

Daffodil square © 2004: designed by Sarah Cage for the Knitting & Crochet Guild

Worked on 5 needles for ease (makes a more obvious square) and worked in the round. I knit loosely, and used 4-ply thickness yarn single on size 13 needles. Four variations – petals and background all the same colour, then embroidered to emphasize the edge of the petals; or with two colours in the body of the square; and started with either normal or picot cast on. The lumpy cotton seemed thinner so I used that double (in B1 version).

Directions are given for one needle (repeat 4 times) unless otherwise specified. Starts from the daffodil trumpet.

Abbreviations: 0 means make a stitch by taking the wool over the needle. Work this as a normal stitch (not twisted) in the next row. k means k 1 st and p means p 1 st, unless followed by a number. s means slip one.

Trumpet – follow directions A (normal cast on) or B (picot cast on):

A (The simplest) Cast on 48 on 4 needles (in main trumpet colour or a contrast edge colour)

K 1 round

Repeat 0 p2 tog all along next round

K 1 round

Change to main trumpet colour if required

On each needle

(p 2 tog) x6

B Do a picot cast on to give 24 stitches on 4 needles (in contrast colour if required).

i.e. Put one loop on the left hand needle, cast on two more by knitting into the back of the stitch, then knit and cast off two stitches. Put the remaining loop on to the left hand needle, and repeat (11 times). Then pick up and p two stitches from the base of each picot in main trumpet colour

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After either cast on, work in k1p1 rib for 6 rounds for trumpet (more or less as required). Then **on each needle:**

(s k2 tog pss0) x2

### Petals

change to petal colour if required. **On each needle:**

0k0k

p1 k3

0 k 0 k 0 k 0 k

pkp k5

pkp k2 0k0 k2

pkp k7

p0k0p k3 0k0 k3

p k3 p k9

p k3 p k4 0k0 k4

p k3 p k11

p k 0k0 k p k5 0k0 k5

p k5 p k13

p k2 0k0 k2 p k6 0k0 k6

p k7 p k15\*\*\*

If background and petal colours are the same, (for A1 or B1) continue as follows, otherwise continue from \*\*\* on next page.

Transfer first stitch on each needle to end of preceding needle

k3 0k0 k3 p 0 k2tog k11 k2 togtbl 0 p

k9 p2 k13 p2

k4 0k0 k4 p2 0 k2tog k9 k2 togtbl 0 p2

k11 p3 k11 p3

0 k2tog k7 k2togtbl 0 p 0 p2 0 k2tog k7 k2togtbl 0 p2 0 p

p k9 p6 k9 p5

0 p 0 k2tog k5 k2togtbl 0 p (0 p2tog) x2 0 p 0 k2tog k5 k2togtbl 0 p (0 p2tog) x2

p3 k7 p9 k7 p6

0 p2tog 0 p 0 k2tog k3 k2togtbl 0 p (0 p2tog) x3 0 p2 0 k2tog k3 k2togtbl 0 p2 (0 p2tog) x2

p5 k5 p12 k5 p7

(0 p2tog) x2 0 p 0 k2tog k k2togtbl 0 p (0 p2tog) x5 0 p 0 k2tog k k2togtbl 0 p (0 p2tog) x3

p7 s k2 tog pss0 p15 s k2 tog pss0 p8

This gives an octagon with the daffodil and a lace infill. To convert the octagon to a square, you need to do four corners in short row knitting as follows:

\*\*p (p2 tog 0) x3 k (0 p2tog) x3 p turn

s k13, slip last st onto previous needle, turn

s first st onto previous needle p (p2 tog 0) x2 k (0 p2tog) x2 p turn

s k9, slip last st onto previous needle, turn

s first st onto previous needle p p2 tog 0 k 0 p2tog p turn



s k5, slip last st onto previous needle, turn  
s first st onto previous needle p onto previous needle  
with a new needle 0 k 0 p remaining 24 st on needle, and continue from \*\* moving sts from next  
needle, so each needle has 33 sts, and starts with 0k0

**Border.** To keep the corners at the end of the needle, you need to transfer 1 st on alternate rounds  
(otherwise you would have a spiral of increases).

p first stitch on to last needle, then p (0 p2 tog) x7 s p2 tog pss0 (p2tog 0)x7  
0k0 p to end

Then do a garter stitch border if necessary to fit the required size – do one row k, followed by  
p first stitch on to last needle then (0k0 p to end, p first stitch from next needle) for 3 needles, 0k0 p  
to end for last needle. I only needed one repeat to fit the square.

Cast off loosely. I found that a d.c. crochet gave the right amount of stretch

Work chain stitch in contrast colour through the “over” loops round the edge of the petals to outline.

**With background in a different colour (A2 in picture)**

Start as previous square, as far as \*\*\* but using a different colour than the background for the petals

p k3 0k0 k3 p k2tog k11 k2 togtbl p

p k9 p k13

p k4 0k0 k4 p k2tog k9 k2 togtbl

Then finish the petal points:

To finish first (big) petal

Turn. p 13 and work on just these sts

\*\*\*\*Repeat the rows:

0 k2tog k to last 2 st k2togtbl

0 p2togtbl p to last 2 st p 2 tog

until 5 st remain

k2 tog k k2togtbl

s p2tog pss0 and leave last st on a safety pin.

Break off yarn and with wrong side facing join to next left (small) petal

p2togtbl p9 p2tog, turn

then continue as from \*\*\*\*

Repeat this for each needle, giving the basic daffodil.

**Background infill.** Worked by picking up the “0” stitches from the edge of the petals, working  
round each small petal to make the shape square rather than octagonal.

With right side facing, start from left of small petal and pick up 5 st up one side of petal then st from  
safety pin then 5 st down the other side.

Join the (background colour) yarn in at this point, and work k (0k2 0) x2 k (into stitch from safety pin)  
(0k2 0) x2 k k last loop with first loop on next big petal (17 sts including “over” loops). Turn

Next and alt rows\*: s p to last st, p this st with first loop on next big petal. Turn

S p 0 (p2tog 0) x3 k 0 (p2tog 0) x3 p k last st tbl with first loop on next big petal. Turn

\*

S p2 0 (p2tog 0) x3 k 0 (p2tog 0) x3 p2 k last st tbl with first loop on next big petal. Turn

\*

S p 0 (p2tog 0) x4 k 0 (p2tog 0) x4 p k last st tbl with first loop on next big petal. Turn

\*

S p2 0 (p2tog 0) x4 k 0 (p2tog 0) x4 p2 k last st tbl with first loop on next big petal. Turn

S p12 on last needle, p 11, p last st with first loop on next big petal, p st from safety pin.

Break off yarn; with right side facing repeat this round the next small petal to the right.

When all four corners have been worked, break off yarn and slip the last set of stitches on to the first  
needle. Rejoin yarn at one corner, and work border all round:

0k0 (p2tog 0) x5 p 0 s k2tog pss0 0 p (0 p2tog) x5

Next and alt rounds: \*\* k to end, k first st from next needle

0k0 (p2tog 0) x6 p 0 k 0 p (0 p2tog) x6

\*\*

0k0 (p2tog 0) x7 pkp (0 p2tog) x7

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**Border:** Do a garter stitch border if necessary to fit the required size, as before – one row k, then p  
first stitch on to last needle (0k0 p to end, p first stitch from next needle) for 3 needles, 0k0 p to end  
for last needle.

Cast off loosely. I found that using crochet (d.c.) gave the right amount of stretch.