

LONG STITCH COLORWORK:

# 4 Free Patterns + How to Crochet the Spike Stitch



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# LONG STITCH COLORWORK: 4 Free Patterns + How to Crochet the Spike Stitch

THE SPIKE STITCH is sometimes called the long stitch or the elongated single crochet. This simple crochet stitch is an easy colorwork technique and creates a beautifully subtle texture. Perfect for beginning crocheters and experienced alike, spike stitches can be used to create a wide variety of different designs.

In this free eBook, we explore the spike stitch. You will learn how to work this simple stitch, from short vertical stitches to long spike stitches and diagonal spike stitches. Then put your new knowledge to use with four free patterns that highlight the possibilities of this innovative stitch.

A short how-to article (**Crocheting the Spike Stitch**) will introduce you to the construction and possibilities of spike stitches. This simple stitch can be worked to a variety of heights vertically as well as diagonally to create a distinctive textured fabric. Work the spike stitches over rows of contrasting colors to create fun colorwork designs.

The **Imperial Vest** by Kristen Heln Strohm is a stylish accessory with a sleek fit. This vest is great for men and women and the spike stitch edging elegantly highlights the edges and a chic V construction in the back. Work the spike stitches in a contrasting color to draw attention or in the matching color for a more subtle trimming.

The **River Scarf** by Ruth Garcia-Alcantud utilizes eyelets and crochet spike stitches to create a textured scarf that will beautifully pair with jeans or a your favorite dress. The easy lace pattern is quickly memorized, and this scarf can be easily modified for a wider, shorter, or longer piece.

The **Popsicle Boots** by Robyn Chachula are a great introduction to spike stitches. Short spike stitches worked over stripes of color create a unique colorwork design in warm and wearable crochet boots. The faux leather sole gives a little grip and structure to the boot, which is helpful for new walkers.

The **Starburst Clutch** by Toni Rexroat is a beautiful way to highlight the attractiveness and possibilities of spike stitches. By combining single crochet spike stitches worked to different lengths and in different directions, this clutch makes an easy and eye-catching accessory. Try working this clutch in a single color or in more than two colors for a variety of looks.

Add another technique to your stitch library with the spike stitch. This simple stitch creates gorgeous colorwork or textured fabric and can be easily used to modify patterns or create your own designs. Enjoy the innovative design and how-to crochet spike stitch article in *Long Stitch Colorwork: 4 Free Patterns + How to Crochet the Spike Stitch!* We'd love to see your work. Share photographs of your finished project in the Crochet Me Member Gallery.

Best wishes,

P.S. Do you have a friend who loves to explore new stitches or would love the patterns in this free eBook? Send them the link to download their own copy of *Long Stitch Colorwork: 4 Free Patterns + How to Crochet the Spike Stitch*.

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LONG STITCH COLORWORK:  
4 FREE PATTERNS + HOW TO CROCHET  
THE SPIKE STITCH  
A CROCHET ME E-BOOK EDITED BY  
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# Crocheting the Spike Stitch

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Popsicle Boots, see page 7.



Starburst Clutch, see page 12.

A SIMPLE AND BEAUTIFUL COLORWORK TECHNIQUE and a great way to create a firm textured fabric, spike stitch is a very easy stitch that can be adapted to sweaters, socks, home decor, and accessories. Spike stitch fabric can be stiffer and slightly thicker, largely depending on the number of spike stitches used in the pattern. Spike stitches are also easy to add to a single crochet project without complicated modifications.

This eye-catching stitch allows you to quickly create beautiful colorwork, and learning how to crochet with spike stitches is easy. Spike stitches are worked in single crochet and created by inserting the hook in a stitch at least two rows below. After yarning over, the loop is pulled up to the height of the row being worked. Yarn over and draw through two loops on your hook just as you would a normal single crochet.

By inserting the hook two rows down, a short spike is created. The yarn that is drawn to the height of the working row is directly on top of the previously worked rows created. This can create a slightly thicker fabric, but the overlapping lines of the spike stitch creates a fun 3-D texture as well as a unique colorwork design if you work your spike stitches over rows of a contrasting color.

If the hook is inserted four or five rows down, you will see a much longer spike. You can work a spike stitch to any desired length, inserting your hook in any preceding row and pulling the loop to the height of the working row. Try combining spike stitches of different lengths.

Spike stitches can be worked in previous stitches directly below the next stitch in the working row for vertical spikes or in stitches to the left or right of the working stitch to create angled spikes. Try working spike stitches of varying heights in multiple locations for great starburst designs.

Explore spike stitches with the free patterns in this eBook and then try adding them to your own designs. The possibilities are endless for this easy crochet stitch.



## Imperial Vest

Kristen Hein Strohm



### Getting Started

**FINISHED SIZE** 34 (38, 42, 48)" chest circumference, buttoned. Vest shown measures 38" and has tailored fit with 4" of ease.

