



*The Spice Market  
Crochet-A-Long*

BY THE GUY WITH THE HOOK

## Tips and Tricks

In this Tips and Tricks file you will find all related information about the upcoming CAL. Information as stitch use and a timeline can be found in this file to prepare you in what's to come over the next weeks.

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## Introduction :

How is this CAL created ? Well, the idea for it was already there for a long time. As I have always loved the Persian designs in carpets, tiles and sacred places it was not a real surprise this would become the theme one day. Besides that the colors that are used around Middle-Eastern countries are bright, vibrant and full of lovely combinations which are perfect for a CAL. In the CAL you will find different sections created on different ideas and designs. It will hold different techniques like mosaic crochet and overlay crochet and you will love the change of colors. The name is actually a collection build on different markets/souks around the Middle-East in different cities. One thing they all have in common – spices of all colors and sorts are available in beautiful piles, sorted out in authentic marketplaces, full of noises and life !

## Timeline :

Every week a Part will be released for free on my blog and a paid PDF file will be uploaded on Ravelry and Etsy. Each Friday around 21:00 (CEST) European timezone the new file will be uploaded so you have the entire weekend to work on the new part. Here is a list of what to expect each week :

- **20th of March** - Week 1 – Introduction and Part 1 : the centre of the Spice Market
- **27th of March** - Week 2 – Part 2 : second part of the centre of the Spice Market
- **3rd of April** - Week 3 – Part 3 : final part of the centre of the Spice Market
- **10th of April** - Week 4 – Part 4 : Mosaic crochet – Persian Carpet part 1
- **17th of April** - Week 5 – Part 5 : Mosaic crochet – Persian carpet part 2
- **24th of April** - Week 6 – Part 6 : Glass lanterns section
- **1st of May** - Week 7 – Part 7 : Arabian rooftops overlay section
- **8th of May** - Week 8 – Part 8 : Lace crochet section
- **15th of May** - Week 9 – Part 9 : Mosaic crochet – Infinity Stripe
- **22nd of May** - Week 10 – Part 10 : the Border and blocking

## Information and help :

The CAL will be available in a free, English version on my blog every week. But a paid PDF file will be available in my Ravelry and Etsy store also. The CAL will contain written patterns with a lot of photos to guide you. So there are NO videos. Also charts are not made as the pattern is too complex to chart out.

As this CAL is not sponsored a little fee is asked for the PDF versions. It is up to you if you like to join for free through my blog, or pay a little fee and receive PDF files which you can download and save. Up til the **first of June 2020** there is a 50% discount on purchasing the paid PDF files. This means you can purchase the pattern on Ravelry for only \$ 2.00 instead of \$ 4.00 . When purchasing it you will receive every week an update with a new CAL part. After the first of June 2020 the discount is over and the regular price will be back.

If you don't like joining on Ravelry or just simply can't, I also have an option for paid PDF files in my Etsy store. But as Etsy works a bit different I will upload every week during the CAL a new part which will cost you \$ 0.20 . As there are ten parts you will pay the same price as on Ravelry, only divided over the ten weeks of the CAL. Same as on Ravelry, after the first of June these CAL parts turn to there original price of \$ 0.40. Eventually the parts will also be collected together in just one purchase a few months after the CAL.

*All links to shops and my blog you will find at the end of these tips and tricks.*

We host this CAL in the Facebook group which is made for it. You can find it here :

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/theguywiththehookscalgroup>

We share our progress here and it also is a place to ask for help and help each other. On my blog I will share a free version of the CAL every week and of course I will talk about it as much as I can. However, I won't answer all questions related to the CAL in private messages, emails or contact forms. Just to keep it clear and to manage for myself. The place to ask and join is the FB group.

## **Used stitches (U.S. terms) :**

Stitches used through the entire CAL aren't the most difficult ones. Although, there are some special stitches which are used. Here is an overview on which are used and this will also be your guide through the patterns the next weeks :

- **SS** – slip stitch
- **CH** – chain
- **SC** – single crochet
- **BPSC** – single crochet around back post of indicated stitch
- **FPSC** – single crochet around the front post of indicated stitch
- **SC3TOG** – crochet three single crochets together over indicated stitches
- **HDC** – half double crochet
- **DC** – double crochet
- **BPDC** – double crochet around the back post of indicated stitch
- **FPDC** – double crochet around the front post of indicated stitch
- **DC2TOG** – crochet two double crochets together over indicated stitches
- **TR** – treble crochet
- **FPTR** – treble crochet around the front post of indicated stitch



