

Gems of Hope

by Heather Athebyne

This shawl is dedicated to anyone who has directly or indirectly been hurt by domestic abuse.

Gemstone and crown motifs remind the recipient that she or he is more precious than diamonds. Almond blossoms, an ancient symbol of hope, represent the process of healing and renewal.

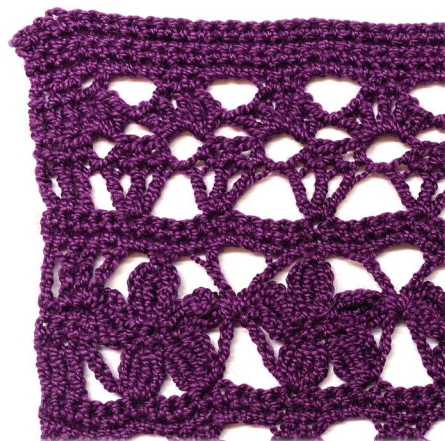
This rectangular shawl can be sized up or down and worked in any weight of yarn. As written, mine worked up and blocked out to 65" x 21".

Tools and materials

Yarn: 930 yd sport weight yarn in a fiber which will block well

Hook: H hook, or size needed for gauge

Gauge: See Gauge Swatch below



Notes

This pattern uses US crochet terms.

In sc rows, ch1 does not count as sc. In all other rows, beginning chains count as a stitch.

Foundation single crochet (fsc) instructions:

<https://www.craftsy.com/crocheting/article/foundation-single-crochet-how-to/>

If you are working from the charts, I recommend referring to both the chart and the written instructions for the almond blossom section. The chart is somewhat complicated, and while I have done my best to make it clear, some parts are likely to be confusing the first time around.

Gauge swatch

Gauge is not critical to this pattern, but will affect how much yarn you use and how the gem and blossom patterns look. I recommend swatching to ensure the patterns look nice to you at your gauge. (However, I rarely swatch for projects with flexible gauge, so do what works best for you!)

To make a gauge swatch, ch 26 loosely or fsc 25. Work setup rows 1-4, then one gem section (3 gems) and one almond blossom section (2 blossoms). Finish with an additional two sc rows, then wash and block firmly, opening up the lacy gem section without overstretching the blossoms.

At my gauge, this swatch blocks to 6.5" x 6.5".

Instructions

Foundation row: Ch 260 loosely, or fsc 259. If you wish to resize the shawl, the stitch count should be a multiple of 18 plus 7.

1. turn and sc across if starting with ch; otherwise, fsc row counts as row 1.
- 2-4. ch1, turn, sc across. 259 sts.

Begin by working a gem section, then alternate between working almond blossom sections and gem sections for a total of 7 sections or until the piece is as large as you wish.

Gem section

Work 1 repeat of Gem Chart, or the following directions:

1. ch4, tr in next 2 sts, ch1, sk 3 sc,
*(tr, ch1, tr, ch1, tr) in next sc, ch1**, sk 5 sts,
repeat from * until 6 sts remain ending at **, ch1, sk 3 sts, 3 tr.
2. ch2, hdc in next 2 sts, ch2,
*(sk ch, hdc in tr, sk ch, hdc in tr, sk ch, hdc in tr**, ch3),
repeat from * until 4 sts remain ending at **, ch2, sk next ch, 3 hdc.
3. ch3, dc in next 2 sts, (dc, ch1, dc, ch1, dc) in next ch2 sp,
*(ch1, sk 3 hdc, [dc, ch1] 4 times in next ch3 sp, dc in same ch3 sp – crown made),
repeat from * until no ch3 sps remain, ch1, (dc, ch1, dc, ch1, dc) in next ch2 sp, 3dc.
4. ch2, hdc in next 2 sts, ch1, hdc in first ch1 sp,
*(ch3, sc in second ch sp of next crown, ch1, sc in third ch sp of same crown),
repeat from * until no crowns remain, ch3, sk 2 ch1 sps, hdc in last ch1 sp, ch1, 3hdc.

Continue with a sc border:

7. ch1, turn, sc across, working 1 sc in ch1 sps and 3 sc in ch3 sps.
8. ch1, turn, sc across. If working an Almond Blossom section next, unobtrusively decrease 1 st for a total of 258 sts.