**YARN** Berroco Lustra (50% wool, 50% Tencel; 197 yd [180 m]/3½ oz [100 g]; **4**): #3156 triomphe teal (MC), 5 (5, 6, 6) skeins.

Berroco Glint (80% cotton, 12% nylon, 8% metallic; 141 yd [129 m]/1¼ oz [50 g]; **4**): #2937 golden fleece (CC), 1 ball.

**HOOK** Size 7 (4.5 mm). Adjust hook size if necessary to obtain correct gauge.

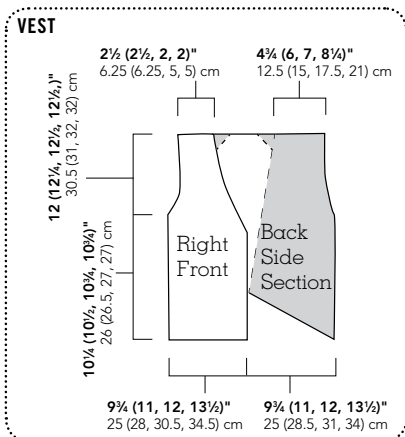
**NOTIONS** St markers (m); yarn needle; three ¾" buttons.

**GAUGE** 15 sts and 11 rows = 4" in HBdc.

### Notes

The number of beg ch that count as first HBdc of a row varies. Ch 3 for first HBdc for edges with inc shaping and ch 2 for first HBdc for edges with straight or dec shaping.

Left and right sides of body are worked sideways beg at front edge. Back inset is worked from bottom to top.



### Stitch Guide

#### Foundation herringbone double

**crochet (FHBdc):** Ch 2 (counts as first st), yo, insert hook in second ch from hook, yo and pull up lp (3 lps on hook), yo and draw through 2 lps, yo and draw through 1 lp, yo and draw through 2 lps—1 FHBdc. \*Yo, insert hook under 2 lps of ch at bottom of st just made, yo and pull up lp (3 lps on hook), yo and draw through 2 lps, yo and draw through 1 lp, yo and draw through 2 lps; rep from \* for length of foundation. Alternatively, 1 row of FHBdc may be replaced by 1 row of ch followed by 1 row of HBdc.

**Herringbone double crochet (HBdc):** Yo, insert hook in next st, yo and draw through st and first lp, yo and draw through 1 lp, yo and draw through 2 lps.

**HBdc2tog:** [Yo, insert hook in next st, yo and draw through st and first lp, yo and draw through 1 lp on hook] 2 times, yo and draw through 3 lps—1 st dec'd.

**Spike cluster (SP-cl):** Work next st and cluster 5 spike lps tog over marked st as foll: Pulling up all lps to height of working row: insert hook (from front to back) 2 sts to right of marked st and 1 row down, yo and pull up lp, insert hook 1 st to right of marked st and 2 rows down, yo and pull up lp, insert hook directly below marked st and 3 rows down, yo and pull up lp, insert hook 1 st to left of marked st and 2 rows down, yo and pull up lp, insert hook 2 sts to left of marked st and 1 row down, yo and pull up lp (6 lps on hook), insert hook in top of marked st itself, yo and pull up lp, yo and draw through all 7 lps on hook.

### Pattern

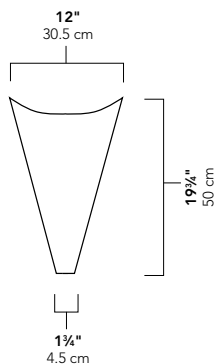
#### LEFT SIDE

**Row 1:** (RS) Beg at left-front edge, with MC, FHBdc 40 (see Stitch Guide), turn.

**Row 2:** Ch 3 (counts as HBdc throughout), 2 HBdc (see Stitch Guide) in first st, HBdc to last 2 sts, HBdc2tog (see Stitch Guide), turn—41 HBdc.

