Crochet Patterns
Granny Square Cardigan

The Colourful Cardigan

Bright granny squares, striped sleeves,
and an easy oversized fit — in sizes S to XL.



The finished cardigan, hanging on a hanger. This is the design this book teaches, step by step.

A complete pattern book for beginners and for confident makers

Simple English • Every step photographed and charted • US crochet terms

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How to use this book

This book teaches **one design**: the colourful granny square cardigan in the photo on the cover. It is an open-front, cropped cardigan with long striped sleeves and a relaxed, oversized fit. You make 3 simple parts — granny squares for the body, 2 striped sleeves, and a plain border — then you sew them together. Nothing in this book needs advanced skill. If you can chain and double crochet, you can make this cardigan.

What you will make



Hands at work: a granny square in progress, with a yellow centre, red and pink middle rounds, and a cream outer round.

How the book is organised

Part	What you learn
1	Finished sizes, materials, yarn and tools
2	Gauge, swatch, and the stitch library
3	The granny square — rounds, colours and chart
4	Body layout, joining, shoulders and side seams
5	The striped sleeves and setting them in
6	Border, check, care, and easy variations

A note on terms

This book uses **US crochet terms**. *Single crochet (sc)* in the US is *double crochet (dc)* in the UK. A full US-to-UK table is in the Stitch Library, so you can follow the book in either system.

Beginner? Start here.
Read the first sections first, make the gauge swatch, then crochet one granny square. When your square measures 12 cm across, you are ready to make all the squares for your size. Count your stitches at the end of every round — the book tells you the exact number.

The finished cardigan — at a glance

This is an **oversized** cardigan. Choose your size by the finished bust measurement, not by your usual shop size. The finished bust is much bigger than your body — that loose fit is the design. If you are between sizes, choose the smaller one for a neater fit.

Size	Finished bust	Body length	Sleeve length	Squares needed
S	120 cm (47 in)	48 cm (19 in)	50 cm (19¾ in)	40 squares
M	132 cm (52 in)	48 cm (19 in)	50 cm (19¾ in)	44 squares
L	144 cm (57 in)	48 cm (19 in)	50 cm (19¾ in)	48 squares
XL	156 cm (61 in)	48 cm (19 in)	50 cm (19¾ in)	52 squares

How the sizes are built

Every size uses the same 12 cm square and the same 4-squares-tall body. Only the width changes: the back panel gets wider, one square at a time. The front panels are always 2 squares wide. The sleeves are the same for every size.

Size	Back panel	Front panels	Total squares	Neck opening
S	6 wide × 4 tall = 24	2 × 4 = 8 each	40	24 cm
M	7 wide × 4 tall = 28	2 × 4 = 8 each	44	36 cm
L	8 wide × 4 tall = 32	2 × 4 = 8 each	48	24 cm
XL	9 wide × 4 tall = 36	2 × 4 = 8 each	52	36 cm

Check the maths

Bust = (back squares + 2 front panels) × 12 cm. For size S: (6 + 2 + 2) × 12 cm = 120 cm. For size XL: (9 + 2 + 2) × 12 cm = 156 cm. The body length is always 4 squares × 12 cm = 48 cm.

Look closely at the photo

- **Colours:** every square has a bright centre and a cream outer round, so the squares look tied together.
- **Sleeves:** wide horizontal stripes in the same colours as the squares, with a white cuff.
- **Shape:** cropped and boxy, open at the front, with a wide neckline and dropped shoulders.
- **Border:** one plain cream border around the front opening, the neck and the hem — it holds the squares straight.

Measure before you choose.
Measure around your bust, then add at least 20 cm of ease — the cardigan is meant to be loose. If your bust is 96 cm, size S (120 cm finished) gives you 24 cm of ease. That is the intended fit.

Materials & tools



Everything you need, laid out before you start: yarn in eight colours, a 5.0 mm hook, a tapestry needle, scissors, a tape measure and stitch markers.

Yarn

Use a smooth **worsted-weight (Aran / medium, #4) yarn**, about 180 m per 100 g. Cotton or a soft acrylic both work. Cotton shows the stitches clearly and holds its shape; acrylic is lighter and warmer. Do not use a fluffy or very stretchy yarn — the squares will lose their shape.

