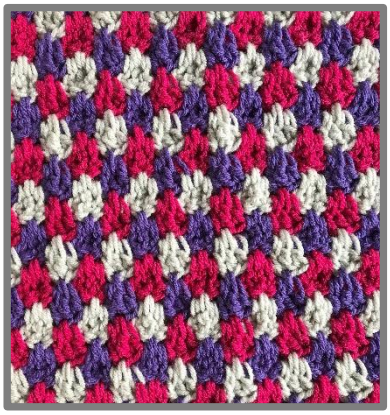
Nestled Granny



This pattern was exciting for me because I tried a new technique. It worked out pretty well too! Instead of cutting the yarn and tying on a new skein to change the color, I just slip-stitched the new color to get it started and let the old color/skein "dangle". After slip-stitching on the new color, I continued in with the pattern, until it was time to add yet another new color (using the same technique) or return to the first color. When it was time to re-use a color I just gently pulled it back up, slip-stitched it onto the pattern, and away I went!

I did end up with small "lines" of yarn that ran in intervals along the side, but I covered it up by stitching the border around these lines (see the picture to the right). I do think I'll use this method any time I have a blanket where I'm rotating through three colors!

Gather your comfort tools: Crochet Hook size K and 3 partial skeins (in 3 colors) of washable yarn.

Get started helping pets - CH 46

Row 1 – Work 3 DC in 6th chain from hook, * CH 1, skip next 3 CH, 3 DC in next CH. Repeat from * across to the end. However, for the last CH, only do 2 DC (not 3). Turn.

Row 2 – CH 2, skip next DC, DC in first CH1 space, TC in 2nd CH of 3 skipped CH in row 1, DC in same CH 1 space of current row on left side of TC previously made, CH 1, * skip next 3 stitches, DC in next CH 1 space, TC in 2nd CH of 3 skipped CH in row 1, DC in same CH 1 space of current row on left side of TC previously made, CH 1. Repeat from * across to the end, putting only 2 DC between last DC and ending chain. Turn.

Row 3 – Switch to new color by cutting and tying or just slip-stitching it to the pattern and letting old color yarn "dangle". Then CH 2, skip next DC, * DC in next CH 1 space, TC in 2nd stitch of 3 skipped stitches two rows below, DC in same CH 1 space of current row on left side of TC previously made, CH 1, skip next 3 stitches. Repeat from * across to end, finishing with 2 DC between last DC and turning chain. Turn.

Row 4 to 28 – Repeat row 3 until the blanket is square.

Row 29 or final row – *Note: make sure you to match the color of the first row with the last row.* CH 2, skip next DC, * DC in next CH 1 space, TC in 2nd stitch of 3 skipped stitches 2 rows below, DC in same CH 1 space of current row on left side of TC previously made, skip next DC, DC in next TC, skip next DC. Repeat to the end of the row, ending with 2 DC between last DC and ending chain.

Border - This pattern really needs a border, especially since I didn't cut and tie the yarn, every time I changed colors. I also wanted the blanket to be a bit bigger, so adding a border (on this or any pattern) can accomplish that as well. I started with a SC all around the blanket, putting 3 SC into each corner. Make sure you crochet around the "lines" along the edges, so that they are hidden!

I then added a row of HDC, another row of SC, another row of HDC and another row of SC (putting 3 stitches into each corner). All together this added 5" to the length and width of the blanket!

Key:

CH – chain
SL - slip stitch
ST – stitch
HDC - half double crochet
DC - double crochet

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