Owl Obsession

FINISHED SIZE

Blanket measures 32" X 32" (including border).

MATERIALS

- Knit Picks Chroma Worsted Yarn (198 yards/100 gram ball) was used for the blanket pictured.
  - 2 balls of *Lollipop* – Color A
    - Upon completion of the blanket pictured, there were 120 inches (350 cm) of Color A leftover. If you crochet very loosely, it would be wise to get an extra ball of Color A.
  - 4 balls of *Natural* – Main Color (MC)
    - Upon completion of the blanket pictured, there were approximately 80 yards (40 grams) of the MC leftover.
  - Completed Owl blanket: 530 g / 19 oz
- Size I/9/5.5mm crochet hook
- Tapestry needle
- 18 buttons for owl eyes – size 7/16" (11mm) *[Figure 1, pg 7]*
- Needle & thread – for sewing buttons to owl eyes

GAUGE

The owl & circle motifs measure 5 ¼" in diameter, finished octagons measure 7 ¾" in diameter, and the squares measure 3 ½" in diameter.

ABBREVIATIONS USED

MC = Main Color	BLO = Back Loops Only	hdc = half double crochet
yo = yarn over	ch = chain	dc = double crochet
sp = space	sl st = slip stitch	rev sc = reverse single crochet
st(s) = stitch(es)	sc = single crochet	dc2tog = double crochet 2 stitches together

PATTERN NOTES

All referenced figures can be found on pages 7 – 10.

The owl beaks were made with the orange/yellow colored strips in the *Lollipop* balls of yarn. When you get to a spot of yellow/orange after making any of the motifs, start making the owl beaks.

Finished motifs and/or finished blanket will benefit from blocking. The stitching on the octagons is worked in the BLO which causes them to curl inward somewhat. And, there is a great deal of handling to complete the blanket. Motifs may want 'refreshing' once the blanket is finished.
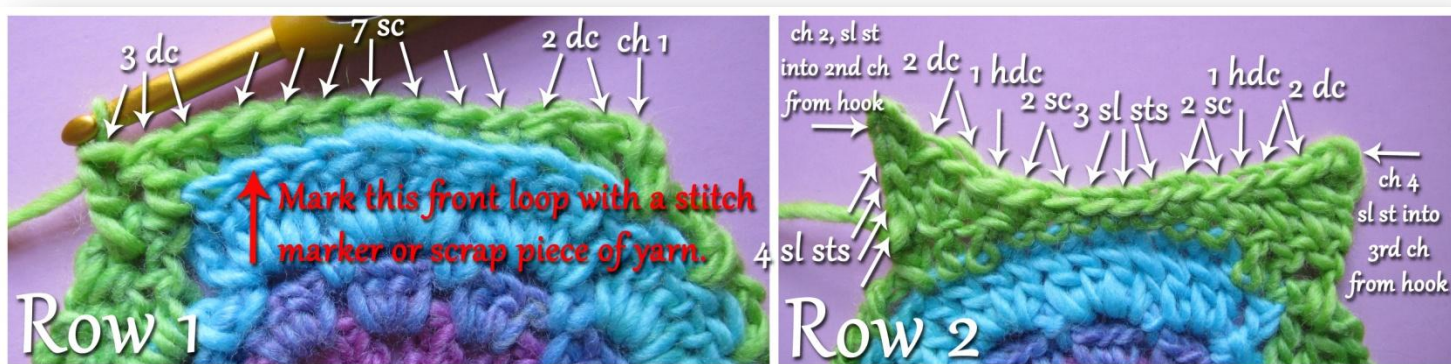
INSTRUCTIONS

Owl Motif (make 9)

dc2tog *[Figures 3 – 8]* = (yo, pick up a loop in st indicated, yo, draw through 2 loops)(repeat once more), yo, draw through 3 loops on hook.

