Northern Diamond Square

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This square can be worked in one or more colors. If you use a background color (A) and a contrasting color (B) for the diamond shape, a circle will appear.

The last page of this pattern includes the extended version with four extra rounds.

Suggested materials:

Just about any yarn will work with this pattern. Choose an appropriate hook size to go with your yarn. In my examples I have used:

- Scheepjes Stonewashed and 4 mm hook (11x11cm sqaure)
- Scheepjes Catona and 3mm hook (9x9cm square)

Stitches used:

Standard US crochet terms:

ch = chain
sc = single crochet
dc = double crochet
slst = slip stitch
tr = treble stitch
fpdtr2tog = front post double treble 2 together

For the extended version:

bpdc = back post double crochet
hdc = half double crochet

Special stitches:

*fpdtr2tog: Yarn over 3 times. Insert hook from **front to back** around indicated stitch. Yarn over and pull up a loop (you'll have 5 loops on the hook). Yarn over and pull through 2 loops. Repeat two more times. You'll have 2 loops left on your hook. Yarn over 3 times. Insert hook from front to back around next indicated stitch. Yarn over and pull up a loop. You'll have 6 loops on the hook. Yarn over and pull through 2 loops. Repeat two more times. You'll have 3 loops left on the hook. Yarn over and pull through all three remaining loops.*

To begin: Using color A start with a magic ring (or ch 4 and join with a sl st in first ch to make a ring).

Round 1: ch 3 (*counts as first dc*), 2 dc into ring, ch 2, *3 dc, ch 2 into ring*. Repeat *to* two more times. Join with slst in 3rd chain of first ch 3.

Round 2: Ch 3 (= *dc*), dc in next 2 stitches. Work (2 dc , ch 2, 2 dc) in chain space. *dc in next 3 stitches, work (2 dc, ch 2, 2 dc) in chain space*. Repeat *to* two more times. Join with slst in 3rd ch of first ch 3. [*7dc/side*]

Round 3: ch 3 (= *dc*), dc in next 4 stitches, work (2 dc, ch 2, 2 dc) in chain space. *dc in next 7 stitches, work (2 dc, ch 2, 2 dc) in chain space *. Repeat *-* two more times. dc in remaining 2 stitches. Join with slst into 3rd ch of first ch 3. Fasten off. [*11dc/side]*

Round 1

Round 2

Round 3

Round 4: Change to color B. Start in any corner chain space.*Sc into corner chain space, sc in next 5 stitches.

Fpdtr2tog: Work the first leg of the fpdtr2tog around the third dc of the chain space of round 2. Work the second leg of the fpdtr2tog around the second dc of the next chain space of round 2 (see image below). Skip the stitch behind the fpdtr2tog and sc in following 5 stitches. (sc, ch2) into chain space*. Repeat *-* three more times. Join with slst in 1st sc of round 4. Fasten off. [*12sc and 1fpdtrtog/side*]

*Work the first leg of the **fpdtr2tog** around this dc of round 2.*

*Work the second leg of the **fpdtr2tog** around this dc of round 2.*

Round 5: Change to color A. Start in any corner chain space of round 4. Ch 3 (*or work a standing dc*) in the chain space. Dc into same chain space. *dc in next 13 stitches (*Note: the corner might be rather tight. Be careful not to miss the "hidden" stitch*), work (2dc, ch2, 2dc) in chain space*. Repeat * to * two more times. Dc in next 13 stitches. 2 dc in chain space. Ch 2 and join with slst to 3rd chain of first ch3. Fasten off. [*17dc/side*]
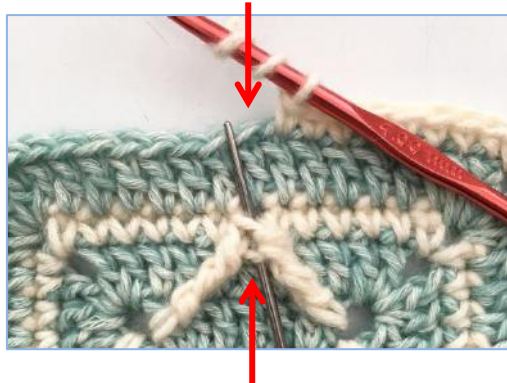

"hidden" stitch

Round 6: *In this round you will work the drop-down stitch. Work the treble stitch by inserting your hook <u>under</u> the fpdtr2tog and through the front loop (see image). This creates a neat stitch and gives the fpdtr2tog a little tug, bringing it closer to the border.*

Change to color B. Start in any chain space corner. *Work sc in chain space, sc in next 8 stitches, tr into fpdtr2tog of round 4, skip next stitch (the one behind the tr), sc in following 8 stitches, (sc, ch2) into chain space*. Repeat * to * three times. Join with sl st to first sc of round 6. Fasten off. [*18dc and 1tr/side*]

Skip next stitch...

... and work tr under the fpdtr2tog of round 4

Alternative drop-down stitches

*Depending on your yarn, your tension and your desired effect you might prefer to work a **htr** or a **dc** as the drop-down stitch. If you choose the dc as your drop-down stitch, work only into the front loop of the fpdtr2tog of row 4 (see image below). This creates a more crisp diamond shape and works well with stiff yarns. If you are using a springy yarn I find it's better to work a tr under the stitch.*

Your **Northern Diamond Square** is now complete. Fasten off and weave in the ends. Or go on to the extended version on the next page.

These squares were made using Scheepjes Stonewashed and a 4 mm hook. For the square on the right, round 5 was worked in the back loop of the stitches of the previous round.

This square was made using Scheepjes Catona and a 3mm hook.

Extended version

Round 7: Change color. Start in any corner chain space. Ch 3 (*or work a standing dc*) into chain space, dc into same chain space. * dc in following 19 stitches . Work (2 dc, ch 2, 2 dc) into chain space*. Repeat * to * two times. Dc in following 19 stitches, 2 dc into chain space, ch 2 and join with slst into 3rd chain of first ch 3. (*Note: the corner will be rather tight. Be careful not to miss the "hidden" stitch*)

Round 8: Ch 3 (= dc), dc into following 22 stitches. *Work (2 dc, ch 2, 2 dc) into chain space. dc in following 23 stitches*. Repeat * to * two more times. Work (2dc, ch 2, 2 dc) into chain space. Join with sl st into 3rd ch of first ch 3. Fasten off. (*Note: again, the corner will be rather tight. Be careful not to miss the "hidden" stitch*)

Round 9: Change color. Start in any corner chain space. Ch 3 (*or work a standing dc*) into the chain space, dc into same chain space. *Work a bpdc around the following 27 stitches. Work (2 dc, ch 2, 2 dc) into chain space*. Repeat * to * two times. Work bpdc around the remaining 27 stitches. Work 2 dc into chain space. Ch 2 and join with slst into 3rd ch of first ch 3. Fasten off.

Round 10: Change color. Start in any corner chain space. Ch 2 (= hdc). *hdc in following 31 stitches. Work (hdc, ch 2, hdc) into the chain space*. Repeat * to * two more times. hdc in remaining 31 stitches, hdc in chain space, ch 2 and join with slst to 2nd ch of first hdc. Fasten off.