Dahlia Blanket CAL

Materials

15 x 100g balls of Stylecraft Special DK in the following colours:

Fuchsia Purple	Claret	Tomato
Spice	Saffron	Boysenberry
Apricot	Powder Pink	Blush
Shrimp	Pomegranate	Fondant
Lipstick	Magenta	Lemon

Pattern Information

The finished blanket measures approximately 120cm x 175cm (single bed size). Starting chains and stripe numbers for alternative sizes are given on page **3**. The pattern requires 4.5mm and 5.5mm hooks (or hook sizes which will achieve the correct tension/size).

The pattern is written in UK crochet terms using the following stitches and abbreviations:

ch	Chain
st(s)	Stitch(es)
sp	Space
sk	Skip
sl st	Slip Stitch
tr	Treble Crochet
sp-tr	Treble Crochet Spike Stitch (a treble crochet worked into the skipped stitch two rows below the current one, drawing the loop up to the height of the current working row)

Tension/Size

If you crochet loosely, you will need to make sure that your starting chain and first two rows measure roughly 120cm otherwise you will need more than 15 x 100g balls. You can reduce your hook size, or reduce your starting chain to achieve the correct size. Just remember to make your starting chain a multiple of 4, plus 3. This pattern tends to make a slightly tighter crochet fabric than usual, so as an approximate guide you should use a hook size half a millimetre larger than you would normally use for this yarn (e.g. if you would normally use a 4mm hook, then switch up to a 4.5mm). The starting chain is best worked on a larger hook size than the main body of the blanket to prevent the bottom edge from coming out too tightly and bowing (e.g. use a 5.5mm hook). I would very strongly advise you to work a small tension sample before you start on your blanket. This will help you to familiarise yourself with the pattern repeats as well as giving you a way to test out your gauge and determine which hook size will work best.

The Blanket

Note: use a 5.5mm hook size (or hook size appropriate for your own tension) for the starting chain

To Begin Using **Boysenberry** (for mixed stripe) or **Claret** (for colourwash), chain **195** for a single/twin blanket (120cm. width) or chain **27** for a tension sample.

Note : the starting chain should always be a multiple of 4, plus an extra 3.

Row 1 Begin in 4th ch from hook, work 1 tr into each st along; turn [193 sts for blanket, or 25 sts for tension sample].

Note: switch to a 4.5mm hook size (or hook size appropriate for your own tension) for all subsequent rows.

Row 2 Ch 2 (counts as 1 tr); 1 tr in each of the next 3 sts;
Ch 1; sk 1; 1 tr in each of the next 3 sts;
Repeat between ** until 5 sts remain;
Ch 1; sk 1; 1 tr into each of the next 4 sts (note that the last tr goes into the 2nd chain of the beginning ch-2 from previous row); fasten off; turn.

Row 3 Using **Pomegranate** (mixed stripe) or **Lipstick** (colourwash), insert hook into first stitch and pull through a loop of the new colour.
Ch 2 (counts as 1 tr); 1 tr in each of the next 3 sts; 1 sp-tr;
1 tr in each of the next 3 sts; 1 sp-tr
Repeat between ** until 4 sts remain;
1 tr in each of the next 4 sts (note that the last tr goes into the 2nd chain of the beginning ch-2 from previous row); turn.

Row 4 Ch 2 (counts as 1 tr); 1 tr in next st;
Ch 1; sk 1; 1 tr in each of next 3 sts;
Repeat between ** until 3 sts remain;
Ch 1; sk 1; 1 tr into each of the next 2 sts (note that the last tr goes into the 2nd chain of the beginning ch-2 from previous row); fasten off; turn.

Row 5 Using **Blush** (mixed stripe) or **Claret** (colourwash), insert hook into first stitch and pull through a loop of the new colour.
Ch 2 (counts as 1 tr); 1 tr in next st; 1 sp-tr;
1 tr in each of the next 3 sts; 1 sp-tr
Repeat between ** until 2 sts remain;
1 tr in each of the next 2 sts (note that the last tr goes into the 2nd chain of the beginning ch-2 from previous row); turn.

Row 6 Ch 2 (counts as 1 tr); 1 tr in each of the next 3 sts;
Ch 1; sk 1; 1 tr in each of the next 3 sts;
Repeat between ** until 5 sts remain;
Ch 1; sk 1; 1 tr into each of the next 4 sts (note that the last tr goes into the 2nd chain of the beginning ch-2 from previous row); fasten off; turn.

Row 7   Using **Lemon** (mixed stripe) or **Lipstick** (colourwash), repeat row 3

Row 8   Repeat row 4

Row 9   Using **Tomato** (mixed stripe) or **Claret** (colourwash), repeat row 5

Row 10   Repeat row 6

Carry on repeating rows 3-6. Follow the suggested colour sequence given each week of the CAL, changing colours every alternate row until you have completed 98 stripes.

Note : suggested stripe numbers for alternative blanket lengths are given in the table below.

Stripe 99   Repeat row 5; do not fasten off; turn.

Note : this next and final row will form a straight top edge to your blanket.

Final row   Ch 2 (counts as 1 tr); work 1 tr in each st along (note that the last tr goes into the 2nd chain of the beginning ch-2 from previous row); fasten off and darn in all ends.

Note : when darning in ends, make sure to leave the first and last stitches of each row intact and unstitched. This will allow you to work around the post of these stitches when crocheting the first border row.

Alternative Blanket Widths

Baby blanket	70cm./28in.	**Chain 115**
Lap throw	90cm./36in.	**Chain 147**
Single/twin blanket	120cm./48in.	**Chain 195**
Double bed blanket	180cm./72in.	**Chain 291***
King bed blanket	210cm./84in.	**Chain 336***

*Requires two yarn packs.

Alternative Blanket Lengths

Baby blanket	90cm./36in.	**50 stripes**
Lap throw	120cm./48in.	**66 stripes**
Single/twin blanket	180cm./72in.	**99 stripes**
Double bed blanket	180cm./72in.	**99 stripes**
King bed blanket	210cm./84in.	**116 stripes***

*Work as for double bed length, then repeat colour order as for stripes 1-17.