Begin with an adjustable ring & Color A
- Round 1: ch 3 (counts as 1st dc), 12 dc into ring, tighten ring, sl st to top of beginning ch 3 – 13 dc *[Figure 2]*
- Round 2: sl st into sp between ch 3 and next dc, ch 2, dc into same sp (counts as 1st dc2tog), ch 1, (1 dc2tog into sp between next 2 dc's, ch 1)(repeat around), sl st to 1st dc – 13 dc2tog + 13 ch-1 *[Figure 9]*
- Round 3: sl st into first ch-1 sp from Round 2, ch 1 (does <u>not</u> count as 1st sc), 3 sc into same sp, ch 1, (3 sc into next ch-1 sp, ch 1)(repeat around), sl st to 1st sc – 13 sets of 3 sc + ch-1 *[Figure 10]*
- Round 4: (ch 3, sl st into next ch-1 sp)(repeat around) – 13 ch-3 spaces *[Figure 11]*
- Round 5: sl st into 1st ch-3 sp from Round 4, ch 3 (counts as 1st dc), 3 dc into same sp, (4 dc into next ch-3 sp)(repeat around), sl st to top of beginning ch 3 – 52 dc *[Figure 12]*
- Round 6 (work from left to right, see *[Figures 13 – 16]* for example on this round): ch 1, rev sc into 1st dc to your right, (ch 2, skip 1 dc, rev sc in next dc)(repeat 19 more times) – 21 rev sc; there will be 10 sts NOT worked *[Figure 17]*

The next 2 rows will form the Owl Head (see photos below for assistance):
- Row 1 (BLO *[Figure 18]*): Turn work (back of motif facing you), ch 1, dc in next 2 sts, sc in next 7 sts (on the last sc, mark the available front loop with a stitch marker or scrap piece of yarn), dc in next 3 sts (the last 2 dc are worked into the same sts as the first ch-1 and first rev sc from Round 6)
- Row 2: Turn work (front of motif facing you), ch 4, sl st into 3rd ch from hook, dc in 1st dc, dc in next st, hdc in next st, sc in next 2 sts, sl st in next 3 sts, sc in next 2 sts, hdc in next st, dc in next st, dc into beginning ch-1 from Row 1, ch 2, sl st into 2nd ch from hook, 2 sl sts down side edge of last dc worked, 1 sl st onto beginning ch-1 from Row 1, 1 sl st on side edge of last rev sc worked from Round 6, fasten off & weave in ends; *Gauge check: Owl Motif @ 5 ¼" across*

Circle Motif (make 4)

Begin with an adjustable ring & Color A, then follow directions for Owl Motif, Rounds 1 – 5.
- Round 6 (work from left to right): ch 1, rev sc into 1st dc to your right, ch 2, skip 1 dc, (rev sc in next dc, ch 2, skip 1 dc)(repeat around), sl st into same st as 1st rev sc, fasten off & weave in ends – 26 rev sc *[Figure 19]*

Octagon Shaping for Owl & Circle Motifs

With MC, work the following rounds for each of the owl & circle motifs:

- Round 1 (BLO):
  - <u>Owl Motifs</u> (this round is worked *behind* the 1st <u>row</u> worked on the owl head and *behind* the last <u>round</u> worked on owl): insert hook into the stitch marked during Row 1 of Owl Head (see picture, below), pull up MC, ch 3, skip 1 st, (sc into next st, ch 2, skip 1 st)(repeat around), sl st into first ch-3 sp – 26 chain spaces worked behind motif *[Figure 20]*

  - <u>Circle Motifs</u> (this round is worked *behind* the last round worked): insert hook into any one of the un-worked dc's from Round 5 *[Figures 21 – 23]*, pull up MC, ch 3, skip 1 st, (sc into next st, ch 2, skip 1 st)(repeat around), sl st into first ch-3 sp – 26 chain spaces worked behind motif *[Figure 24]*
- Round 2 (owl <u>and</u> circle motifs): ch 2 (counts as 1st hdc), 3 hdc into same sp, 3 hdc into each of next 12 ch-2 spaces, 4 hdc into next ch-2 sp, 3 hdc into each of next 12 ch-2 spaces, sl st to top of beginning ch-2 – 80 hdc
- Round 3 (owl <u>and</u> circle motifs, BLO): ch 2 (counts as 1st hdc), hdc in next 9 sts, ch 1, (hdc in next 10 sts, ch 1)(repeat around), sl st to top of beginning ch-2 – 88 sts (80 hdc + 8 ch)
- Round 4 (owl <u>and</u> circle motifs, BLO): ch 2 (counts as 1st hdc), hdc in next 9 sts, (1 hdc, ch 1, 1 hdc) into ch, *hdc in next 10 sts, (1 hdc, ch 1, 1 hdc) into ch, repeat from * around, sl st to top of beginning ch-2, fasten off and weave in ends – 104 sts (96 hdc + 8 ch); *Gauge check: Octagon Motif @ 7 ¾ " across [Figure 25]*

Owl Eyes (make 18)

Leave a 6" yarn tail at start <u>and</u> when fastening off to use for attaching to owl.