**Row 3:** Ch 2 (counts as HBdc throughout), HBdc to last st, 2 HBdc in last st, turn—42 HBdc.

#### BACK INSET



**Rows 4–13:** Rep Rows 2–3—52 HBdc.

**Row 14:** Rep Row 2—53 HBdc.

**Row 15:** Ch 2, HBdc across, FHBdc 100, turn—53 HBdc, 100 FHBdc.

**Row 16:** Ch 2, HBdc2tog over next 2 sts, HBdc across, turn—152 HBdc.

**Size 34" only:**

**Row 17:** Ch 2, HBdc to last 2 sts, HBdc2tog, turn—151 HBdc.

**Size 38" only:**

**Row 17:** Ch 2, HBdc across, turn.

**Rows 18–19:** Rep Rows 16–17—151 HBdc.

**Sizes 42 (48)" only:**

**Rows 17–18:** Ch 2, HBdc across, turn.

**Row 19:** Ch 2, HBdc to last 2 sts, HBdc2tog, turn—151 HBdc.

**Rows 20–21 (25):** Rep Row 17.

**All sizes:**

**Next row:** (WS) Ch 2, HBdc2tog, HBdc in next 37 sts, HBdc in next st, place marker (pm), HBdc across, turn—150 HBdc.

#### Shape front armhole:

**Row 1:** Ch 2, HBdc in next 36 sts, HBdc2tog 2 times, turn leaving rem sts unworked—39 HBdc.

**Row 2:** Ch 2, HBdc2tog 2 times, HBdc across, turn—37 HBdc.

**Row 3:** Ch 2, HBdc to last 2 sts, HBdc2tog, turn—36 HBdc.

**Row 4:** Ch 2, HBdc2tog, HBdc across, turn—35 HBdc.

**Rows 5–9 (10, 11, 11):** Rep Rows 3–4—30 (29, 28, 28) HBdc. Fasten off.

#### Shape back armhole:

**Row 1:** With RS facing, rejoin MC with sl st in marked st, ch 2, remove m, HBdc2tog 2 times, HBdc across, turn—39 HBdc.

**Row 2:** Ch 2, HBdc to last 4 sts, HBdc2tog 2 times, turn—37 HBdc.

**Row 3:** Ch 2, HBdc2tog, HBdc across, turn—36 HBdc.

**Row 4:** Ch 2, HBdc to last 2 sts, HBdc2tog, turn—35 HBdc.

**Rows 5–9 (10, 11, 11):** Rep Rows 3–4—30 (29, 28, 28) HBdc. Fasten off, leaving a tail for seaming. With yarn tail, whipstitch (see Glossary) side seam on WS of vest.



#### Left body edging:

**Rnd 1:** With RS facing, join MC with sl st at side seam, ch 1, work 16 (22, 25, 31) sc evenly to back corner, 3 sc in bottom back corner, working in foundation ch, sc in next 98 sts, sk next st, work 19 sc evenly along front neck, 3 sc in top front corner st, working in foundation ch, sc in next 38 sts, 3 sc in bottom front

corner st, work 39 (45, 48, 54) sc evenly to side seam, sl st in first sc to join—219 (231, 237, 249) sc.

**Rnds 2–4:** Ch 1, sc to back corner, 3 sc in corner sc, sc to beg of neck shaping, sk next st, sc to top front corner, 2 sc in corner sc, sc to bottom front corner, 3 sc in corner sc, sc to end of rnd, sl st in first sc to join—231 (243, 249, 261) sc. Fasten off.

**Rnd 5:** Join CC with sl st in last st worked, ch 1, sc in first 5 (1, 4, 2) sc, [SP-cl (see Stitch Guide) in next sc, sc in next 6 (7, 7, 7) sc] 2 (3, 3, 4) times, (sc, SP-cl, sc) in bottom back corner sc, [sc in next 7 sc, SP-cl in next sc] 14 times, sc in next 11 sc, 3 sc in top front corner sc, sc in next 7 sc, [SP-cl in next sc, sc in next 17 sc] 2 times, (sc, SP-cl, sc) in bottom front corner sc, [sc in next 6 (7, 7, 7) sc, SP-cl in next sc] 6 (5, 6, 3) times, [sc in next 0 (0, 0, 8) sc, SP-cl in next sc] 0 (0, 0, 3) times, sc in last 0 (8, 3, 6) sc, sl st in first sc to join—26 (26, 27, 28) SP-cl. Fasten off.

### Left armhole edging:

**Rnd 1:** With RS facing, join MC with sl st at side seam, ch 1, work 94 (102, 106, 106) sc evenly around armhole, sl st in first sc to join.

**Rnd 2:** Ch 1, sc in first 11 (15, 17, 17) sc, sk next sc, sc in next 4 sc, sk next sc, sc in next 58 sc, sk next sc, sc in next 4 sc, sk next sc, sc in next 12 (16, 18, 18) sc, sk next sc, sl st in first sc to join—89 (97, 101, 101) sc.

**Rnd 3:** Ch 1, sk first sc, sc in next 9 (13, 15, 15) sc, sk next sc, sc in next 5 sc, sk next sc, sc in next 56 sc, sk next sc, sc in next 5 sc, sk next sc, sc in next 9 (13, 15, 15) sc, sl st in first sc to join—84 (92, 96, 96) sc.

**Rnd 4:** Ch 1, sc in first 6 (10, 12, 12) sc, sk next sc, sc in next 6 sc, sk next sc, sc in next 54 sc, sk next sc, sc in next 6 sc, sk next sc, sc in next 7 (11, 13, 13) sc, sk next sc, sl st in first sc to join—79 (87, 91, 91) sc. Fasten off.

**Rnd 5:** Join CC with sl st in last st worked, ch 1, sc in first 4 sc, [SP-cl in next sc, sc in next 7 (7, 6, 6) sc] 9 (10, 12, 12) times, SP-cl in next sc, sc in next 2 sc, sl st in first sc to join—10 (11, 13, 13) SP-cl. Fasten off.



