • join start
- ● ss into corner sp of adjacent joint square

1

4TH SQUARE TO BE JOINED

| 3RD SQUARE TO BE JOINED | 1ST JOINING SQUARE | 1ST SQUARE TO BE JOINED |

2ND SQUARE TO BE JOINED

2

2ND JOINING SQUARE
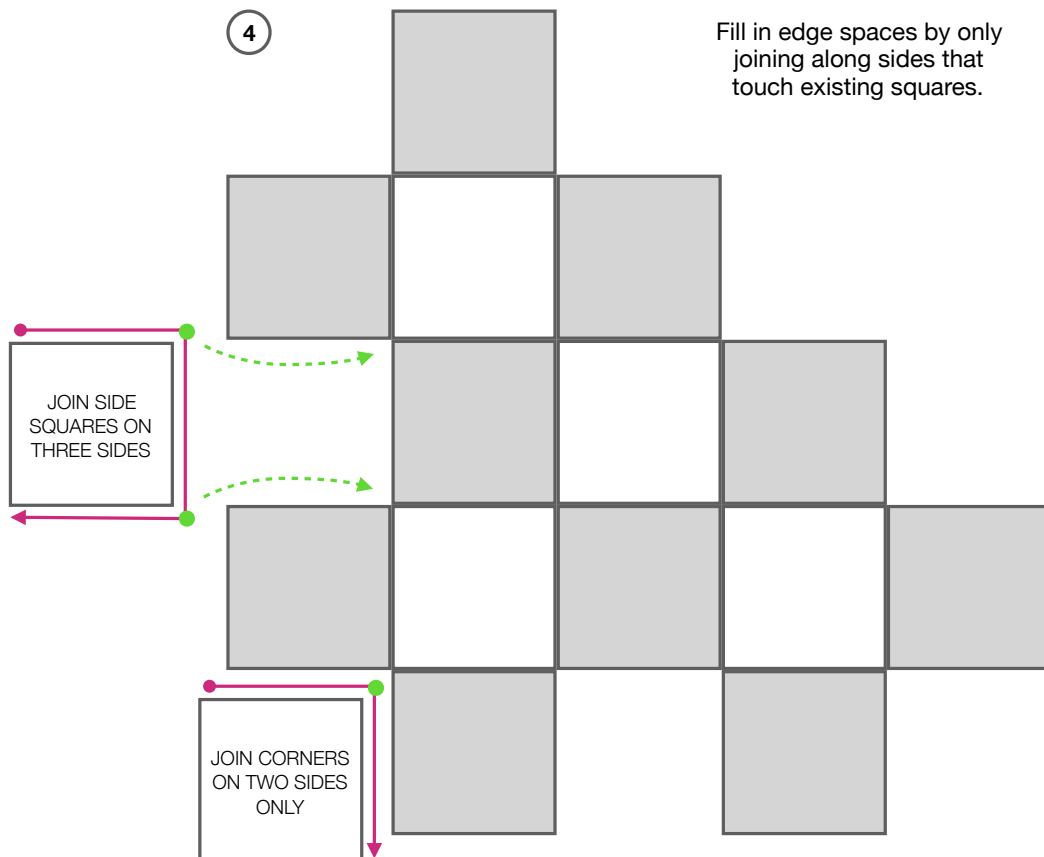
FRONT VIEW

The join worked in the round from the back and therefore goes in the opposite direction when seen from the front.

3

Continue joining granny squares with the joining squares, making a ss into the corners of existing joining squares where they meet.

4

Fill in edge spaces by only joining along sides that touch existing squares.

JOIN SIDE SQUARES ON THREE SIDES

JOIN CORNERS ON TWO SIDES ONLY
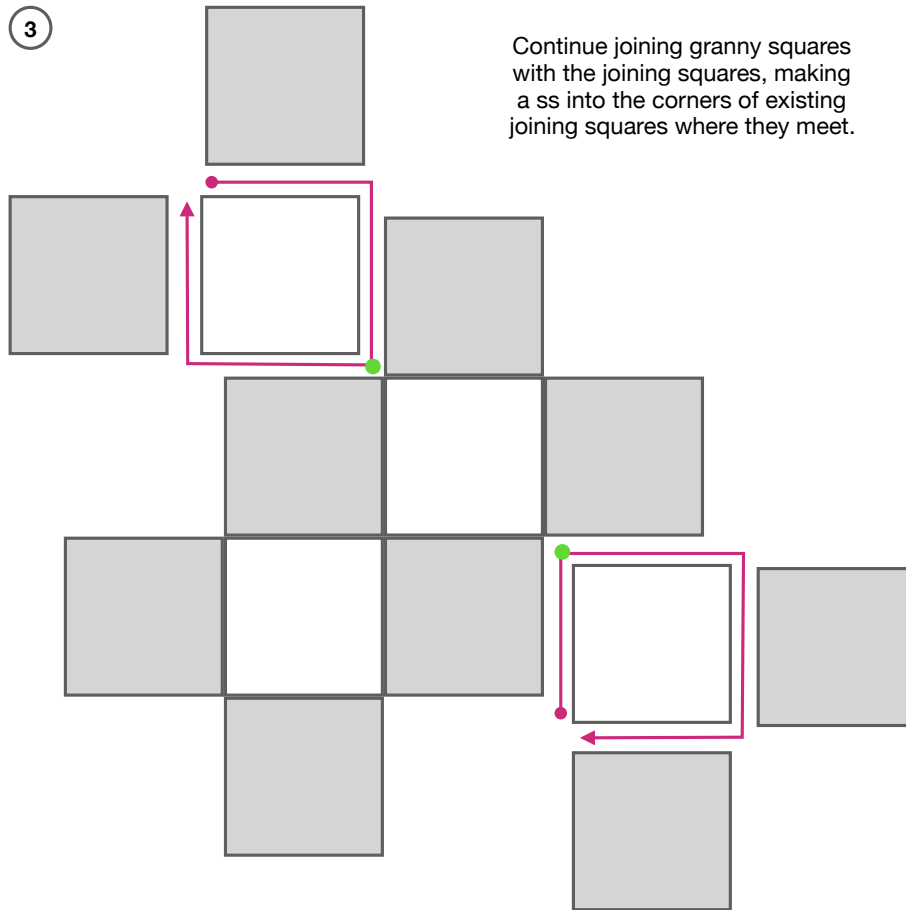
Making a Battenberg Blanket