Colour	Key	Where it is used
Cream	A	Outer round of every square + border
White	H	Outer round of every square + sleeve stripes 1 and 9
Red	B	Square centres + sleeve stripe 2
Pink	C	Square rounds + sleeve stripe 3
Navy	D	Square rounds + sleeve stripe 4
Turquoise	E	Square rounds + sleeve stripe 5
Green	F	Square rounds + sleeve stripe 6
Hot pink	G	Square rounds + sleeve stripe 8
Orange	I	Square centres
Purple	J	Square rounds
Yellow	K	Square centres

How much yarn? (estimated)

One square uses about 22 g of yarn. Two sleeves use about 340 g together. The border uses about 90 g. Buy a little extra of cream and white — they are used in every square.

Size	Squares	Yarn for squares	Sleeves + border	Total (about)
S	40	880 g	430 g	1,300 g
M	44	970 g	430 g	1,400 g

Size	Squares	Yarn for squares	Sleeves + border	Total (about)
L	48	1,060 g	430 g	1,500 g
XL	52	1,140 g	430 g	1,600 g

Tools

Tool	Size / note
Crochet hook	5.0 mm (US H-8). Use the same hook for the whole cardigan.
Tapestry / yarn needle	Blunt tip, large eye — for sewing squares and sleeves together.
Scissors	Small and sharp, for cutting yarn ends.
Tape measure	For the swatch, the squares, and placing the sleeves.
Stitch markers	At least 6 — they mark corners, shoulders and sleeve places.

Choose your colours

The book is written for the bright palette in the photo. You can change the colours without changing any stitch count: use any colours you like, in the same amounts. Keep cream or white for the last round of every square — that is what makes the squares look like one fabric.

Gauge — the 10-minute step that saves the whole project

What is gauge?

Gauge is how many stitches and rows fit in 10 cm (4 in) of your crochet. Every hand is different. If your stitches are bigger than the book's gauge, your squares will be bigger than 12 cm and the cardigan will be too big. If they are smaller, the squares will not join neatly. Make the swatch — it takes 10 minutes.

Make the swatch

1. **Chain 22.**
   With cream yarn and the 5.0 mm hook, chain 22.
2. **Work double crochet.**
   Row 1: dc in the 4th ch from the hook, dc in every ch to the end — 20 dc (the turning chain counts as the first dc). Ch 3, turn. Repeat this row until the swatch is about 12 cm tall (about 11 rows). Fasten off.
3. **Measure the middle.**
   Lay the swatch flat. Do not stretch it. Put pins 10 cm apart in the middle of the swatch and count the stitches between them. Count the rows in 10 cm too.

Gauge — the target	Count in 10 cm (4 in)
Double crochet stitches	16 sts
Double crochet rows	9 rows

If your count is different

Your count	What it means	What to do
More than 16 sts	Your stitches are too small	Use a 5.5 mm hook and swatch again.
Fewer than 16 sts	Your stitches are too big	Use a 4.5 mm hook and swatch again.
16 sts, rows are off	Rows matter less here	Keep the hook. Follow the cm sizes in the book, not only the row numbers.

Check one square too

After the swatch, crochet one full granny square (Part 3) and measure it. It must be **12 cm across**, from edge to edge. If it is 13 cm, use a 4.5 mm hook. If it is 11 cm, use a 5.5 mm hook. Every size in this book depends on that 12 cm square.

Count in the middle, not at the edge.
The first and last stitches of a row are often tighter or looser. Always measure in the centre of the swatch. Write your gauge here: _____ sts and _____ rows in 10 cm. My square measures _____ cm.

Stitch library — the only stitches in this book

You need 6 stitches. Each one is shown here in plain words, with its symbol and its UK name. Practise each stitch on a small swatch before you start the cardigan.

Stitch	Symbol	US name	UK name
ch	o	chain	chain
sl st	•	slip stitch	slip stitch
sc	×	single crochet	double crochet
dc	T with line	double crochet	treble
dc2tog	T over 2	double crochet 2 together	treble 2 together
cluster	3 dc in 1	3 double crochet in one stitch	3 treble in one stitch

Chain (ch)

Make a slip knot on the hook. Yarn over (wrap the yarn over the hook from back to front), pull the yarn through the loop on the hook. That is 1 chain. Repeat. Keep the chains even — not tight.