- With MC (i.e. natural/white): begin with an adjustable ring, ch 2, 13 dc into ring; cut yarn and extend loop on hook until yarn tail pulls through *[Figures 26 – 28]*; tighten adjustable ring. Using a tapestry needle, weave the ending yarn tail *under* the top two loops of the first dc *[Figure 29]*, then weave *between* the top two loops of the last dc towards the back of work *[Figures 30 & 31]*, weave yarn tail down towards the center, *do not pull too tightly*; weave yarn tail to opposite side of center as beginning yarn tail *[Figure 32]*.

Owl Beak (make 9)

Leave a 6" yarn tail at start <u>and</u> when fastening off to use for attaching to owl.

- With Color A (i.e. yellow/orange yarn): Ch 5, 1 sc into 3rd ch from hook, 1 hdc into next ch, 1 dc into last ch, fasten off.

Owl Assembly
[Figures 33 – 36]
Position the beak on owl. With a tapestry needle or small hook, pull the yarn tails to the backside of owl. Using one of the yarn tails, and a tapestry needle, weave yarn tail up to the right side of owl, just under the beak, and sew a few of the stitches at the tip of the beak down. Then weave yarn tail to the backside and towards the other yarn tail. Knot these two tails together, then weave them in. Position eyes on owl. With a tapestry needle or small hook, pull the white yarn tails to the backside of owl with a small space between them. Knot these yarn tails together to secure the eyes then weave in ends. Position buttons on eyes then sew into place with needle and thread.

Square Motif (make 12)
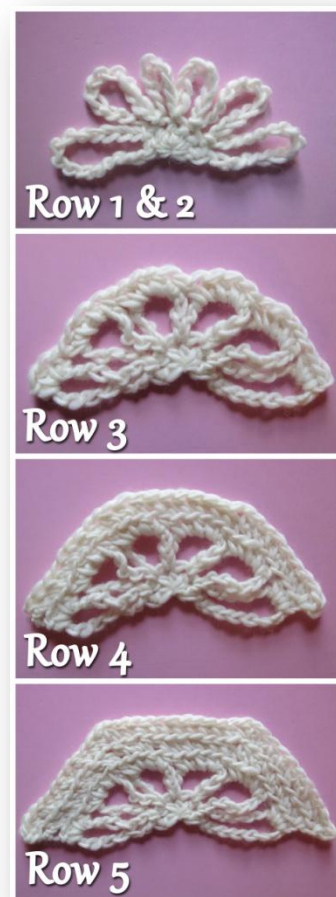Begin with an adjustable ring & Color A

- Round 1: ch 3 (counts as 1st dc), 9 dc into ring, tighten ring, sl st to top of beginning ch 3 – 10 dc
- Round 2: sl st into sp between ch 3 and next dc, ch 2, 1 dc into same sp (counts as 1st dc2tog), ch 1, (1 dc2tog into sp between next 2 dc's, ch 1)(repeat around), sl st to 1st dc – 10 dc2tog + 10 ch-1
- Round 3: ch 1 (does not count as 1st sc), 2 sc into same st, 2 sc into ch-1 sp, (2 sc into next st, 2 sc into next ch-1 sp)(repeat around), sl st to 1st sc, fasten off – 40 sc
- Round 4: pull up MC in any sc from Round 3, ch 1 (does not count as 1st sc), 1 sc into same st, sc in next 3 sts, hdc in next 2 sts, dc in next st, ch 3, dc in next st, hdc in next 2 sts, (sc in next 4 sts, hdc in next 2 sts, dc in next st, ch 3, dc in next st, hdc in next 2 sts)(repeat around), sl st to 1st sc, fasten off & weave in ends; *Gauge check: Square Motif @ 3 ½" diameter*

Partial Octagon (make 8)
This motif is worked in rows. Begin with an adjustable ring & MC.

