



Welcome back to Day 17!

Houndstooth is a classic fabric pattern that is easily replicated in basic crochet stitches. For this pattern we are once again working in turned rounds. After creating our base, we will be turning our work at the end of each round to allow the pattern to pop. When working in turned rounds, the first stitch of the round is NOT the one at the base of the SL ST, instead it is the one just in front of your SL ST. To get the best results, pair two highly contrasting colours together.

Special Stitches:

Single Crochet 2 Together (SC2TOG) - Insert your hook into the first indicated stitch and pull up a loop, insert your hook into the next stitch and pull up a loop, with 3 loops on your hook, YO and pull through all 3 loops.

Double Crochet 2 Together (DC2TOG) - YO and insert your hook into the indicated stitch, YO and pull up a loop. YO and pull through 2 loops. YO and insert your hook into the next stitch or space, YO and pull up a loop. YO and pull through 2 loops. You should have 3 loops on your hook. YO and pull through all 3 loops.

Pattern Instructions:

Round 1 - With colour A, make a MR and CH1. Place 8 SC into your ring. SLST to first SC to close the round, CH1 (8)

Round 2 - Place 2 SC into each SC of round 1. SLST to first SC to close the round, CH1 (16)

Round 3 - *Place 1 SC in the first stitch and 2 SC in the next stitch. Repeat from * around. SLST to first SC to close the round, adding your colour B onto your hook to change colour in the slip stitch. CH1 (24)

Round 4 - With colour B, *DC in the first stitch, SC in the next. Repeat from * around. Switch to your colour A in the SL ST. CH1 and **turn your work** (24)

Round 5 - With colour A, *DC in the first stitch, SC in the next. Repeat from * around. Switch to your colour B in the SL ST. CH1 and **turn your work** (24) NOTE - your DC are worked into the SC of the row below, and your SC are worked into the DC of the row below.

Round 6 - 10 - Repeat rounds 4 & 5, switching colours with every round. At the end of round 10, join with a SLST to the first stitch, switching back to colour A in the SL ST. We will be working with colour A to finish the bauble so you can cut off your colour B and weave in your ends. Before starting your decreases tighten the magic ring and fasten off that tail. CH1 and **turn your work** (24)

Round 11 - Repeat round 5. Join with a SL ST to the first stitch, CH1 and **turn your work** (24)

** INSERT YOUR BAUBLE ** - we will be working around the bauble from now on as we close. Remove the metal top to make it easier to work around the ball.

Round 12 - *DC2TOG over the first 2 stitches, SC2TOG over the next 2 stitches. Repeat from * around. (12) At the end of the round, cut a long tail, pull it out through your stitch. Thread it onto your yarn needle and weave it through the tops of each stitch. Pull tight and FO.

Finishing - Replace the metal top of your bauble and decorate as you desire with ribbon, moss or greenery.