Slip stitch (sl st)

Insert the hook in the stitch, yarn over, pull the yarn through the stitch **and** through the loop on the hook in one move. A slip stitch is short and flat. This book uses it to join rounds and to finish the border.

Single crochet (sc)

Insert the hook in the stitch, yarn over, pull up a loop (2 loops on the hook), yarn over, pull through both loops. This book uses single crochet only for the border, to make a neat edge around the cardigan.

Double crochet (dc) — the main stitch

Yarn over, insert the hook in the stitch, yarn over, pull up a loop (3 loops on the hook), yarn over, pull through 2 loops, yarn over, pull through the last 2 loops. Double crochet is tall. The squares and the sleeves are almost all double crochet. At the start of a row, chain 3 — it counts as the first double crochet of the row.

Stitch library — continued

Decrease — double crochet 2 together (dc2tog)

Yarn over, insert the hook in the next stitch, yarn over, pull up a loop, yarn over, pull through 2 loops (2 loops left on the hook). Yarn over, insert the hook in the following stitch, yarn over, pull up a loop, yarn over, pull through 2 loops (3 loops on the hook). Yarn over, pull through all 3 loops. Two stitches become one. This is how the sleeves get narrower towards the cuff.

Cluster — 3 double crochet in one stitch

Work 3 double crochets into the same stitch or the same chain space. A cluster is the building block of the granny square: every side of the square is made of clusters, and every corner is two clusters with 2 chains between them.

Magic ring

Wrap the yarn twice around two fingers to make a ring. Insert the hook under the ring, yarn over, pull up a loop, chain 1. Work the first round of the square into the ring, then pull the tail to close the hole. If the magic ring feels hard, chain 4 and join with a slip stitch to make a small ring instead — the result is the same.

Changing colour

Work the last stitch of the old colour until 2 loops are left on the hook. Drop the old colour, pick up the new colour, yarn over with the new colour and pull through both loops. The new colour is now on the hook. Cut the old colour, leaving a 10 cm tail, and weave it in later. Change colour at the end of a round, never in the middle of a side.

Abbreviations — the short forms used in every row

Short form	Meaning	Short form	Meaning
ch	chain	rep	repeat
sl st	slip stitch	RS	right side (the front)
sc	single crochet	WS	wrong side (the back)
dc	double crochet	st(s)	stitch(es)
dc2tog	double crochet 2 together	yo	yarn over
sp	space (a chain space)	[ ]	work the steps inside, as a group

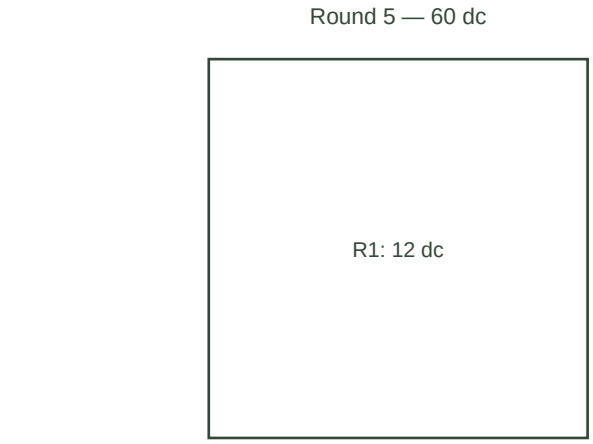
US terms / UK terms

US term (this book)	UK term
single crochet (sc)	double crochet (dc)
double crochet (dc)	treble (tr)
slip stitch (sl st)	slip stitch (ss)

Read a round like a recipe.
Example: “Round 3: (3 dc, ch 2, 3 dc) in the corner sp, ch 1, 3 dc in the next sp.” means: work 3 double crochets, chain 2, then 3 more double crochets, all into the corner space. The number in brackets at the end is the stitch count — count it before you move on.

Part 1 — The granny square

Every square in this cardigan is the same: **5 rounds, 12 cm across**. Make all the squares for your size before you join anything — it is much easier to lay them out and check the colours when they are all finished.



