



## 2024 Temperature Blanket Stitch-a-Long

with NOAA Central Library

# Crochet Instructions

The instructions provided here will produce a blanket with simple horizontal stripes. This pattern is ideal for beginners. We are basing the pattern on the [Temperature Blanket \(Crochet\) pattern](#) by Lion Brand Yarn.

Before you begin, you will need to choose the size of the blanket you want to make. We have provided instructions for three different sizes: small (baby/pet blanket), medium (throw blanket), and large (full/queen blanket).

There are three ways to make your design more complex:

- Using a different stitch other than the single crochet stitch
- Constructing your blanket using a unique shape rather than horizontal rows
- Making a custom size

## Different Stitches

When choosing a more complex stitch pattern, look for a stitch that will complement the color stripes rather than clash with them. Some examples are:

- Slip stitch ([Sarah Maker/Crochet Guru YouTube Video](#))
- Linen stitch ([Crochet 365 Knit Too/Fiber Flux YouTube Video](#))
- Granny stitch ([My Crochet Space/Heart Hook Home YouTube Video](#))
- Crochet moss stitch/Granite stitch ([Heart Hook Home](#))
- Puff stitch ([The Spruce Crafts/Rich Textures Crochet YouTube Video](#))
- Single crochet mesh stitch ([Rich Textures Crochet](#))
- Shell stitch ([Sarah Maker/Bella Coco YouTube Video](#))
- Treble shell stitch ([Smart Knit Crocheting/Fiber Flux YouTube Video](#))



## Unique Construction

Another way to customize your blanket is to use a more complex pattern construction rather than horizontal stripes. Some of these shapes work especially well if you are using temperature highs and lows for your project. Here are some free patterns you can use for inspiration:

- Mitred squares temperature blanket ([Ravelry link](#))
- Corner to corner blanket ([Ravelry link](#))
- Temperature comforter with scalloped edges ([Ravelry link](#))
- Linen Square Temperature Blanket ([Ravelry link](#))

## Creating a Custom Size

### Typical Blanket Sizes:

- Baby/Pet Blanket: 22-40 inches wide, 30-50 inches long
- Throw Blanket: 44-60 inches wide, 48-65 inches long
- Full/Queen Blanket: 85-90 inches wide, 90-100 inches long

If you haven't yet chosen the yarn you want to use but you know that you want to make a blanket of a certain size, the **Yarn Weight x Blanket Size** chart below should give you a rough idea of how many stitches will probably be needed per row in each different weight of yarn. However, you still need to make a gauge swatch because everyone crochets slightly differently and your swatch may differ from the standards in the chart.

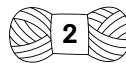
Once you've chosen your yarn, choose a hook size to match - suggestions for this are also given in the chart below.

When you have your hook and yarn, it's time to make a swatch! Follow the instructions in the next section to create a swatch. Once your swatch is done, you're ready to move onto the next step.

Let's say you want to make a small blanket that is roughly 45 inches wide by 60 inches long.

To calculate the width of your blanket (i.e., the number of stitches to chain initially):

1. Count the number of stitches across 4 inches in the middle of your swatch.
2. Divide that number of stitches by 4 to get the number of stitches you have per inch.
3. Multiply your number of stitches per inch by 45 to get the number of stitches you'll need to chain to achieve a 45 inch wide blanket.



To calculate the height of your blanket (i.e., the number of rows you'll need to crochet):

1. Count the number of rows in 4 inches along the middle of your swatch.
2. Divide that number of rows by 4 to get the number of rows per inch.
3. Multiply your number of rows per inch by 60 to get the number of rows you'll need to crochet to achieve a 60 inch long blanket.

If you already know how many rows you want to do (e.g. 366, or one for each day in 2024), and you want to know how long your blanket will be, your calculation for height will be as follows:

1. Count the number of rows in 4 inches along the middle of your swatch.
2. Divide 4 by that number of rows to get the inches per single row. For example, if you measured 16 rows per 4 inches, divide 4 by 16, which gives you 0.25 inches per row.
3. Multiply that inches per row number by the number of rows you want to crochet in total. In our example, we'd multiply 0.25 by 366 and get a total length of 91.5 inches.

If you don't want to do any of this math yourself (we don't blame you!), there are project size calculators that you can use instead, such as [this one from Stitch Fiddle](#).