- Row 1: ch 1, 6 hdc into ring, tighten ring, turn – 6 hdc
- Row 2: ch 14, sl st into first st, ch 11, sl st into next st, ch 8, sl st into next st, ch 8, sl st into next st, ch 11, sl st into next st, ch 14, sl st into last st, fasten off – 6 chain loops made
- Row 3: join MC to middle of first ch-14 loop, ch 2 (counts as 1st hdc), 2 hdc into loop, (5 hdc into next chain loop)(repeat 3 more times), 3 hdc into last loop, fasten off – 26 hdc
- Row 4 (BLO): join MC to top of beginning ch-2 from Round 3, ch 2 (counts as 1st hdc), hdc in same st, hdc in next 7 sts, ch 1, hdc in next 10 sts, ch 1, hdc in next 7 sts, 2 hdc into last st, fasten off – 28 hdc + 2 ch-1 spaces
- Row 5 (BLO): join MC to top of beginning ch-2 from Round 4, ch 2 (counts as 1st hdc), hdc in same st, 2 hdc into next st, hdc in next 7 sts, (1 hdc, ch 1, 1 hdc) into ch, hdc in next 10 sts, (1 hdc, ch 1, 1 hdc) into ch, hdc in next 7 sts, 2 hdc into each of next 2 sts, fasten off & weave in ends – 36 hdc + 2 ch-1 spaces

Row 1 & 2

Row 3

Row 4

Row 5

Joining Motifs

Using your favored joining method and MC, join motifs together as shown, below. Motifs for blanket pictured were joined via slip stitching through the back loops – you may want to move up one hook size for this type of join as the slip stitches tend to pull in tightly. For an example on this join, see *[Figures 37 & 38]*. Due to the unusual shapes being joined, you might find it helpful to mark each of the ch-1 corners with a stitch marker or scrap piece of yarn. Each side of each motif has 12 stitches to be joined plus a ch-1 for each corner.