- **FPTR2TOG** - crochet two trebles together around the front post of 2 indicated stitches
- **DTR** – double treble crochet
- **FPDTR** – double treble crochet around the front post of indicated stitch
- **PC** – popcorn stitch which is made out of 4 DC's and is closed with a CH
- **BLO** – back loop of stitch
- **FLO** – front loop of stitch
- **SK** – skip
- **GR**- group (as in 3dc-group)
- **REP** – repeat
- **SP** – space (as in ch5-space)
- **RS** – right side
- **()** – parts between these means a repeat section in a Round/Row or sometimes a comment to clarify something
- **{ }** – everything between these needs to be made in one stitch or space
- **[ ]** - parts between these are the total amount of stitches after a Round/Row
- **\*** - this indicates the start of a repeat section in the Round/Row. Most of the time this a large repeat part which need to be repeated for an indicated number of times

### Special stitches :

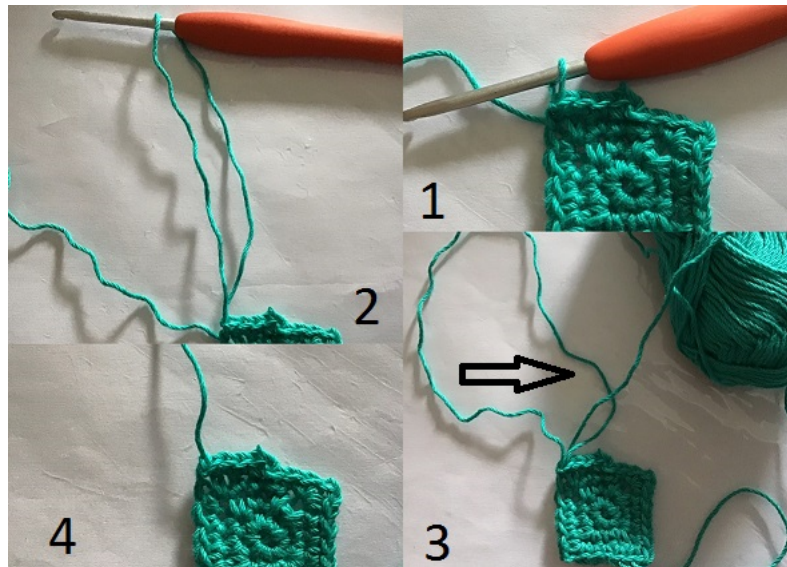
*All special stitches will be explained with photos in the parts itself where they are used.*

- **Picot** – CH3, insert hook in first CH out of three and make a SS through it
- **Cross stitch (CS)** – this stitch will be made over 2 sts. Skip first st and make a DC in next st. Then make another DC in first skipped st but make sure you crochet this one behind the already made DC so it falls behind it and not over it.
- **Modified Cross stitch (MCS)** –this stitch is also known as Judith stitch but it is a modified version. The stitch is made over 3 sts. Skip first st, 1DC in next 2 sts, then make 1DC in first skipped st. It will become a bit of an extended DC with an overlay over the other 2DC. Make sure while making the third DC you make it over the front of the other stitches. So you insert your hook from the front to the back and pull up the loop over the other 2 DC.

### Special Notes :

- The whole CAL pattern is crocheted on the right side of the work. Every week I start off telling you to start at the right side just to be sure you'll start right, but the entire pattern is worked on the right side.
- In the patterns I have my own writing style. Stitches made in current Round/Row are typed in Caps-lock, stitches that are referred to out of earlier Rounds/Rows are typed in regular size.

- In the pattern you're gonna put aside a color of yarn many times to be picked up later. This is to save some yarn, but also to reduce the many ends. An easy way to do this is by pulling up a big loop after you last stitch and pull your ball of yarn through. Just close the loop and you're ball is still attached but you can lay it on the side. You can see this technique under here. You could also put your last loop on a stitch marker. If you don't like this it is fine to just fasten off and attach your yarn every Round/Row. You will have enough yarn to chose this option.



