



Stadium Blanket

by Priscilla Hewitt ©2000

May, 2000 "Crochet Along" Project

Materials

Two colors of worsted weight yarn (I used Red Heart)

Color A = 24-32 ounces, depending on panel edging

Color B = 24 ounces

Crochet hook size K

1 1/4" button (same color as color A)

Yarn needle

Gauge: 5 pattern stitches = 2 1/4"; 4 rows = 1 1/2"

Finished size: About 55" x 55" (including edging)

Pattern note: This stadium blanket is crocheted in three panels. The unedged center panel measures about 18" x 50", and each of the two unedged side panels measure about 15 3/4" x 50". I did the blanket in a striped pattern for easier placement of the handles, but you can use this stitch and make a solid blanket, or you can substitute your favorite stitch, as long as each panel is approximately the correct size. Or you can adjust the size of the panels if you'd prefer a different size blanket.

Center panel

With color B, ch 41

Row 1: Sc in the 2nd ch from hook, (insert hook in same ch and pull up a loop, insert hook in next ch and pull up a loop, yo and pull through all 3

remaining loops on hook) 39 times; ch 1, turn. (40 sts)

Row 2: Sc in the first sc, (insert hook in same st and pull up a loop, insert hook in next st and pull up a loop, yo and pull through all 3 remaining loops on hook) 39 times; ch 1, turn. (40 sts)

Row 3: Repeat row 2.

Row 4: Repeat row 2, changing to color A in the last st as follows: insert hook in the next to last st and pull up a loop, insert hook in the last st and pull up a loop, pick up color A and pull through all three remaining loops on hook. Fasten off color B. Tie end of color B to color A. (These ends and knots will be hidden with the edging.

Rows 5-7: Repeat row 2.

Row 8: Repeat row 4, changing to color B at the end of the row.

Rows 9-11: Repeat row 2.

Row 12: Repeat row 4

Rows 13-132: (Repeat rows 5-12) 15 times. Do not change colors at the end of row 132. Instead, complete last st with color B. Fasten off.

Side Panels (make 2)

With color B, ch 36

Row 1: Sc in the 2nd ch from hook, (insert hook in same ch and pull up a loop, insert hook in next ch and pull up a loop, yo and pull through all 3 remaining loops on hook) 34 times; ch 1, turn. (35 sts)

Row 2: Sc in the first sc, (insert hook in same st and pull up a loop, insert hook in next st and pull up a loop, yo and pull through all 3 remaining loops on hook) 34 times; ch 1, turn. (35 sts)

Row 3: Repeat row 2.

Row 4: Repeat row 2, changing to color A in the last st as follows: insert hook in the next to last st and pull up a loop, insert hook in the last st and pull up a loop, pick up color A and pull through all three remaining loops on hook. Fasten off color B. Tie end of color B to color A. (These ends and knots will be hidden with the edging.

Rows 5-7: Repeat row 2.

Row 8: Repeat row 4, changing to color B at the end of the row.

Rows 9-11: Repeat row 2.

Row 12: Repeat row 4

Rows 13-132: (Repeat rows 5-12) 15 times. Do not change colors at the end of row 132. Instead, complete last st with color B. Fasten off.

Edging

You can sc evenly all around the outside of each panel with color A for the edging, if you desire. I prefer the following blanket binding edging. It's a little time-consuming, but it looks neater when edging with a contrasting color, and will envelope all the knots and ends on the sides of the panels. Blanket Binding Edging (use color A)

Back side

Round 1: With the wrong side of the panel facing you, sl st all around the outside of the panel, working one sl st in each st on the ends and in the side of each row along the sides. (These sl st's will lay flat on the back of the panel.) Join with a sl st to the top loop of the first sl st.

Round 2: Ch 1, hdc in the top loop of each sl st around, working 3 hdc's in each corner; join with a sl st to the first sc. Fasten off.

Front side

Round 1: With the right side of the panel facing you, sl st all around the outside of the panel, working one sl st in each st on the ends and in the side of each row along the sides. (These sl st's will lay flat on the back of the panel.) Join with a sl st to the top loop of the first sl st.

Round 2: Ch 2, hdc in the top loop of each sl st around, working 3 hdc's in each corner; join with a sl st to the first hdc.

Round 3: Matching the hdc's from the back side with the hdc's from the front side, sc both sides of hdc's together all around the outside of the panel. Fasten off.

Repeat edging for all 3 panels.

Joining panels (use color A)

Holding the wrong side of one of the side panels to the wrong side of the center panel, and with the right side of the center panel facing you, sl st the panels together from corner to corner.

Repeat with the other side panel.

Outer Edging

Round 1: With wrong side of blanket facing you, attach color A with a sc in any sc, (insert hook in same st and pull up a loop, insert hook in next st and pull up a loop, yo and pull through all 3 remaining loops on hook) around; join with a sl st to the first sc, ch 1, turn.

Round 2: Sc in the same st as joining, (insert hook in same st and pull up a loop, insert hook in next st and pull up a loop, yo and pull through all 3 remaining loops on hook) around; join with a sl st to the first sc. Fasten off. Weave in ends.

Handle Strap

With color B, ch 321

Row 1: Sc in the 2nd ch from hook, (insert hook in same ch and pull up a loop, insert hook in next ch and pull up a loop, yo and pull through all 3 remaining loops on hook) 319 times; ch 1, turn. (320 sts)

Row 2: Sc in the first sc, (insert hook in same st and pull up a loop, insert hook in next st and pull up a loop, yo and pull through all 3 remaining loops on hook) 319 times; ch 1, turn. (320 sts)

Rows 3-5: Repeat row 2, changing to color A at the end of row 5. Fasten off color B.