One square, seen from the front. Each round adds one group of 3 dc on every side.

Figure 1 — One square, seen from the front. Round 1 is the small centre square; Round 5 is the outer edge.

The rounds — one square, step by step

Round	Colour	What to work	Stitches
1	Centre colour	Magic ring. Ch 3 (counts as dc), 2 dc, ch 2, (3 dc, ch 2) 3 times. Join with a sl st to the top of the ch-3.	12 dc
2	Next colour	Sl st into the corner sp. Ch 3, (2 dc, ch 2, 3 dc) in the same sp, ch 1. *In the next corner sp: (3 dc, ch 2, 3 dc), ch 1. Rep from * 3 times. Join.	24 dc
3	Next colour	Sl st into the corner sp. Ch 3, (2 dc, ch 2, 3 dc) in the same sp, ch 1, 3 dc in the next ch-1 sp, ch 1. *In the next corner sp: (3 dc, ch 2, 3 dc), ch 1, 3 dc in the next sp, ch 1. Rep from * 3 times. Join.	36 dc
4	Cream (A)	Work as Round 3, with 2 side spaces on each side instead of 1: (3 dc, ch 2, 3 dc) in each corner, ch 1, 3 dc in each side sp, ch 1 between groups.	48 dc
5	White (H)	Work as Round 3, with 3 side spaces on each side: (3 dc, ch 2, 3 dc) in each corner, ch 1, 3 dc in each side sp, ch 1 between groups. Fasten off.	60 dc

Check the maths

Each round has 4 corners of 6 dc each (24 dc) plus side groups of 3 dc. Round 2 has no side groups: 24 dc. Round 3 has 1 side group on each side: 24 + 12 = 36 dc. Round 4 has 2 side groups on each side: 24 + 24 = 48 dc. Round 5 has 3 side groups on each side: 24 + 36 = 60 dc. If your count is different, you missed a group or worked one twice.

Three colourways — mix them across the cardigan

Colourway	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Round 4	Round 5
A — Sunset	Yellow (K)	Red (B)	Pink (C)	Cream (A)	White (H)
B — Ocean	Green (F)	Turquoise (E)	Navy (D)	Cream (A)	White (H)
C — Berry	Orange (I)	Purple (J)	Hot pink (G)	Cream (A)	White (H)

Make roughly one third of your squares in each colourway, and lay them out in a mixed pattern — never put two squares of the same colourway side by side. The cream and white outer rounds are the same on every square, so the whole cardigan holds together.

Finish every square the same way.
After Round 5, fasten off and weave in the tails on the back of the square. Block the square: pin it to 12 cm on a towel, spray with water, and let it dry flat. A blocked square joins neatly; an unblocked one pulls the cardigan out of shape.

Part 2 — Body layout: back and front panels

Lay all your squares on a table or a bed, right side up. Arrange them in panels first — do not sew anything yet. The back panel is in the middle, and one front panel sits on each side of it.

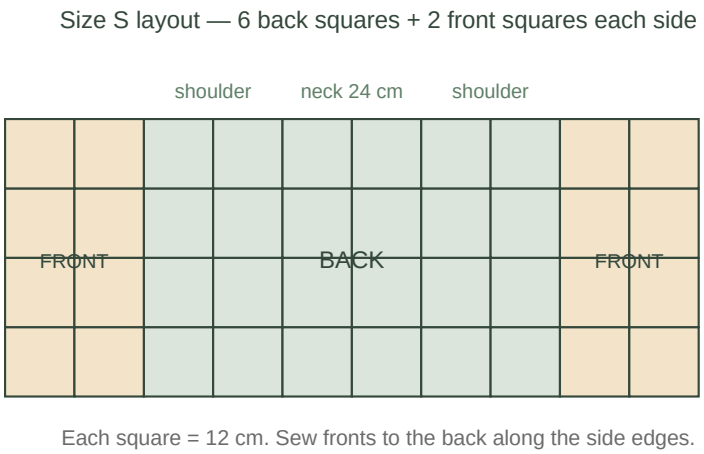


Figure 2 — Size S layout. The back panel is 6 squares wide and 4 tall; each front panel is 2 squares wide and 4 tall.