### RIGHT SIDE

Work as for Left Side, then flip the reversible fabric so that it faces opposite direction and WS becomes RS. Work edging as foll:

### Right body edging:

**Rnd 1:** With RS facing, join MC with sl st at side seam, ch 1, work 39 (45, 48, 54) sc evenly to front corner, 3 sc in bottom front corner st, working in foundation ch, sc in next 38 sts, 3 sc in top front corner st, work 19 sc evenly along front neck, sk next st, working in foundation ch, sc in next 98 sts, 3 sc in bottom back corner st, work 16 (22, 25, 31) sc evenly to side seam, sl st in first st to join—219 (231, 237, 249) sc.

**Rnd 2:** Ch 1, sc to bottom front corner, 3 sc in corner sc, sc in next 6 sc, \*sk next 4 sc for buttonhole, fsc 4 (see Glossary), sc in next 11 sc; rep from \* once, sk next 4 sc for buttonhole (buttonhole lies on top-front corner), fsc 5, sc along neck shaping, sk next st, sc to bottom-back corner, 3 sc in corner sc, sc to end of rnd, sl st in first sc to join.

**Rnds 3–4:** Ch 1, sc to bottom-front corner, 3 sc in corner sc, sc to top-front corner, 2 sc in corner sc, sc along neck shaping, sk next st, sc to bottom-back corner, 3 sc in corner sc, sc to end of rnd, sl st in first sc to join—231 (243, 249, 261) sc. Fasten off.

**Rnd 5:** Join CC with sl st in last st worked, ch 1, sc in first 0 (8, 3, 6) sc, [SP-cl in next sc, sc in next 0 (0, 0, 8) sc] 0 (0, 0, 3) times, [SP-cl in next sc, sc in next 6 (7, 7, 7) sc] 6 (5, 6, 3) times, (sc, SP-cl, sc) in bottom-front corner sc, [sc in next 17 sc, SP-cl in next sc] 2 times, sc in next 7 sc, 3 sc in top-front corner sc, sc in next 11 sc, [SP-cl in next sc, sc in next 7 sc] 14 times, (sc, SP-cl, sc) in bottom-back corner sc, [sc in next 6 (7, 7, 7) sc, SP-cl in next sc] 2 (3, 3, 4) times, sc in last 5 (1, 4, 2) sc, sl st in first sc to join—26 (26, 27, 28) SP-cl. Fasten off.

### Right armhole edging:

Work as for left armhole edging.

### BACK INSET

**Row 1:** (WS) With MC and leaving a yarn tail 30" long for seaming, fsc 7, turn.

**Rows 2–4:** Ch 1, sc across, turn—7 sc.

**Row 5:** Ch 3 (counts as HBdc throughout), HBdc in first st, HBdc to last st, 2 HBdc in last st, turn—9 HBdc.

**Rows 6–8:** Ch 2 (counts as HBdc throughout), HBdc across, turn.

**Rows 9–52:** Rep Rows 5–8 eleven times—31 HBdc.

**Row 53:** Rep Row 5—33 HBdc.

**Row 54:** Ch 1, 2 sc in first st, pm in first st, sc to last st, 2 sc in last st, turn—35 sc.

### Shape left neckline:

**Row 1:** (WS) Ch 1, 2 sc in first sc, sc in next 10 sc of back inset, turn leaving rem sts unworked—12 sc.

**Row 2:** Ch 1, sk first sc, sc across, turn—11 sc.

**Row 3:** Ch 1, 2 sc in first sc, sc in next 6 sc, turn leaving rem sts unworked—8 sc.

**Row 4:** Ch 1, sk first sc, sc across, turn—7 sc.

**Row 5:** Ch 1, 2 sc in first sc, sc in next 2 sc, turn leaving rem sts unworked—4 sc.

**Row 6:** Ch 1, sk first sc, sc in next 3 sc—3 sc. Fasten off.

### Shape right neckline:

With RS facing, join yarn with sl st in first st of Row 54 at m. Rep Rows 1–6 of left neckline. Do not fasten off.

### Neck edging:

**Row 7:** (RS) Ch 1, 2 sc in first sc, sc to last sc, 2 sc in last sc, turn—43 sc.

**Rows 8–10:** Rep Row 7—49 sc. Fasten off, leaving a 30" tail for seaming.

**Row 11:** Join CC with sl st in last st worked, ch 1, 2 sc in first sc, sc in next 4 sc, [sc in next 7 sc, SP-cl in next sc] 4 times, sc in next 11 sc, 2 sc in last sc—51 sts. Fasten off.

### FINISHING

With WS facing and yarn tails from back inset, whipstitch (see Glossary) back inset to right and left sides. Sew buttons opposite buttonholes. Weave in ends. Block. ❁

KRISTEN HEIN STROHM, a wildlife biologist, raises awareness for environmental and social causes through her website Wild Bird Song Designs ([www.wildbirdsongdesigns.wordpress.com](http://www.wildbirdsongdesigns.wordpress.com)).





