

Diagonal Crochet Project

A placemat, about 13" X 9" used 3.7oz of Sugar 'n Cream cotton yarn (about 1 ½ balls. An "I" hook was used.

Using an acrylic yarn and an appropriate hook, this simple pattern can be used for any size rectangular blanket.

Part one:

Begin by making a 4 stitch chain. Work 2 double crochets (dc) in fourth chain from hook. Chain 3, turn, work 2 dc in first dc (this is called a beginning shell and starts every row while working diagonally). Now, skip 2 dc and work 3 dc in the top of that turning chain...this is called a 3-dc shell. Chain 3 and turn. For row 3 you will begin with that 2 dc shell as before (that was 2 dc in top of first dc) and now work a 3 dc shell between the 2 shell groups on the previous row, 3 dc shell in the top of the turning chain 3...work the turning chain 3 and begin the next row. Repeat this method until one side of your mat or blanket, measuring from starting point along one edge, is the size you desire.

Part two:

To create a rectangle shape:

Row 1: Work across row as established but at end of row work just 1 dc in the top of the turning chain. Place a marker at this edge of project to remind you this is the decrease edge. Chain 3 and turn as before.

Row 2: Now this time make your first shell *between first and second shells of previous row*. Continue working shells across row as before including a 3-dc shell in the top of the turning chain at end of row.

Repeat these 2 rows until your rectangle is as large as you like, ending with row 2.

Part three:

To work diagonally again to complete final corner:

Next row: Work your turning chain 3. Make first shell between first and second shell of row.

Continue across row as before, dc in top of turning chain at end of row.

Again, chain 3, turn, work first shell between first and second shell of row. This method will reduce by one the number of shells on each row. Repeat this row until only one shell remains. Fasten off.