Your size — how many squares in each panel

Size	Back panel	Left front	Right front	Total
S	6 × 4 = 24	2 × 4 = 8	2 × 4 = 8	40
M	7 × 4 = 28	2 × 4 = 8	2 × 4 = 8	44
L	8 × 4 = 32	2 × 4 = 8	2 × 4 = 8	48
XL	9 × 4 = 36	2 × 4 = 8	2 × 4 = 8	52

Join the squares into panels

1. **Join the squares in rows.**
Lay out one row of squares for the back panel. With the right sides facing up, whip-stitch the squares together along their edges, stitch by stitch, using cream yarn and the tapestry needle. Join the squares in one row first, then join the rows to each other.

2. **Make the three panels.**
Join the back panel (6–9 squares wide, 4 tall) and the two front panels (2 wide, 4 tall). Keep the right side up on all three panels.

3. **Check the panels.**
Each panel must be a neat rectangle. Measure it: the back panel is 72–108 cm wide and 48 cm tall; each front panel is 24 cm wide and 48 cm tall. If a panel is wider on one side, a square is turned the wrong way — turn it and re-sew that join.

Use the same join everywhere.
Whip stitch through the back loops only, one stitch at a time. The join will look like a neat ridge on the wrong side and almost nothing on the right side. Do not pull the joins tight — the squares must lie flat.

Part 3 — Shoulders, neck and side seams

Now join the three panels into one cardigan body. Work with the right sides facing out, and pin every seam before you sew it.

Shoulder seams

Lay the back panel flat, right side up. Lay one front panel on top of it, right side down, so the top edges line up. Sew the top edge of the front panel to the top edge of the back panel — but only for the shoulder width in the table below. The middle of the back top edge stays open: that is the neck.

Size	Shoulder seam, each side	Neck opening left open
S	2 squares (24 cm)	2 squares (24 cm)
M	2 squares (24 cm)	3 squares (36 cm)
L	3 squares (36 cm)	2 squares (24 cm)
XL	3 squares (36 cm)	3 squares (36 cm)

Check: shoulder seams + neck = back width. Size S: 2 + 2 + 2 = 6 squares. Size XL: 3 + 3 + 3 = 9 squares. If your numbers do not add up to your back width, re-count the squares.

1. **Sew the left shoulder.**
   Pin the top edge of the left front panel to the top edge of the back panel for the shoulder width. Whip-stitch along the top edge, through both layers.

2. **Sew the right shoulder.**
   Do the same on the right side. The neck opening in the middle stays open.

3. **Try it on.**
   Turn the body right side out and try it on. The neck should sit flat on your shoulders, not pull and not gape. If it gapes, sew 1 cm more on each shoulder. If it pulls, undo 1 cm on each shoulder.

Side seams and armholes

Fold the body so the front panels meet the back panel at the sides. Sew the side edges together from the hem up, but stop 2 squares (24 cm) below the shoulder — that gap is the armhole, where the sleeve goes.

4. **Sew the left side.**
   Starting at the hem, whip-stitch the front and back panels together for 2 squares (24 cm) up the side. Stop and fasten off.

5. **Sew the right side.**
   Do the same on the right side.

6. **Check the armholes.**
   Each armhole is a 24 cm deep opening, 48 cm around. Put your arm through it: it should feel roomy, not tight. The sleeve top (48 cm around) will fill it exactly.

Mark the armhole before you sew.
Put a stitch marker 24 cm below the shoulder on each side, on both the front and the back. Sew from the hem up to the marker — and stop. If you sew past the marker, the armhole will be too small for the sleeve.

Part 4 — The striped sleeves

Each sleeve is one flat rectangle of double crochet, worked in rows from the shoulder to the cuff, with a stripe of colour every 5 rows. You make **2 sleeves exactly the same**. Work them one after the other, so the stripes match.



The striped sleeve fabric, close up. Each stripe is 5 rows tall, and the colours are the same as the squares.

The stripes



Figure 3 — Sleeve stripes, from the shoulder (top) to the cuff (bottom). Each stripe is 5 rows.