## River Scarf

Ruth Garcia-Alcantud



### Getting Started

**FINISHED SIZE** 6" wide and 60" long.

**YARN** South West Trading Company Jezebel (100% merino; 328 yd [300 m]/1¼ oz [50 g]; : #692, 2 skeins.

**HOOK** Size E/4 (3.5 mm). Adjust hook size if necessary to obtain correct gauge.

**NOTIONS** Yarn needle; blocking equipment.

**GAUGE** 19 sts and 16 rows = 4" in river patt.

### Notes

Tch for Row 1 of river patt is only 2 ch and not 3 to avoid bunching, as the first st (dc2tog with a dc 2 rows below) shortens the st slightly.

Modified spike sts are made through the top lps of the sc 3 rows below the third (middle) dc. This st does not use the front or back post of dc st.

### Stitch Guide

#### Modified right-leaning spike st

**(MRLSS):** Yo, insert hook in sc, yo and pull up lp, yo and draw through 2 lps, yo, insert hook in sc 3 rows below 3rd (middle) dc 2 rows below, yo and pull up lp, yo and draw through 2 lps, yo and draw through rem lps.

#### Modified left-leaning spike st (MLLSS):

Yo, insert hook in sc 3 rows below 3rd (middle) dc 2 rows below, yo and pull up lp, yo and draw through 2 lps, yo, insert hook in next st, yo and pull up lp, yo and draw through 2 lps, yo and draw through rem lps.

#### River patt (multiple of 6 sts):

**Row 1:** Ch 1, sc across, turn.

**Row 2:** Ch 2, \*MRLSS (see above), working behind st just made, dc in next 3 sc, MLLSS (see above), ch 1, sk 1 sc; rep from \* to last sc MRLSS, working behind st just made, dc in next 3 sc, MLLSS, dc in last sc, turn. Rep for patt.

### Pattern

#### SCARF

Ch 33.

**Row 1:** Sc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across, turn.

**Row 2:** Ch 2, \*dc in next 5 sc, ch 1, sk next sc; rep from \* to last 6 sc, dc in last 6 sc, turn.

Work Rows 1–2 of river patt until scarf measures 60". Fasten off.

#### FINISHING

Weave in ends. Block to measurements. ❁

RUTH GARCIA-ALCANTUD designs and teaches from her studio in West Sussex, England. She loves creating timeless accessories and garments with expressive colorful touches.



PHOTOS BY NATHAN REGA, HARPER POINT PHOTOGRAPHY

# popsicle Boots

BY ROBYN CHACHULA

There is just something about little girls and their boots. Each of my nieces has a favorite pair. For one it's her pink cowboy boots, another has her yellow rain galoshes, and for another it's her comfy Ugg boots. For the ones featured here, I went with bright colors mixed with super-soft yarn, in the hope that they can become your little one's favorite boots. The faux leather sole gives a little grip and structure to the boot, which is helpful for new walkers.

## Equipment

**YARN:** Fingering weight (#1 Superfine).

*Shown:* Spud and Chloë, Fine (80% superwash wool, 20% silk; 248 yd [227 m]/2.3 oz [65 g]): #7808 sassafras (MC), 1(1, 1) hank; #7801 glow worm (CC1) 1 (1, 1) hank; #7804 cricket (CC2), 1 (1, 1) hank; #7805 anemone (CC3), 1 (1, 1) hank; #7802 clementine (CC4), 1 (1, 1) hank.

**HOOK:** E/4 (3.50 mm) or hook needed to obtain gauge and 1.00 mm steel hook.

**NOTIONS:** Tapestry needle for weaving in ends; tracing paper; fabric marker; 6" (15 cm) square of faux leather fabric; sharp leather handsewing needle; six  $\frac{3}{8}$ " (1 cm) buttons; 6 size 1 snaps; 6" (15 cm) of  $\frac{3}{8}$ " (1 cm) wide grosgrain ribbon; matching thread and handsewing needle.

## Gauge

22 sc by 28 rows = 4" × 4" (10 × 10 cm) .

## Finished Size

Small (Medium, Large) boots are sized to fit 0–6 (6–12, 12–24) mths. Finished sole is 4 (4½, 5)" (10 [11.5, 12.5] cm) long × 2 (2½, 2¾)" (5 [5.4, 5.5] cm) wide. Boots shown are size Small (0–6 mths).





PHOTOS BY JOE COCA

## Details

**SC Spike (single crochet spike):** Insert hook into st indicated 2 rows below, yo, pull up a lp, yarn over, pull through all loops on hook.