Almond blossom section

Begin working from row 1 of Almond Blossom Chart, or the following directions:

1. ch4, tr in next 2 sts, ch4, sk 2 sc, sl st in third sc,
*(ch4, 3 tr cluster in same sc as sl st, sk 3 sc, 3 tr cluster in fourth sc, ch4, sl st in same sc as second 3 tr cluster**, ch 8, sk 4 sc, sl st in fifth sc),
repeat from * until 5 sts remain ending at **, ch4, sk 2 sc, 3 tr.
Tip: There are two blossoms for every three gems. If each group of two blossoms visually lines up with a group of three gems, as shown in the photo, you're on the right track.
2. ch1, turn, 3sc,
*(ch4, sc in top of next ch4, sc in each of next 2 3 tr clusters, ch4**, sc in ch8 sp),
repeat from * ending at **, sc in each of last 3 tr.
3. ch1, turn, sc in next 3 sts, sk ch4 sp,
*(2 tr cluster in next sc, ch4, sl st in same sc, sl st in next sc, ch4, 2 tr cluster in same sc, ch4, sl st in same sc, sl st in next sc, ch4, 2 tr cluster in same sc**, sl st in next sc [in ch8 sp]),
repeat from * ending at **, sc in each of last 3 sc.
4. ch4, turn, tr in next 2 sc, ch1, tr in same sc as previous tr, ch2,
*(sc in top of center petal 2 tr cluster**, ch1, tr into next ch8 sp from row 1, ch4, tr into same ch8 sp from row 1, ch1),
repeat from * ending at **, ch2, tr into third to last sc, ch1, tr into same sc, tr into each of last 2 sc.

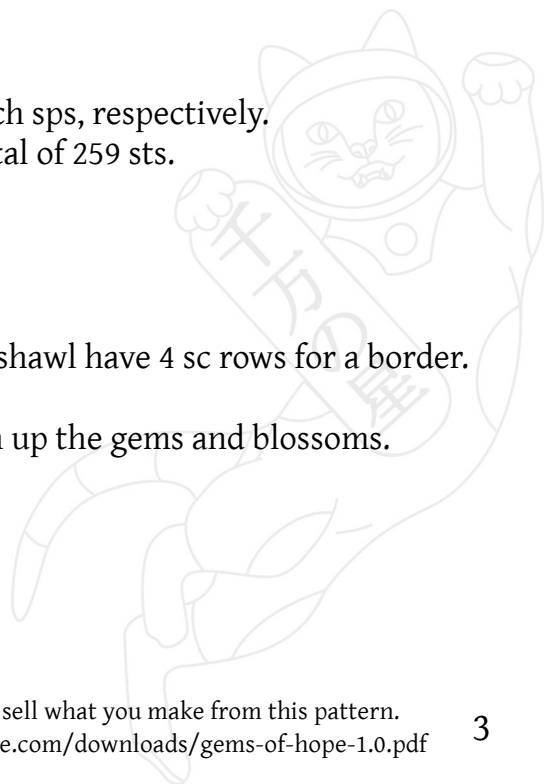
Continue with a sc border:

5. ch1, turn, sc across, working 1, 2, and 4 sc in 1, 2, and 4 ch sps, respectively.
6. ch1, turn, sc across. Unobtrusively increase 1 st for a total of 259 sts.