Stripe	Rows	Colour	Stripe	Rows	Colour
1	1–5	White (H)	6	26–30	Green (F)
2	6–10	Red (B)	7	31–35	Cream (A)
3	11–15	Pink (C)	8	36–40	Hot pink (G)
4	16–20	Navy (D)	9	41–45	White (H) — cuff
5	21–25	Turquoise (E)			

Starting the sleeve

1 **Foundation chain.**
With white yarn (stripe 1) and the 5.0 mm hook, chain 78.

2 **Row 1.**
Dc in the 4th ch from the hook, dc in every ch to the end — **76 dc** (the turning chain counts as the first dc). The sleeve top is 76 dc × 0.625 cm = about 48 cm around — the same as the armhole. Ch 3, turn.

Shaping — the sleeve gets narrower

On the decrease rows in the table below, work **dc2tog at the start and at the end of the row**. Each decrease row takes away 2 stitches. Between decrease rows, work plain dc rows with no decreases.

Rows	What to work	Stitches at the end of the row
2	Dc across (76 dc). Ch 3, turn.	76
3	Decrease row: dc2tog, dc across, dc2tog.	74
4	Dc across. Ch 3, turn.	74
5	Decrease row.	72
6–7	Dc across.	72
8	Decrease row.	70
9	Dc across.	70
10	Decrease row.	68
11–12	Dc across.	68
13	Decrease row.	66
14	Dc across.	66
15	Decrease row.	64
16–17	Dc across.	64
18	Decrease row.	62
19	Dc across.	62
20	Decrease row.	60

The sleeve — continued

Rows	What to work	Stitches at the end of the row
21–22	Dc across.	60
23	Decrease row.	58
24	Dc across.	58
25	Decrease row.	56
26–27	Dc across.	56
28	Decrease row.	54
29	Dc across.	54
30	Decrease row.	52
31–32	Dc across.	52
33	Decrease row.	50
34	Dc across.	50
35	Decrease row.	48
36–37	Dc across.	48
38	Decrease row.	46
39	Dc across.	46
40	Decrease row.	44
41	Dc across.	44
42	Decrease row.	42
43	Dc across.	42
44	Decrease row.	40
45	Dc across (40 dc). Fasten off.	40

Check the maths

You start with 76 dc and decrease on 18 rows: rows 3, 5, 8, 10, 13, 15, 18, 20, 23, 25, 28, 30, 33, 35, 38, 40, 42 and 44. 18 decrease rows × 2 stitches = 36 stitches taken away. 76 – 36 = **40 dc** at the cuff. The cuff is 40 dc × 0.625 cm = 25 cm around. The sleeve is 45 rows × 1.1 cm = about 50 cm long.

Changing stripe colours

Change colour at the end of the last row of a stripe: work the last dc of the row until 2 loops are left, then finish it with the new colour. Carry the unused colours loosely up the side edge if you will use them again within 5 rows — the side edge will be sewn into the seam, so the carried yarn will not show.

Make the second sleeve

Repeat Rows 1–45 exactly the same way, with the same stripes in the same order. Lay the two sleeves side by side and check: same length, same stripes, same cuff count (40 dc). If one sleeve is longer, count its rows — you may have worked an extra plain row.

Count the stitches, not the stripes.
The stripes are easy to see, but the stitch count is what makes the sleeve fit. Count to 76 after Row 1, and count again after every decrease row. If you are 1 stitch short, you worked a dc2tog where you should have worked 2 plain dc — undo that row and redo it.

Part 5 — Sew the sleeves into the armholes

A sleeve is sewn in flat, before the sleeve seam is closed. Work with the cardigan right side out and the sleeve right side up.

1. **Fold the sleeve in half.**
Fold the sleeve rectangle in half lengthwise, right sides together, so the two long edges meet. Mark the middle of the top edge (Row 1) with a stitch marker — that mark goes on the shoulder seam.

2. **Pin the sleeve to the armhole.**
Put the sleeve inside the armhole, right sides together. Pin the middle mark to the shoulder seam, pin the two ends of the top edge to the front and back of the armhole, then pin all the way around, easing the sleeve evenly. The sleeve top (48 cm) and the armhole (48 cm) are the same size, so nothing should bunch.

3. **Sew around the armhole.**
With cream yarn and the tapestry needle, whip-stitch all the way around the armhole, one stitch at a time, through both layers. Take small, even stitches.

