

MEADOW STAR - INFO

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VIDEOS MADE BY:



Do you love this blanket, but you have never tried Tunisian crochet? And/or you never tried entrelac in the round? Do not worry, tutorials for Tunisian crochet and for entrelac are included in this pattern.

THE STORY BEHIND THE BLANKET

My dear friend Annemiek Bazen asked me if I could design another Tunisian entrelac blanket. And if she could test it for me like she did with my Starblanket of Muis. I am always up for a challenge and designing a pattern wasn't that difficult, but I had one major problem. A day only has 24 hours and I had several other projects running. So, I asked her if she was willing to crochet the blanket for me and provide the photos for every round. I am so grateful that she accepted.

Annemiek has chosen the name of the blanket and her story for the name was perfect. Before I asked her, she called this the 2nd Starblanket. But it also reminded her of a flower. There are not many flowers with 4 petals, but the Cuckooflower has 4. The Cuckooflower is also called Cardamine Pratensis. Cardamine comes from 2 Greek words which mean heart and soften. Pratensis means growing on the meadow.

We both love camping and we both picked a green in our blankets, so a blanket with "meadow" in the name seemed perfect. Because Annemiek kept on thinking of it as the "Starblanket" the pattern has become titled "Meadow Star". I love the name and the thought behind it.

So, we say: Welcome to the Meadow Star CAL (Crochet Along)!



NECESSITIES

HOOK: A crochet hook 1-3 sizes larger than the advice on the label of your yarn. **You DON'T need a long Tunisian hook for this technique!!** You will require another size hook for the border. There are 3 options....all require 1-2 sizes smaller than the hook used for the blanket. One border option calls for a double ended hook.

YARN: It looks like you need a lot of different colored yarn but that is not true. You need 3 basic colors in 2 shades (a lighter and a darker of each), and a white or a cream. Dk was used on the original and measured. If you choose a different yarn weight, the final measurements and total yarn used will be different.

Color	My choice	Annemiek's choice	Total number of meters
A	Lilac	Light blue	50
B	Purple	Dark blue	230
C	Light green	Light green	400
D	Green	Dark green	460 + border Annemiek
E	Light salmon	Cream	425
F	Salmon	Light brown	300
G	Off white	White	220 + border Annemiek

You need extra yarn for your border, but that depends on which of the border options you are going to make. For the wider border you will need 2 extra skeins in 1 or 2 color(s).

We will start with a swatch so you can learn how to do Tunisian Crochet AND to determine the right hook size for your yarn choice all at once. Try to crochet loosely and take your time when learning the stitch before you continue on to the blanket! Your hook needs to be 1-3 sizes larger than the recommended size on the yarn label. You MUST make a swatch to determine exactly what size your personal crochet tension requires.

SWATCH

YOUTUBE LINK:

Right handed: https://youtu.be/P_0ALxap_Dc

Left handed: https://youtu.be/XyPuy_FRlgo

TUNISIAN SIMPLE STITCH (TSS)

ROW 1 THE FOUNDATION ROW

A Tunisian Row will have a Forward pass AND a Return pass.

FORWARD PASS

Chain 11, but NOT too tightly. Turn the chain sideways so you are able to work on the backside. You should see a small bump in the middle of each chain stitch. You will insert your hook in the first bump behind the hook, do not skip a chain.

Insert hook and pull up a loop. You will have 2 loops on the hook now.

Repeat for all 11 stitches across. You will have 12 loops on the hook.

RETURN PASS

Yarn over (YO) and pull through one loop, this is your chain 1 to get the height for your row. The remainder of the Return Pass you will YO and pull through 2 loops across the piece, until you have 1 loop remaining on your hook, which is your working loop for starting the next row.

THIS IS THE STANDARD FOUNDATION ROW AND IS THE BEGINNING OF ALMOST ANY TUNISIAN PROJECT.

ROW 2 AND FURTHER

Look for the vertical bars, these are actually your stitches. You **ALWAYS** skip the first bar on the edge. You will pick up the second bar from right to left.

Use only the bar on the front side of your work.

Repeat this for all stitches **EXCEPT** the last one!

To get a tidy border edge you need to pick up **the front and back vertical bars** at the end of the row, YO and pull up a loop (12 loops on the hook). Make the Return Pass.



Repeat this for a few rows. Be careful that you do not crochet too tightly. This is an example of work that is crocheted too tight. It will curl a lot. This curl cannot be removed by blocking or a border.



This is an example of work that has been done on too large a hook, it can work for other projects, but not for this blanket! The curl is almost gone, but it has large open holes in it.



This last swatch is correct: your swatch should look like this. It will curl a bit, but that is completely normal and will be resolved by making the border.