## Construction

### SOLE

Copy the appropriate size sole template onto tracing paper and cut out, then transfer to the wrong side of faux leather with fabric marker. Cut out 2 soles. Mark 54 (60, 66) dots, spaced about  $\frac{3}{16}$ " (5 mm) apart, around perimeter of sole and about  $\frac{1}{16}$ " (2 mm) from edge. Poke hole at each dot with leather needle. Join MC to hole at center back of sole with 1.00 mm steel hook and sl st. Ch 1, sc in each hole around sole with 1.00 mm steel hook (be careful not to pull too tightly—if it is too difficult to keep stitches loose enough, only use steel hook to get MC through hole, then use E/4 [3.5 mm] hook to finish stitch), sl st to first sc, do not turn—54 (60, 66) sc.

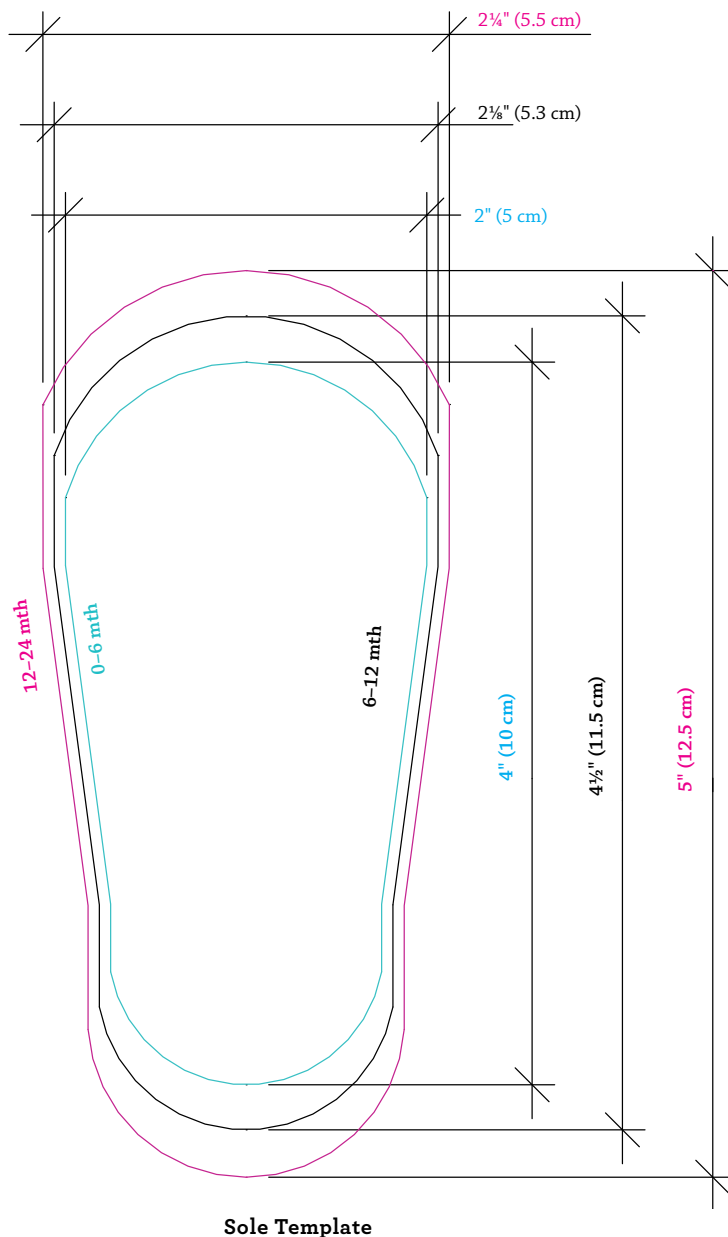
### SIDES

Cont with E/4 (3.5 mm) hook.

**Rnd 1 (RS):** Ch 1, sc-blp in ea sc around, sl st to first sc, do not turn.

**Rnd 2:** Ch 1, sc in ea sc around, sl st to first sc, do not turn.

Rep Rnd 2 two (three, four) times.



Sole Template

## INSTEP

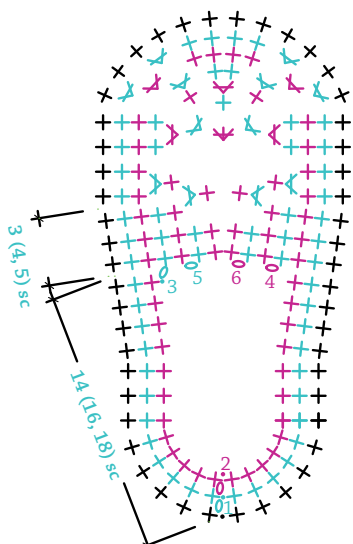
See **Stitch Diagram A** below for assistance.

**Rnd 1 (RS):** Ch 1, sc in next 21 (24, 27) sc, sc2tog over next 4 sc, sc in next 4 sc, sc2tog over next 4 sc, sc in ea sc to end, sl st to first sc, do not turn—50 (56, 62) sc.