*Photo 1 shows the end of a Round/Row with your last loop. Pull up the loop as on photo 2 to make it big enough to pull your ball through. Pull your ball of yarn through the loop as on photo 3. Close the loop by drawing the thread long enough til it is closed as in photo 4.*

- The whole pattern will be crocheted with one size hook size. This keeps your work consistent. Depending on which yarn type and brand you chose, you always need to gain up one size for the recommended size hook. ( see materials file )
- The four CH2-sps throughout the patterns are always the four corners of the blanket. They are always written at the end of a total amount of stitches.
- Some important rules that apply on mosaic crochet in this CAL : all Rounds are made on right side of the work.
  - All sc's are made in the back loop of a st except the ones you crochet in the corner ch2-sps.
  - All dc's you crochet are being made in the front loop of the stitch two Rounds below. So as example, if you have to crochet a dc on Round 4, you make this dc in the front loop of the stitch beneath it on Round 2. In the pattern i just wrote down ....in flo, this always means two Rounds down.
  - An easy way to simplify this all is that you crochet most of the flo Rounds in same colored Rounds.

- The mosaic Rounds are written shorter than others. When there is written 5SC in BLO – it means you make 1SC in back loop of next 5 sts – so not 5SC in 1 st.
- If you make a dc in the flo with mosaic crochet, you always skip the st behind it on the current Round.

## Skill level :

Although the pattern holds some parts where basic crochet knowledge and some experienced crochet knowledge is needed, I think the pattern is suitable for all levels. Just take a look at the stitches used and you might already know if this is in your experience range. But don't be afraid if you don't know something as through the weeks everything will be explained individually.

## Gauge and swatch :

To make sure your tension and work fits the amounts stated here is a short swatch pattern. You can use Color G and H for it. Your little eight-pointed star needs to measure approx. **7cm/2,7 inches** for the lace version, it will be approx. **9cm /3,5 inches** for the fingering version and approx. **11cm /4,3 inches** for the DK version. If it is a bit off there is no problem. If you really get out of measurements just change a hooksize. But you're always welcome to discuss this in the FB group with us.

Take the hooksize you need for your chosen yarn and Color G to start with.

Make a magic loop or ch6 and close it by making a ss in first ch.

**Round 1 (RS) :** CH1 (doesn't count as st), 8SC in ring. SS in top of first st. [8SC]

**Round 2 :** CH5 ( first DC + CH2 ), ( 1DC in next st, CH2 ) 7 times. SS in third CH to connect. [8DC/8 times a CH2-sp]

**Round 3 :** CH4 ( first DC + CH1 ), 1PC in next ch2-sp, CH1, ( 1DC in next st, CH1, 1PC in next ch2-sp, CH1 ) 7 times. SS in third CH to connect. Fasten off yarn. [8PC/8DC/16 times a CH1-sp]

**Round 4 :** Take Color H and attach it in any dc. CH1 (doesn't count as st), \* 1SC in dc, {HDC-DC-TR} in next ch1-sp, CH1, sk pc, {TR-DC-HDC} in next ch1-sp. Rep from \* 7 more times. SS in top of first st. Fasten off yarn. [8 gr of SC/HDC/DC/TR/CH1/TR/DC/HDC]

**Round 5 :** Take Color G and attach it in any ch1-sp. CH1 (doesn't count as st), \* {1SC-CH2-1SC} in ch1-sp, 1SC in next 7 sts. Rep from \* 7 more times. SS in top of first st. Fasten off yarn. [72SC/8 times a CH2-sp]

**Round 6 :** Take Color H and attach it in any ch2-sp. CH1 (doesn't count as st), \* {1SC-CH2-1SC} in ch2-sp, 1SC in next 3 sts, SC3TOG over next 3 sts, 1SC in next 3 sts. Rep from \* 7 more times. SS in top of first st. Fasten off yarn. [64SC/8 times a SC3TOG / 8 times a CH2-sp]

*Please note that this swatch isn't the same as the begin of the pattern. So it will be of no use as begin of the CAL.*

## **About :**

Just some last things that apply on this CAL. The CAL will be free and stay free and is provided by me – Mark Roseboom a.k.a. The Guy With the Hook. All materials and examples used and made for this CAL are not sponsored. A lot of time and money is invested in organizing this CAL, so please respect all terms and conditions of this pattern. The copyright stays with me and it is not allowed to share the pattern or use parts out of it. However, it would be nice to always refer to me as the designer or the name of the CAL. Of course i can't host this CAL alone, so a big thanks to all people who helped with it, all of them are named on my blog and the pattern pages on Ravelry and Etsy.

And of course feel free to check out my stores, blog or social media :

<https://theguywiththehook.com>

<https://www.instagram.com/theguywiththehook>

<https://www.ravelry.com/projects/theguywiththehook>

<https://www.ravelry.com/designers/mark-roseboom>

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