You can make your swatch as short or as long as you like, but no need to make a scarf out of it. Make about 8 to 10 rows to get the feel of it.

THE MOST IMPORTANT THING IS TO FIND THE RIGHT SIZE HOOK FOR YOU!!!

TUTORIAL ENTRELAC IN THE ROUND

YOUTUBE LINK:

Right handed: <https://youtu.be/Wm0fMRXemlg>

Left handed: <https://youtu.be/jhfhdNKye0I>

Chain 11 in COLOR 1

ROW 1

Forward Pass

Work on the backside of the chain (see swatch) and into the back bump of the first chain from the hook. Work your Foundation Row until you have 7 loops on the hook.

Now we work different from the swatch. The 7th stitch is your turning chain. The square has only 5 stitches and 5 rows. Leave the rest of the chain unworked as this will form the border of the square.

Return Pass

YO and pull **through 2 loops**. Continue until you have only 1 loop on the hook. This is the Foundation Row and it is ALWAYS the same!!

ROW 2

Forward Pass

Start with the second bar from right to left, YO and pull through.

Work all vertical bars, 6 loops on the hook. Now insert the hook into the back bump of the next stitch of the chain.

YO and pull through, 7 loops on the hook.

Return Pass

YO and pull through 2 loops on the hook. Continue until you have only 1 loop on your hook.



ROW 3 + 4 + 5

Repeat row 2.

This is what you should have.



Bind Off Row

Insert hook under 2nd vertical bar. YO and pull through **both loops** on the hook!! **WATCH OUT: MAKE SURE THAT THE STITCHES ARE LOOSE**, these will be the start of another square. To help keep it loose, slide the loop over the thick part of the hook.



Work all vertical bars.

Insert hook into last chain, YO and pull through both loops, YO and pull through the last loop on the hook and pull it tight! This is a **tie-off knot**. It prevents you from getting holes on the corners of the squares.



DON'T CUT THE YARN!!!

The first square is complete, only a few more to go!



ROUND 1

THE FOUNDATION ROW

Chain 5. Work on the backside of the chain.

Make the Foundation Row like the first square. For the 7th loop use the stitch on the side of the first square. Insert the hook from front to back, YO and pull through (this is the turning chain).

For the Return Pass YO and pull through 2 loops until 1 loop on the hook.



ROWS 2 + 3 + 4 + 5

Repeat in TSS. Pick up the second vertical bar, YO and pull through..... just like the first square.

When you have done 5 rows (5 vertical bars), do a Bind Off Row. Pick up the second vertical bar, YO and pull through both loops on the hook. When you reach the end, pick up the first stitch of the first square, YO and pull through both loops, YO and pull through, make a tie-off knot and make sure that you fasten the last one.

Make the next chain of 5. Turn clockwise, so you use the side of the first square again. Make this square like the previous square. Make sure that you choose the first stitch of the first square to connect your new square. This must be the same stitch that you picked up for the tie-off knot.

Make the square like the first of this round. Don't forget to make the tie-off knot.

Repeat this for squares 3 and 4. It looks like a big +. After finishing the 4th square, fasten off and weave in ends.



ROUND 2

We start simple with the next round, but we are going to use a contrast color. It doesn't matter where you start, as long as it is on a corner like the picture!!! We will make squares at the top edge of each square of round 1 and we also will make squares in between or along the sides of the round 1 squares.

Top-Square: You make a square as you did in the first Round. So you make a chain of 5 and make the Foundation Row. Don't forget to make your tie-off knot after the fifth row because it is getting important now. You start the next square in the same stitch as you made the last stitch (look at the blue hook in the picture).



Here you have the reason for the tie-off knot, otherwise you will get a larger hole here.

In-between Square: Now you are making your Foundation Row of the in between square, using the bind off row of the of the square from previous round. Insert hook under both loops of stitch (they look like a V), in the same way as you pick up a normal single crochet.

When you reach 6 loops on the hook, you insert your hook from front to the back of the first row of the next round 1 square. Look at the blue hook in the picture. Make sure this is the fifth stitch from the top of the square.



Crochet the Return Pass. Finish the complete square, using the next stitch at the side. Make the tie-off knot very tight.

This is how it should look. It is not a problem if there is a little bit curling or if it is not quite straight.



Now you have to make a square on top of the next round 1 square. This means you have to start with a chain of 5! From here you repeat the first 2 squares of this round. Each round you will make more and more in-between squares. Finish the round by making a top-square and an in-between square.

At the end of the round, make the final stitch in the stitch where you started the round. Make the tie-off knot and pull it tight. Weave in your threads as explained in the first round.