**Rnd 2:** Ch 1, sc in next 21 (24, 27) sc, sc2tog over next 2 sc, sc in next 4 sc, sc2tog over next 2 sc, sc in ea sc to end, sl st to first sc, fasten off—48 (54, 60) sc.

**Rnd 3:** Sk 13 (15, 17) sc, join MC to next sc with sl st, ch 1, sc in next 3 (4, 5) sc, \*sc2tog over next 2 sc, sc in next 2 sc, rep from \* twice more, sc2tog over next 2 sc, sc in next 3 (4, 5) sc, leave rem sts unworked, turn—16 (18, 20) sc.

**Rnd 4:** Ch 1, sc in next 4 (5, 6) sc, \*sc2tog over next 2 sc, sc in next sc, rep from \* once, sc2tog over next 2 sc, sc in ea sc to end, turn—13 (15, 17) sc.



**A. Instep Decreases**



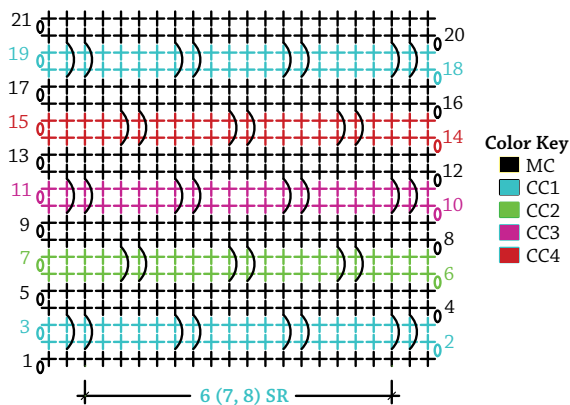
**Rnd 5:** Ch 1, sc in next 2 (3, 4) sc, [sc2tog over next 2 sc] twice, sc in next sc, [sc2tog over next 2 sc] twice, sc in ea sc to end, turn—9 (11, 13) sc.

**Rnd 6:** Ch 1, sc in next 3 (4, 5) sc, sc3tog over next 3 sc, sc in ea sc to end, fasten off, leave long tail—7 (9, 11) sc.

With tapestry needle and holding last rnd together, whipstitch tail through sts to join rnd, weave in ends.

## LEFT BOOT BODY

**Row 1:** With WS facing, join yarn with sl st-flp 3 sc from front of boot at left side, ch 1, sc-flp in same sc, sc-flp in next 3 (3, 5) sc to form back flap, work 36 (42, 46) sc evenly spaced around boot to beg, working in rem free lps of beg sts, sc-blp in next 4 (4, 6) sc to form front flap, turn—40 (46, 52) sc.



**B. Boot Body Colorwork**

## RIGHT BOOT BODY

**Row 1:** With WS facing, join yarn with sl st-blp 6 (6, 8) sc from front of boot at right side, ch 1, sc-blp in same sc, sc-blp in next 3 (3, 5) sc to form front flap, work 36 (42, 46) sc evenly space around boot to beg, working in rem free lps of beg sts, sc-flp in next 4 (4, 6) sc to form back flap, turn—40 (46, 52) sc.

Follow **Stitch Diagram B** at left for next 20 rows, alternating location of sc spike as shown. Change color in following order: 2 rows each of CC1, MC, CC2, MC, CC3, MC, CC4, MC, CC1, MC. Fasten off.

Join MC, with RS facing, to edge of boot at row ends, sc evenly up edge of boot to top, 3 sc at top corner, sc in ea sc across to last sc, 3 sc in last sc, sc evenly down edge, fasten off, weave in ends.

## Finishing

Cut grosgrain ribbon in half and fold short ends under so that ribbon length matches the length of side opening (this will also ensure that raw edges don't show). With handsewing needle and thread, whipstitch one ribbon to inside of front flap (with folded-under raw edges sandwiched between the layers). Whipstitch other ribbon to top of back flap. Sew buttons evenly down RS of front flap. Sew snaps to opposite side of fabric behind buttons and to back flap in corresponding locations.



# Starburst Clutch

by Toni Rexroat

**Finished Size:** 7" wide and 4½" tall with flap closed.

**Yarn:** Tahki Cotton Classic Lite (100% mercerized cotton; 146 yd [135m]/1¼ oz [50 g]); #4006 light silver (MC) and #4002 black (CC), 1 hank each.

**Hook Size:** D/10 (3.25 mm). Adjust hook size if necessary to obtain gauge. Gauge is not critical.

**Notions:** Fabric; magnetic snaps.

**Gauge:** 11 sts and 13 rows = 2" in sc. Gauge is not critical.

## Stitch Guide:

**Spike cluster (scl):** Insert hook in sc 1 row below and 2 sts to right of next sc, yo, pull up loop to height of working row, insert hook in sc 2 rows below working st, yo, pull up loop to height of working row, insert hook in st 1 row below and 2 sts to left of working st, yo, pull up loop to height of working row, yo and draw through all 4 lps on hook.