## Creating a Swatch to Size Your Blanket

We highly recommend creating a gauge swatch so you will have an idea of how long and wide your blanket will be, especially if you are working without a pattern.

Use the same yarn and hook, as well as the same stitch pattern you'll use for your finished blanket, to create your swatch. Even though we'll only be measuring across 4 inches, you'll want your swatch to be at least slightly larger than that because edge stitches can get distorted and may give you an inaccurate count.



If you create a swatch that does not match what you want (like the gauge from your pattern), then you will either need to adjust your crochet hook size or your yarn weight. If your swatch has too many stitches per inch, increase the size of your hook and/or your yarn weight. If your swatch has too few stitches per inch, decrease the size of your hook and/or yarn weight.

Note: The height of a crochet swatch will depend on the stitch being used: double crochet is taller than single crochet, triple crochet is taller than double crochet, etc. For this reason, the crochet gauges given below are only for width and not height. If you are working with a pattern, your pattern should tell you how many rows to expect per four inches in addition to how many stitches.



### Yarn Weight x Blanket Size Chart

	Small Blanket	Medium Blanket	Large Blanket
<b>Fingering (Super Fine)</b>	32" wide	54" wide	85" wide
Stitches to chain*	168-256	284-432	446-680
Hook size*	B-1 to E-4 (2.25-3.25 mm)	B-1 to E-4 (2.25-3.25 mm)	B-1 to E-4 (2.25-3.25 mm)
<b>Sport (Fine)</b>	32" wide	54" wide	85" wide
Stitches to chain*	128-160	216-270	340-425
Hook size*	E-4 to 7 (3.5-4.5 mm)	E-4 to 7 (3.5-4.5 mm)	E-4 to 7 (3.5-4.5 mm)
<b>DK (Light)</b>	32" wide	54" wide	85" wide
Stitches to chain*	96-136	162-230	255-361
Hook size*	7 to I-9 (4.5-5.5 mm)	7 to I-9 (4.5-5.5 mm)	7 to I-9 (4.5-5.5 mm)
<b>Worsted (Medium)</b>	32" wide	54" wide	85" wide
Stitches to chain*	88-112	149-189	234-298
Hook size*	I-9 to K-10.5 (5.5-6.5 mm)	I-9 to K-10.5 (5.5-6.5 mm)	I-9 to K-10.5 (5.5-6.5 mm)
<b>Bulky/Chunky</b>	32" wide	54" wide	85" wide
Stitches to chain*	64-88	108-149	170-234
Hook size*	K-10.5 to M-13 (6.5-9 mm)	K-10.5 to M-13 (6.5-9 mm)	K-10.5 to M-13 (6.5-9 mm)
<b>Super Bulky</b>	32" wide	54" wide	85" wide
Stitches to chain*	56-72	95-122	149-191
Hook size*	M-13 and up (9 mm and up)	M-13 and up (9 mm and up)	M-13 and up (9 mm and up)

Standard gauge measurements taken from [Craft Yarn Council](https://www.craftyarncouncil.com)

\* These are presented as ranges because each person crochets differently. To find out exactly how many stitches you'll need to chain, you will need to make a swatch with your yarn and hook and measure it according to the instructions.



## Pattern Instructions

This will be a large throw size blanket (approximately 60 x 80 inches).

### Materials

- Worsted weight yarn in several different colors, according to your color palette
- Crochet hook, US H (5.5 mm)
- Scissors
- Tapestry needle (not needed until end of project)
- Stitch markers (optional)

1. With the color for your first day's temperature, chain 250 stitches. Tip: place a stitch marker on every 20th stitch, so that you don't have to count all the way up to 250 from zero.
2. Single crochet in every chain across. Turn.
3. With the color for your second day (if it's a different color), make a slip stitch into the first stitch of the row and chain 1. This attaches your new color. Cut your old color, leaving a 3-4 inch tail.
4. With your new color, single crochet into each stitch across. Turn.
5. Repeat steps 3 and 4, changing color as needed, until you've crocheted one row for each day of the year.
6. Cut your last color, leaving a 3-4 inch tail. Weave this end into your last crochet row, so that it doesn't come loose easily.
7. Weave in all the other ends left by your colors. You can also do this as you go, rather than all at once at the end, if that is your preference.
8. Your blanket is now finished! Give it a wash (according to the instructions on your yarn) and enjoy!



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