Row 6: With color A, sc in each st across; ch 1, turn.

Row 7: Sl st in each sc across (this will keep the strap from stretching.)

Fasten off.

Other side

Attach color A with a sc in the first foundation chain; repeat rows 6 and 7.

Securely sew the short ends of the handle strap together to form a very large ring.

Button Strap

With color B, ch 51

Row 1: Sc in the 2nd ch from hook, (insert hook in same ch and pull up a loop, insert hook in next ch and pull up a loop, yo and pull through all 3 remaining loops on hook) 49 times; ch 1, turn. (50 sts)

Row 2: Sc in the first sc, (insert hook in same st and pull up a loop, insert hook in next st and pull up a loop, yo and pull through all 3 remaining loops on hook) 49 times, sc in the same st; ch 1, turn. (51 sts)

Row 3: 2 sc in the first sc, insert hook in same st and pull up a loop, insert hook in next st and pull up a loop, yo and pull through all 3 remaining loops on hook, ch 3, skip next 3 sts for buttonhole, insert hook in next st and pull up a loop, insert hook in next st and pull up a loop, yo and pull through all 3 remaining loops on hook, (insert hook in same st and pull up a loop, insert hook in next st and pull up a loop, yo and pull through all 3 remaining loops on hook) 46 times; ch 1, turn.

Row 4: Sc in the first sc, (insert hook in same st and pull up a loop, insert hook in next st and pull up a loop, yo and pull through all 3 remaining loops on hook) 46 times, insert hook in same st and pull up a loop, insert hook in next ch and pull up a loop, yo and pull through all 3 remaining loops on hook, insert hook in same ch and pull up a loop, insert hook in next ch and pull up a loop, yo and pull through all 3 remaining loops on hook, insert hook in same ch and pull up a loop, insert hook in next st and pull up a loop, yo and pull through all 3 remaining loops on hook, insert hook in same st and pull up a loop, insert hook in next ch and pull up a loop, insert hook in next ch and pull up a loop, yo and pull through all 4 remaining loops on hook; ch 1, turn. (51 sts)

Row 5: Insert hook in first st and pull up a loop, insert hook in next st and pull up a loop, yo and pull through all 3 remaining loops on hook, (insert hook in same st and pull up a loop, insert hook in next st and pull up a loop, yo and pull through all 3 remaining loops on hook) 49 times. Fasten off.

Edging

Round 1: With color A, sc in each st all around the outside of the button strap; join with a sl st to the first sc.

Round 2: Sl st in each sc around. Fasten off. Weave in ends.

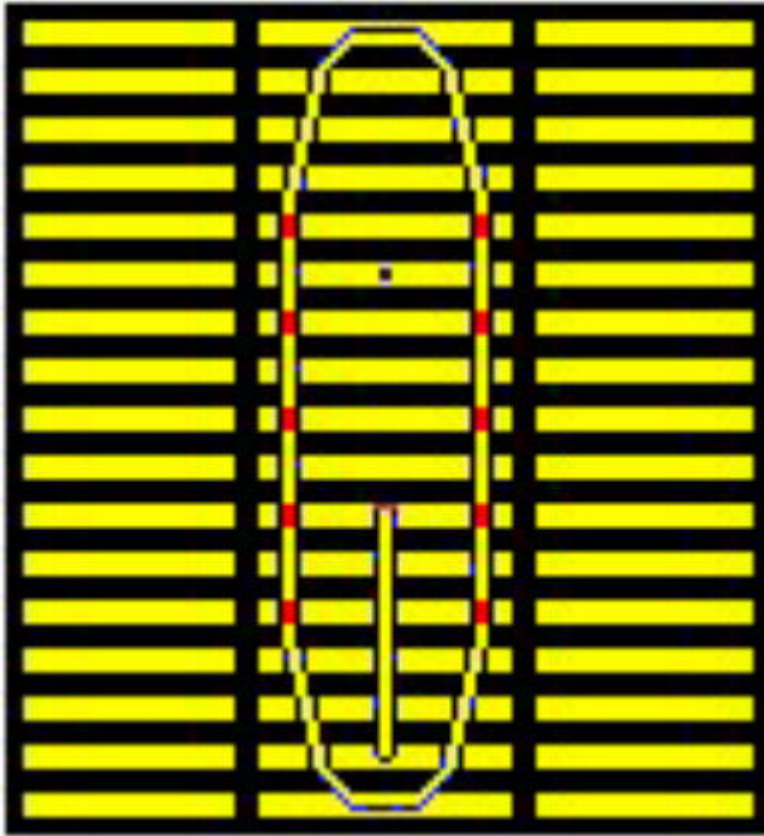
Attaching handles, button strap and button.

Lay the handle on the right side of the center panel as shown; tack with yellow yarn at the places shown in red.

Sew the button at the place marked with a blue square.

Lay the button strap on the right side of the center panel as shown; sew securely at

the pink line.



Folding Directions

Fold one side panel behind the center panel along the sl st joining. Repeat with the other side panel.

Fold the top and bottom behind the center panel so that the top and bottom meet in the center, behind the 9th yellow stripe, then repeat.

Pull the button strap over the top of the folded section; close by placing button in buttonhole.

Draw straps up to the top to carry.