Edging

With MC, join to the 1st hdc on any corner octagon, ch 2 (does <u>not</u> count as 1st dc)
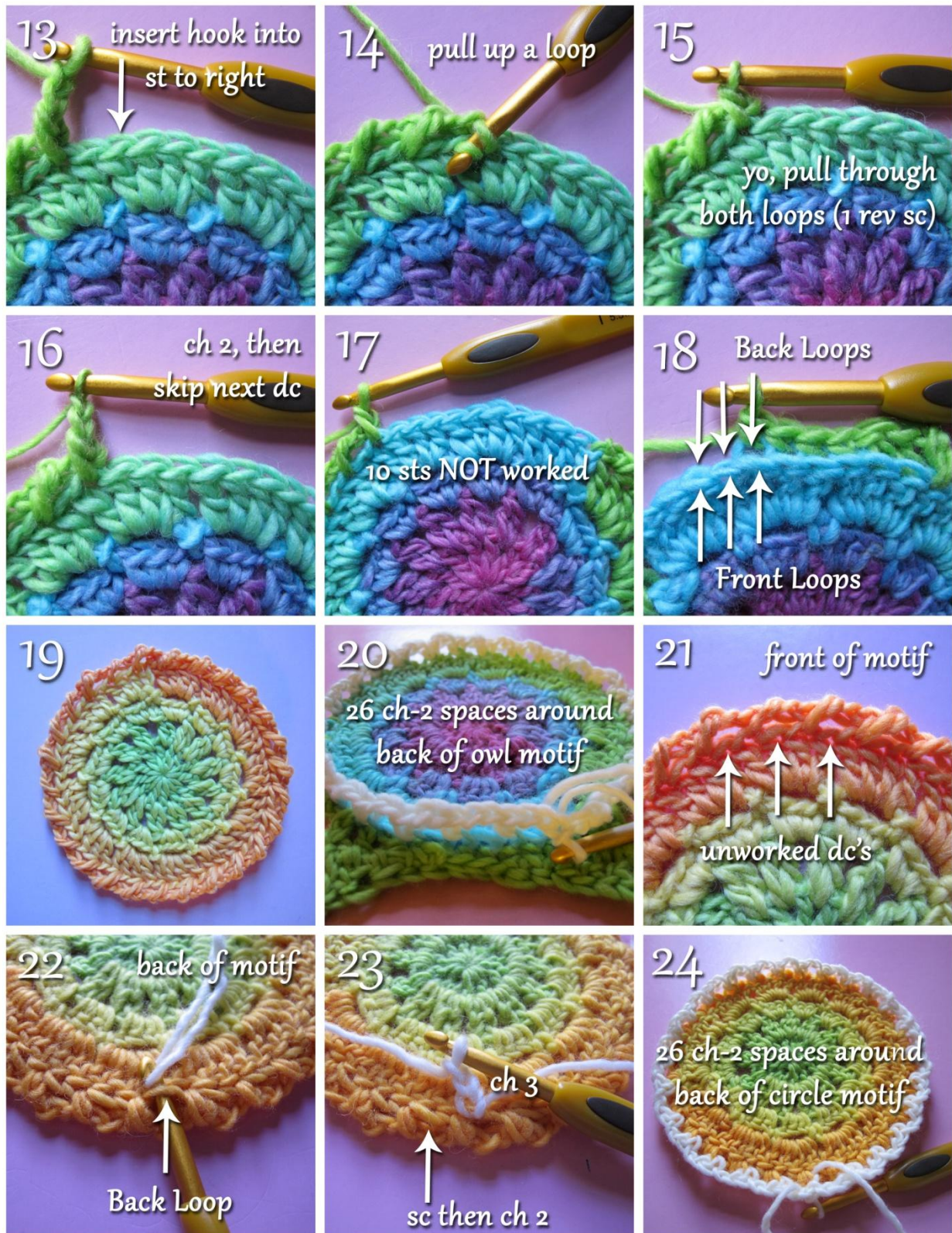
- Round 1 (at end of this round, sl st to first dc):
    - For each corner octagon (BLO): dc in next 12 hdc, 2 dc into ch, dc in next 12 hdc, 2 dc into ch, dc in next 12 hdc, dc2tog corners of octagon and partial octagon *[Figures 39 – 45]*
    - For each partial octagon (see top picture, below): 3 dc on side edges of hdc rows, 7 sc in 1st chain loop, ch 1, dc2tog side edges of hdc's in center of partial octagon, ch 1, 7 sc in next chain loop, 3 dc on side edges of hdc rows, dc2tog corners of partial octagon and next octagon
    - For each octagon (BLO): dc in next 12 hdc, dc2tog corners of octagon and partial octagon
    - Stitch Counts:
        - Each corner octagon (4 total) will have 40 dc + 1 dc2tog = 41 sts
        - Each partial octagon (8 total) will have 6 dc + 14 sc + 2 ch-1 + 2 dc2tog = 24 sts
        - All other octagons (4 total) will have 12 dc + 1 dc2tog = 13 sts
        - Total stitch count for Round 1 = 408 sts
- Round 2: ch 2 (does <u>not</u> count as 1st dc), 1 dc into each st around, sl st to first dc – 408 dc
- Round 3 (see bottom picture, below): ch 1 (does <u>not</u> count as 1st sc), sc into same st, sl st into next st, sc into next st, skip 1 st, (2 hdc, ch 2, sl st into 2nd ch from hook, 2 hdc) into next st, skip 1 st, *sc into next st, sl st into next st, sc into next st, skip 1 st, (2 hdc, ch 2, sl st into 2nd ch from hook, 2 hdc) into next st, skip 1 st, repeat from * around, sl st to first sc, fasten off, weave in ends.

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Figures 1 – 12:

1	2 **Round 1**	3 **work into space between dc's**
4 **yo, insert hook into sp pull up a loop**	5 **yo, pull through 2 loops**	6 **yo, insert hook into sp pull up a loop**
7 **yo, pull through 2 loops**	8 **yo, pull through 3 loops**	9 **Round 2**
10 **Round 3**	11 **Round 4**	12 **Round 5**

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Figures 13 – 24:

13 insert hook into st to right

14 pull up a loop

15 yo, pull through both loops (1 rev sc)

16 ch 2, then skip next dc

17 10 sts NOT worked

18 Back Loops
Front Loops

19

20 26 ch-2 spaces around back of owl motif

21 front of motif
unworked dc's

22 back of motif
Back Loop

23 ch 3
sc then ch 2

24 26 ch-2 spaces around back of circle motif

Figures 25 – 36:

25

26

27

28

29

30

31

completed
invisible join

32

33

34

35

36

Figures 37 – 45:

37 BLO

↓↓

↑↑

BLO

38 line up sts, then sl st through BLO of each motif

39 yo, insert hook into 1st st

40 pull up a loop

41 yo, pull through 2 loops

42 yo, insert hook into 2nd st

43 pull up a loop

44 yo, pull through 2 loops

45 yo, pull through 3 loops

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