

SQUIRREL GRANNY SQUARE

Designed and written by Kirstin Campbell-Harris, creator and owner of *Crafty Creations*.



MATERIALS:

- DK yarn in various colours (**brown**, **forest green**, **light grey**, **white**, **black**, **dark brown**)
- G (4.00 mm) crochet hook
- darning needle

ABBREVIATIONS (US TERMINOLOGY):

MR	magic ring
ch	chain stitch
dc	double crochet
sl st	slip stitch
st(s)	stitch(es)
cont	continue
inc	increase
sc	single crochet
beg	beginning
hdc	half double crochet
rep	repeat
sk	skip
WS	wrong side
* *	repeat instructions between asterisks as many times as directed

() additional information / alternate instructions / work a group of stitches all in the same space or stitch

GAUGE:

1" (2.4 cm) across = approximately 4 double crochet stitches

1" (2.4 cm) in height = approximately 2 rows of double crochet stitches

SIZE:

Approximately 15 cm x 15 cm (6" x 6")

YARDAGE:

Approximately 40 m (44 yds)

PATTERN:

- Round 1: with **brown** yarn, MR, ch 2 (counts as dc), 11 dc in MR, sl st to ch 2 (12 sts)
- Round 2: ch 2 (counts as dc), dc in same st, 2 dc in each st around, sl st to ch 2 (24 sts)
- Round 3: ch 2 (counts as dc), dc in same st and next st, *2 dc, dc*, cont inc around, sl st to ch 2, cut yarn (36 sts)
- Round 4: attach **forest green** yarn with sl st, ch 2 (counts as dc), dc in same st and next 2 sts, *2 dc, dc in next 2 sts*, cont inc around, sl st to ch 2 (48 sts)
- Round 5: ch 2 (counts as dc), (dc, ch 2, 2 dc) in same space, *dc in next 11 sts, (2 dc, ch 2, 2 dc) in next st*, repeat 2 more times, dc in next 11 sts, sl st to top of ch 2
- Round 6: ch 2 (counts as dc), (2 dc, ch 2, 2 dc) in corner space, *dc in next 14 sts, (2 dc, ch 2, 2 dc) in next corner space*, repeat 2 more times, dc in next 13 sts, sl st to top of ch 2, cut yarn
- Round 7: attach **light grey** yarn with sl st, ch 1 (counts as sc), sc in next st and each st around, but work 3 sc in each corner space, join with invisible join*, and secure end† before weaving in ends

Alternatively, work rounds 4 to 7 of base of block as follows (for a neater, more 'square' block, that doesn't bulge out at sides):

- Round 4: attach **forest green** yarn with sl st, ch 1 (counts as sc), sc in same st, hdc in next 2 sts, dc, (2 dc, ch 2, 2 dc) in next st, *dc, hdc in next 2 sts, sc in next 2 sts, hdc in next 2 sts, dc, (2 dc, ch 2, 2 dc)*, rep 2 more times, dc, hdc in next 2 sts, sl st to ch 1

* do not join with sl st at end of round; cut yarn, leaving long end for sewing in; remove hook by pulling yarn completely through last st; thread darning needle with end of yarn; sew yarn under '>' of beg st of round, and then right through middle of '>' of last st made (coming out on WS of work)

† thread end of yarn under any single part of any nearby st, but do not tighten – this creates first loop; thread end of yarn back through first loop made, but do not tighten; now carefully and gently pull first loop completely closed – this creates second loop; thread end of yarn back through second loop made; now pull second loop completely closed

- Round 5: ch 2 (counts as dc), turn, sk next st, dc in next 4 sts, (2 dc, ch 2, 2 dc) in corner space, *dc in next 11 sts, (2 dc, ch 2, 2 dc) in next corner space*, rep 2 more times, dc in next 6 sts, sl st to top of ch 2
- Round 6: ch 2 (counts as dc), turn, sk next st, dc in next 7 sts, (2 dc, ch 2, 2 dc) in corner space, *dc in next 14 sts, (2 dc, ch 2, 2 dc) in next corner space*, rep 2 more times, dc in next 6 sts, sl st to top of ch 2, cut yarn
- Round 7: attach **light grey** yarn with sl st, ch 1 (counts as sc), sc in next st and each st around, but work 3 sc in each corner space, join with invisible join, and secure end before weaving in ends

Left ear:

- Row 1: working on block, outwards (towards edge): attach **brown** yarn with sl st to base of block where last round of brown meets first round of forest green (directly before 2 dc in top right corner of block; *if working alternative instructions for rounds 4 to 7 of base of block, directly after first of 4 dc corner sts in top right corner*), ch 1 (counts as sc), sc around next 3 sts (4 sts)
- Row 2: ch 1, turn, sc in each st (4 sts)
- Row 3: ch 1, turn, sc2tog, sc2tog (2 sts)
- Row 4: ch 1, turn, sc in each st (2 sts)
- Row 5: ch 1, turn, sc2tog, tie off, and weave in ends of ear

Right ear:

- Row 1: working on block, outwards (towards edge): attach **brown** yarn with sl st to base of block where last round of brown meets first round of forest green (directly before second st before 2 dc in top left corner of block; *if working alternative instructions for rounds 4 to 7 of base of block, directly before st before 4 dc corner sts in top left corner*), ch 1 (counts as sc), sc around next 3 sts (4 sts)
- Row 2: ch 1, turn, sc in each st (4 sts)
- Row 3: ch 1, turn, sc2tog, sc2tog (2 sts)
- Row 4: ch 1, turn, sc in each st (2 sts)
- Row 5: ch 1, turn, sc2tog, tie off, and weave in ends of ear

Whites around eyes (make 2):

- Round 1: with **white** yarn, MR, ch 1 (counts as sc), 2 sc in MR, sl st to ch 1, tie off, leaving long tail to sew white around eye to face of squirrel (*after attaching eye and weaving in ends of eye and other end of white around eye*) (3 sts)

Eyes (make 2):

With **black** yarn and darning needle, make French knot (wind yarn around needle 7 times), pull knot tight, and secure to white around eye by tying reef knot with ends of yarn.

Nose and mouth:

- Row 1: make slip knot on hook with **dark brown** yarn, ch 3, sc2tog in last 2 ch, tie off, leaving long tail to sew nose to face of squirrel (*after weaving in other end of nose*), and to sew mouth (sew along same lines twice, to create thick line

for mouth) and down length of teeth (sew only once, *after* sewing teeth to face of squirrel)

Teeth:

Row 1: make slip knot on hook with **white** yarn, ch 7, sl st to first ch, tie off, leaving long tail to sew teeth to face of squirrel (*after* weaving in other end of teeth, and *before* sewing down length of teeth with **dark brown** yarn from nose and mouth)

Whiskers:

Divide length of **black** yarn into single strands by carefully untwisting yarn; using single strand, embroider 3 whiskers on each side of face of squirrel, and secure by tying reef knot with ends of yarn before weaving in ends.

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Happy crocheting!

Kirstin ☺