Before you begin, read the sections on 'Colours and Sizing' and 'Joining' under 'Making a Battenberg Blanket' on page 4. Then following the directions given below.

US
TERMS

Blanket

SOLID GRANNY SQUARE (COLOURFUL SQUARES)

Worked in the round.

Make loop: 4ch, ss into first ch to form loop.

Round 1: 4ch [counts as 1dc, 1ch], (3dc, 2ch) three times, 2dc, ss into 3rd ch of beg 4ch, ss to ch sp.

Round 2: 4ch [counts as 1dc, 1ch], 2dc in same sp, *3dc, (2dc, 2ch, 2dc) in ch sp, repeat from * twice more, 3dc, 1dc in beg ch sp, ss into 3rd ch of beg 4ch, ss to ch sp.

Round 3: 4ch [counts as 1dc, 1ch], 2dc in same sp, *7dc, (2dc, 2ch, 2dc) in ch sp, repeat from * twice more, 7dc, 1dc in beg ch sp, ss into 3rd ch of beg 4ch.

Cut yarn.

JOINING GRANNY SQUARE (NEUTRAL SQUARES)

✷ See diagrams on pages 6-7 and the video tutorials link on page 2.

Worked in the round.

Work as given for 'Solid Granny Squares', do NOT cut yarn at the end of the 3rd row.

Cont…
Make a ss into ch sp, then turn the square over so the back is facing, remove the hook from the working loop and use the hook to pull the loop through the ch sp to the back of the work. Replace the working loop on the hook.

A Joining Round is now worked around the wrong side of the square and is used to join four Solid Granny Squares, one to each side of the Joining Square. For each side you work, take a Solid Granny Square and hold it against the Joining Square with the right sides together and so that the stitches and chain spaces are aligned.

✷ You will now be working into the chains spaces or stitches of both squares at the same time.

Joining Round: 1ch, *1sc into same ch sp, 1sc into each st, 1sc into ch sp. make **1 ch** for the corner, align next square to be joined along new edge and repeat from * three more times to the beg of the round (each time joining a new Solid Granny Square), ss into top of first sc.

Cut Yarn.

Continue joining more squares in the same way, substituting the corner chain (marked in **bold** above) with a slip stitch into the chain space of the joining round of adjacent squares, wherever the corners of Joining Square meet.

Border

Worked in the round.

Join neutral yarn to any corner, then:

Round 1: 1ch, *(1sc, 2ch, 1sc) in ch sp, 1sc in each st to corner, repeat from * to beg of the round, ss into top of first sc, ss into ch sp.

Round 2: 4ch *[counts as 1dc, 1ch]*, 1dc in same ch sp, 1dc in each st to corner, *(1dc, 2ch, 1dc) in corner sp, 1dc in each st to corner, repeat from * to beg of round, ss into 3rd ch of beg 4ch, ss into ch sp.

Round 3: 1ch, *(1sc, 2ch, 1sc) in ch sp, (1ch, skip 1, 1sc in next st) to corner, 1ch, skip 1, repeat from * to beg of round, ss into top of first sc, ss into ch sp.

Round 4: 4ch *[counts as 1dc, 1ch]*, 2dc in same ch sp, *(skip sc, 2dc in ch sp) to corner, (2dc, 2ch, 2dc) in ch sp, repeat from * to beg of round, 1dc in beg ch sp, ss into 3rd ch of beg 4ch, ss into ch sp.

Round 5: 1ch, *(1sc, 2ch, 1sc) in ch sp, (1ch, skip 2, 1sc between sts) to corner, repeat from * to beg of round, 1ch, skip 2, ss into top of first sc, ss into ch sp.

Round 6: 1ch, *picot in ch sp, skip sc, 1sc in ch sp, skip sc, repeat from * around blanket to beg ch sp, ss into top of first sc.

Cut yarn.

Finishing

Weave in any remaining ends and block if necessary.