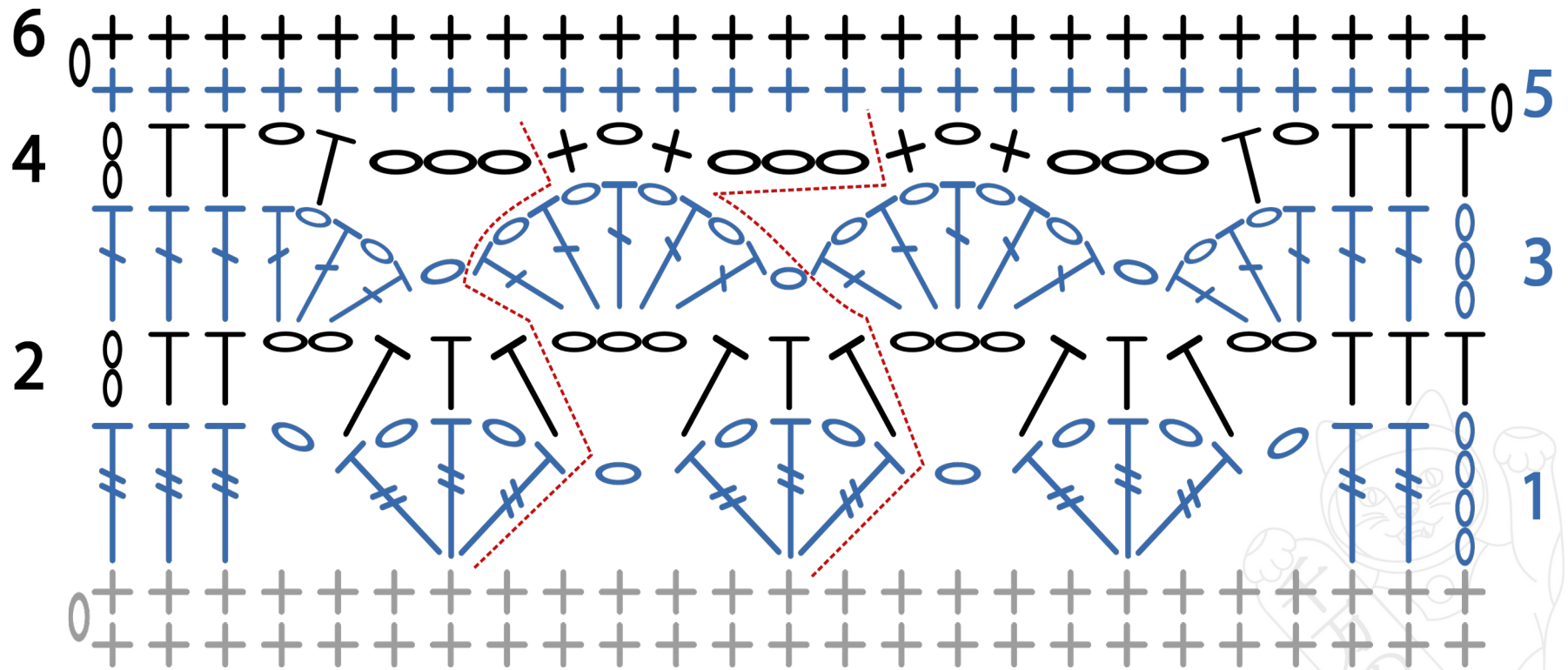
Finishing

Work two final sc rows, so that the top and bottom of the shawl have 4 sc rows for a border.

Fasten off and weave in ends. Block firmly enough to open up the gems and blossoms.

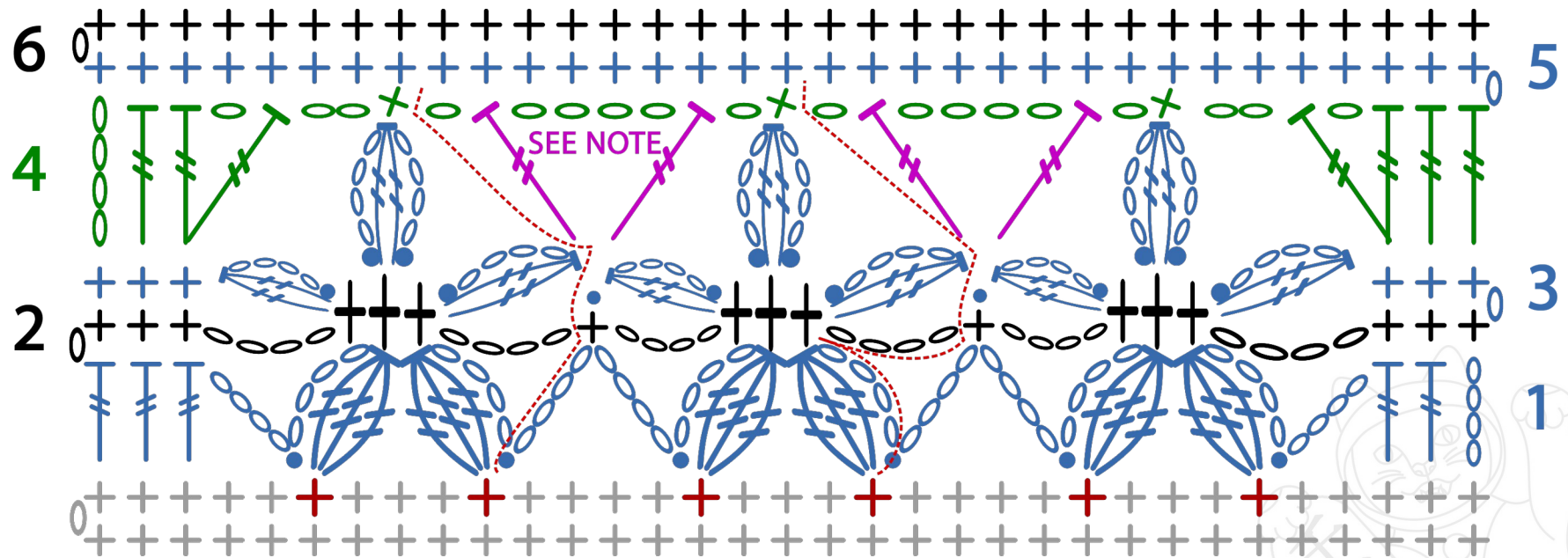


Gem Chart



- ch - chain
- sl st - slip stitch
- + sc - single crochet
- ┆ hdc - half double crochet
- ┆ dc - double crochet
- ┆ tr - treble crochet
- ⌢ cl2tr - 2 tr cluster
- ⌢ cl3tr - 3 tr cluster

Almond Blossom Chart



Note for Row 1: Work the sl sts and 3 tr clusters into the same sc, marked in red on the chart.

Note for Row 4: Work the marked trs (those worked between the top petals) into the ch8 from row 1 below, rather than into clusters from row 3. This cannot be clearly shown on the chart, but it will nicely shape the side petals of the blossoms.

Gift Tags

Print this page on cardstock. Cut out the tag you want on the outside lines, and fold in half.