4. **Sew the sleeve seam.**
Fold the cardigan so the sleeve lies flat. Whip-stitch the long edges of the sleeve together, from the cuff to the armpit, then continue down the side seam if it needs a stitch. Turn the sleeve right side out.

5. **Repeat for the second sleeve.**
Set in the second sleeve exactly the same way.

6. **Try it on.**
Put the cardigan on. The sleeves should hang straight from the shoulder, and the cuffs should sit at your wrists. If a sleeve twists, the seam is not straight — undo it and re-pin with the seam at the underarm.

Pin first, sew second.
Never sew a sleeve without pinning it all the way around first. A pinned sleeve cannot slip, and an unpinned one almost always ends up twisted. Use at least 8 pins per sleeve.

Part 6 — The border

The border is one plain cream edge that runs around the whole front opening, the neck and the hem. It stops the squares from curling and gives the cardigan a finished look. Work with **cream (A)** yarn and the 5.0 mm hook.

1. **Start at the bottom of the right front.**
Join cream at the bottom right corner of the front opening, with the right side facing you. Ch 1.

2 **Row 1 — single crochet.**
Work 1 sc in each stitch and 1 sc in the end of each row, all the way up the right front, around the neck, and down the left front to the bottom left corner. Then work 1 sc in each stitch along the hem, back to where you started. Join with a sl st. Do not count the stitches — just keep them even, about 1 sc per stitch and 1 sc per row-end.

3 **Row 2 — double crochet.**
Ch 3 (counts as dc). Work 1 dc in each sc around the whole edge, in the same direction. Join with a sl st to the top of the ch-3. Fasten off and weave in the ends.

Finishing — do this before you wear it

4 **Weave in every end.**
Thread each yarn tail onto the tapestry needle and weave it through the back of the stitches for 4 cm, then cut it short. Check the inside: no tails should hang out.

5 **Check every seam.**
Pull gently on each join. If a stitch is loose, add one more whip stitch. Check the shoulders and the sleeve seams twice — they carry the weight.

6 **Block the cardigan.**
Lay the cardigan flat on a clean towel. Pin it to the finished measurements (bust and length from the size table). Spray lightly with water and let it dry flat. The squares will settle and the border will lie straight.

First wash.
Hand wash in cool water with a little soap. Press the water out gently — do not wring it. Dry flat on a towel. The cotton will soften a little and the stitches will settle.

Final check, care & fixing mistakes

Before you call the cardigan finished, run through this list.

Check	It should be…
Squares	All 12 cm across, flat, same colourways mixed, none turned the wrong way.
Panels	Back and fronts are neat rectangles, 48 cm tall.
Neck	Flat on the shoulders, 24 or 36 cm wide, not gaping.
Armholes	Roomy, 48 cm around, sleeves set in without bunching.
Sleeves	Same length (50 cm), same stripes, cuffs 40 dc (25 cm).
Border	Even all the way around, no curling, no gaps.
Ends	All yarn tails woven in, nothing hanging out.

Troubleshooting — the most common problems

Problem	Why it happened	How to fix it
Squares are different sizes	Tension changed, or gauge is off	Block every square to 12 cm; re-make any square that is more than 1 cm off.
Cardigan is too wide	Gauge is loose, or the wrong size was chosen	Check the gauge swatch. If the squares are 13 cm, the bust grows by 10 cm — use a smaller hook next time.
Neck gapes open	Shoulder seams are too short	Sew 1 cm more on each shoulder seam.
Sleeve twists	Sleeve seam is not at the underarm	Undo the sleeve seam, re-pin with the seam at the underarm, sew again.
Sleeve is too tight at the cuff	A decrease row was worked twice	Count the decrease rows — there must be 18. Undo the extra one.
Stripes do not match	Sleeves were worked at different times	Work both sleeves in the same sitting, or write down the stripe order and follow it.
Border curls	Border stitches are too tight	Work the border with a 5.5 mm hook, and keep the stitches loose.

Care

- Hand wash in cool water with mild soap. Do not bleach.
- Press out the water gently. Do not wring or twist.
- Dry flat on a clean towel, away from direct sun.
- If a seam loosens, sew it again with doubled yarn before it opens further.