## Clutch

Set-up row: With MC, fsc 37.

**Rows 1-3:** Sc in each st across, changing to CC in last st of last row.

**Row 4:** Ch 1 (does not count as st here and throughout), sc in first 3 sc, \*scl (see Stitch Guide) in next sc, sc in next 5 sc; rep from \* to last 2 sc, sc in last 2 sc.

**Rows 5-7:** Sc in each st across, changing to MC in last st of last row.

**Row 8:** Ch 1, sc in first 6 sc, \*scl in next sc, sc in next 5 sc; rep from \* across.

**Rows 9-11:** Rep Rows 1-3.

Rep Rows 4-11 two times. Fasten off. Turn work 180 degrees and join in bottom of first fsc. **Next row:** With RS facing, ch1, sc in each sc across. Rep Rows 1-8 five times. Fasten off and weave in loose ends.

## Finishing

With WS facing, fold clutch at fsc. Ch 1, turn, sc in each st across, at end of row turn work 90 degrees and sc in each row end inserting hook through both layers when you reached folded section. Fasten off. Join yarn at top of flap on unworked side. Ch 1, sc in each row end across as for opposite side. Fasten off and weave in loose ends. Attach magnetic snaps.

**TONI REXROAT** is the editor of Crochet Me. Her favorite part of her job is sharing her favorite crochet patterns with fellow crocheters and exploring new crochet stitches.



## Abbreviations

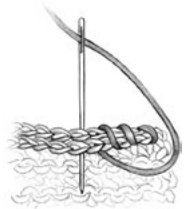
beg	begin(s); beginning
bet	between
blo	back loop only
CC	contrasting color
ch	chain
cm	centimeter(s)
cont	continue(s); continuing
dc	double crochet
dtr	double treble crochet
dec(s)('d)	decrease(s); decreasing; decreased
est	established
fdc	foundation double crochet
flo	front loop only
foll	follows; following
fsc	foundation single crochet
g	gram(s)
hdc	half double crochet
inc(s)('d)	increase(s); increasing; increased
k	knit
lp(s)	loop(s)
MC	main color
m	marker
mm	millimeter(s)
patt(s)	pattern(s)
pm	place marker
p	purl
rem	remain(s); remaining
rep	repeat; repeating
rev sc	reverse single crochet
rnd(s)	round(s)
RS	right side
sc	single crochet
sk	skip
sl	slip
sl st	slip(ped) stitch
sp(s)	space(es)
st(s)	stitch(es)
tch	turning chain
tog	together
tr	treble crochet
WS	wrong side
yd	yard
yo	yarn over hook
*	repeat starting point
()	alternate measurements and/or instructions
[]	work bracketed instructions a specified number of times

## Concentration Ratings:

- 1 2 3 4** **LITTLE CONCENTRATION REQUIRED.**  
Straightforward stitching means your hands can work on autopilot.
- 1 2 3 4** **SOME CONCENTRATION REQUIRED.**  
Easily memorized stitch patterns and minimal shaping might require some focus and counting.
- 1 2 3 4** **FAIR AMOUNT OF FOCUS REQUIRED.**  
Involved stitch patterns, shaping, or assembly require fairly constant concentration.
- 1 2 3 4** **EXTREME FOCUS REQUIRED.**  
Unusual techniques or complex stitch patterns and shaping require constant focus.

## WHIPSTITCH

With right sides of work facing and working through edge stitch, bring threaded needle out from back to front along edge of piece.



## SINGLE CROCHET TWO TOGETHER (SC2TOG)

Insert hook in next stitch, yarn over and pull up loop (2 loops on hook), insert hook in next stitch, yarn over and pull up loop (3 loops on hook), yarn over and draw through all 3 loops on hook—1 stitch decreased.

## FOUNDATION SINGLE CROCHET (FSC)

Start with a slipknot on hook, chain 2 (Figure 1), insert hook in 2nd chain from hook, pull up loop, yarn over, draw through 1 loop (the “chain,” Figure 2), yarn over and draw through 2 loops (the single crochet), 1 sc with its own ch st (shaded) at the bottom (Figure 3), \*insert hook under 2 loops of the “ch” st (shaded) of last st and pull up loop, yarn over and draw through 1 loop, yarn over and draw through 2 loops, repeat from \* for length of foundation (Figure 5).



Figure 1

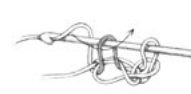


Figure 2

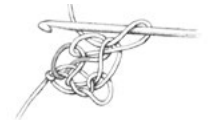


Figure 3

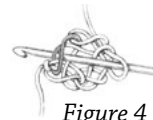


Figure 4

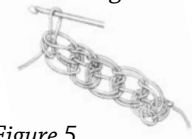


Figure 5