

Granny Squares Make Great Pencil Cases!



This project is rated as an Easy project – especially if you are familiar with basic crochet stitches. If you are new to crochet, this pattern is a great beginner pattern, but does not explain the crochet stitches used.

Required:

- 3.50mm Crochet hook
- 50 g of yarn – cotton or wool; 2 ply or 3ply only.
- Buttons for closure.
- Plastic yarn sewing needle
- Thread and needle for sewing on buttons
- Scissors

Note before you start:

There is no real way to complete the project. Below are two different approaches to making a granny square pencil case. Please experiment and put your own personal stamp on your granny square pencil case project. Also note that the pink pencil case shown in the picture included a hand painted fabric. This is not required – use whatever fabric you desire to complete this project and if you do want to use hand painted fabric, trace your pattern onto the fabric using a light pencil. Paint over your design using a fine paintbrush and acrylic craft paint. Iron to set the paint when it is dry. Cut and sew as described in the pattern.

To Crochet the Granny Squares in 2 ply Yarn

1. Ch 5. Attach last stitch of chain to first stitch by sl st, creating a circle.
2. Ch 3. *dc 4 stitches in the center of the circle. Ch 2. Repeat from* until you have 4 groups of 4 dc stitches then attach using a sl st to join last ch 2 to the 3rd ch st beginning this row.
3. Ch 3. *dc in next 4 stitches. 2 dc, ch 2, 2 dc in loop created by the ch 2 of the previous row. Repeat from* until you work your way around the square back to the original ch 3 of this row. Attach by sl st.
4. Ch 3. dc in next 4 stitches. *2dc, ch 2. 2 dc in loop created by the ch 2 of the previous row. *dc in next 8 st. Repeat from * until you return around the square past the last corner. dc in next 3 st and connect to the original ch3 by sl st to complete the square.
5. Ch 3. dc in next 7 stitches. *2dc, ch 2. 2 dc in loop created by the ch 2 of the previous row. dc in next 12 stitches. Repeat from * until you return around the square past the last corner. dc in next 5 st and connect to the original ch3 by sl st to complete the square. knot and cut yarn

How to Finish the Vintage Ecru Pencil Case:

1. Complete 6 granny squares as described above.
2. Using the Plastic yarn sewing needle and another piece of the yarn used to crochet the granny squares, sew 3 squares in a row, making sure all right sides are facing the same way, whip stitching through the top of each stitch. Knot and cut yarn
3. Pick up the crochet hook again and hdc in each stitch around the whole row of 3 granny squares to form an edging. knot and cut yarn

4. Repeat steps 2 and 3 using the remaining 3 squares.
5. Ensuring that the right sides of your granny squares are facing each other, Sew the two groups of three together side by side on three sides (the 2 short sides and one long side, leaving the other long side open for the case opening) just as you previously sewed the granny square strips together. knot and cut yarn
6. Turn sewn granny squares right side out so that your sewing is hiding in the inside of the case.
7. Steam iron the case flat, being careful not to touch the iron to the crochet work with any pressure.
8. Picking up the crochet hook again, sl st in 4 stitches at the sides of the pencil case where you wish to put the handle. ch 3, *hdc in next 3 st, ch 3 turn. Repeat from * until the strap handle is as long as you wish, approximately the width of the case. Attach the end of the handle to the opposite side of the case with 4 sl st. knot and cut yarn.
9. Use the plastic needle to weave yarn ends into your work.
10. Using thread and needle, starting at the opening of the case whipstitch trim onto the case following along the seam around the case between granny square 1 and 2 around to the other opening side of the case. Before knotting your thread, fold the trim back to form a loop, stitch down, knot and cut thread.
11. Repeat step 10 stitching trim following the seam between granny square 2 and 3 around the case.
12. Sew buttons on opening side opposite side of loop to finish closure for the case. knot and cut thread.

To Crochet the Granny Squares in 3 ply Yarn:

1. Ch 5. Attach last stitch of chain to first stitch by sl st, creating a circle.
2. Ch 3. *dc 3 stitches in the center of the circle. Ch 2. Repeat from* until you have 4 groups of 3 dc stitches then attach using a sl st to join last ch 2 to the 3rd ch st beginning this row.
3. Ch 3. *dc in next 3 stitches. 2 dc, ch 2, 2 dc in loop created by the ch 2 of the previous row. Repeat from* until you work your way around the square back to the original ch 3 of this row. Attach by sl st.
4. Ch 3. dc in next 3 stitches. *2dc, ch 2. 2 dc in loop created by the ch 2 of the previous row. *dc in next 7 st. Repeat from * until you return around the square past the last corner. dc in next 3 st and connect to the original ch3 by sl st to complete the square.

How to Finish the Funky Pink Case:

1. Complete 6 granny squares as described above.
2. Using the Plastic yarn sewing needle and another piece of the yarn used to crochet the granny squares, sew 3 squares in a row, making sure all right sides are facing the same way, whip stitching through the top of each stitch. Knot and cut yarn

3. Pick up the crochet hook again, using the same yarn as in the granny squares, and hdc in each stitch around the whole row of 3 granny squares to form an edging. knot and cut yarn
4. Repeat steps 2 and 3 using the remaining 3 squares.
5. Ensuring that your granny squares are facing away from each other and laying on top of one another, use sc in each stitch to 'sew' the two strips of granny squares together on 3 sides (2 short and one long side leaving the other long side as the pencil case opening). knot and cut yarn.
6. Using same yarn as granny squares, ch 5. sl st together at ends to form a circle. sl st circle to case as button loops where you wish the button closures to be. Knot and cut yarn (In the example, the three loops are placed at the centre of each of the three granny squares at the front of the case. Repeat until all 3 button loops are completed.
7. To form the top flap of the case, cut two rectangles of fabric to match the length of the case, and the width you desire for the flap (making sure that the flap will reach your button loops).
8. Using either a sewing machine or needle and thread, sew the rectangle together, right sides facing, almost completely around the rectangle, leaving a space only large enough to turn the rectangle right side out. Pin the open area of the rectangle as if it were sewn like the rest of the rectangle (to be stitched after ironing).
9. Steam iron the rectangle flat.
10. Stitch the open area closed. knot and cut thread.
11. Using a sewing machine or needle and thread, sew the back of the flap to the back side of the pencil case, so that the right side of the flap faces up, and the seam joining the case and flap is on the inside of the case. knot and cut thread.
12. Using needle and thread sew buttons in place on the flap to match the crocheted button loops. knot and cut thread
13. Picking up the crochet hook again, sl st 1 stitches onto the top corner of the pencil case where you wish to put the handle. ch as many stitches as required to make the handle strap as long as you wish. ch 1 more and turn. sc back along the chain and sl st the chain at the same stitch you started the chain. knot and cut yarn.
14. Use the plastic needle to weave yarn ends into your work.