Make it your own — easy variations

The stitch counts in this book never change for a colour change. Change the colours, keep the numbers, and the cardigan will still fit. For a different length or a different look, use the table below.

Colourways — same pattern, new look

Name	Square centres	Square rounds	Sleeve stripes	Border
Bright (this book)	Yellow / green / orange	Red / pink / navy / turquoise	Same 9 colours	Cream
Soft Pastel	Pale yellow / mint	Blush / lilac / sky	Pastel version of the 9	White
Autumn	Mustard / rust	Burgundy / olive / brown	Autumn version of the 9	Cream
One Colour	Same colour	Same colour	Same colour	Same colour
Black & White	Black	White / grey	Black and white only	Black

Make it longer

For a longer cardigan, add **1 row of squares** to every panel: the back panel becomes 5 squares tall and each front panel becomes 5 squares tall. The body length grows from 48 cm to 60 cm. You need one more row of squares: S +10 squares, M +11, L +12, XL +13. The sleeves, shoulders and neck do not change.

Add pockets

Make 2 extra granny squares. Sew one square to the lower front of each front panel, on three sides only, leaving the top open. The pocket is one square (12 cm) — big enough for a phone or a hand. Sew it on after the border, so the border does not cover the pocket opening.

Make it a vest

Skip Part 4 and Part 5 — no sleeves. Sew the side seams all the way up to the shoulder, leaving only a 12 cm armhole opening on each side. Work the border around the armholes too, so the edges are neat.

Write your version down.
When you change a colour or a length, write it on this page: main colours _____, hook _____ mm, body length _____ cm, squares _____. Next time you make the cardigan, you will not have to guess.

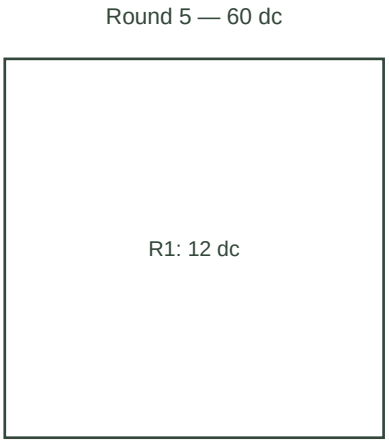
Pattern at a glance — the whole cardigan on one page

Use this page while you work. It is a short summary of the full pattern — the details, stitch by stitch, are in Parts 1 to 6.

Part	Yarn	Start	Work	Finish
Square (×40–52)	Mixed colours	Magic ring	5 rounds: 12, 24, 36, 48, 60 dc. Rounds 4–5 in cream, then white.	12 cm square. Block it.

Part	Yarn	Start	Work	Finish
Body panels	Squares	Lay out	Back 6–9 × 4, fronts 2 × 4 each. Whip-stitch squares together.	3 flat panels.
Shoulders + sides	Cream	Pin first	Shoulders 2–3 squares each side. Sides sewn up, 24 cm armhole left open.	Body with neck + armholes.
Sleeve (×2)	9 stripe colours	Ch 78	45 rows: 76 dc down to 40 dc, 18 decrease rows, 9 stripes × 5 rows.	50 cm long, cuff 25 cm.
Set in sleeves	Cream	Pin first	Sew sleeve top (48 cm) into armhole (48 cm), then sew the sleeve seam.	Sleeves hang straight.
Border	Cream	Join at hem	1 row sc + 1 row dc around the front, neck and hem.	Fasten off, weave in ends.

Full stitch chart — one square



One square, seen from the front. Each round adds one group of 3 dc on every side.

Figure 1 again: each round adds one group of 3 dc on every side. Round 5 has 60 dc in total.

Yarn used — a quick reminder

Worsted yarn, 5.0 mm hook. Gauge: 16 dc and 9 rows in 10 cm. One square: 12 cm, 5 rounds, 60 dc in the last round. Finished bust: S 120 cm, M 132 cm, L 144 cm, XL 156 cm. Body length 48 cm, sleeve length 50 cm.

Thank you for making with CrochetEco

We hope your Granny Square Cardigan brings a little handmade colour to your wardrobe — and that this book helped you learn, or practise, every stitch in it.

My notes

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