

## Armoured Shawl

A daft name for a shawl I know, but these heavily textured triangles put me in mind of the tough shell on a tortoise. The crochet version may not protect you from attack but it'll certainly keep you warm.



### Bits and Bobs

First of all, the yarn. Although the finished shawl is thick and heavy, it was crocheted with thin yarn.



I used 400 g of Crazy Zauberball (420 m / 100 g) in shade 2170, a lovely mix of pastel shades called Blasser Schimmer. I worked with a 4 mm hook and my shawl is made up of 49 triangles.

The finished shawl measures about 56 cm deep, both front and back and is about 66 cm wide (22 × 26"). Tension is not vital for this pattern but you might like to know that my triangles were 15 cm tall and 18 cm wide (6 and 7").

This pattern uses British crochet terms:

tr = US dc

dc = US sc

## **The Triangles**

These are worked in rounds from the centre out.

Work 5ch and join with a ss to make a ring.

**Round 1:** 3ch, 4tr into ring, 2ch, (5 tr, 2ch) twice,  
join with ss to top of 3ch (5 sts on each side).

Work a ss into the next tr. The first stitch of the next round will be worked round the post of the next treble; this is the middle stitch of the group of five.

**Round 2:** 3ch, RtrF, RtrB, RtrF, 2tr, 2ch, 2tr in corner,  
\*RtrF, (RtrB, RtrF) twice, 2tr, 2ch, 2tr in corner,  
repeat from \* once more, RtrF,  
join with a ss to top of 3ch (9 sts on each side).

**Round 3:** 3ch, RtrF, (RtrB, RtrF) twice, 2tr, 2ch, 2tr in corner,  
\*RtrF, (RtrB, RtrF) four times, 2tr, 2ch, 2tr in corner,  
repeat from \* once more, RtrF, RtrB, RtrF,  
join with a ss to top of 3ch (13 sts on each side).

**Round 4:** 3ch, RtrF, (RtrB, RtrF) three times, 2tr, 2ch, 2tr in corner,  
\*RtrF, (RtrB, RtrF) six times, 2tr, 2ch, 2tr in corner,  
repeat from \* once more, RtrF, (RtrB, RtrF) twice,  
join with a ss to top of 3ch (17 sts on each side).

**Round 5:** 3ch, RtrF, (RtrB, RtrF) four times, 2tr, 2ch, 2tr in corner,  
\*RtrF, (RtrB, RtrF) eight times, 2tr, 2ch, 2tr in corner,  
repeat from \* once more, RtrF, (RtrB, RtrF) three times,  
join with a ss to top of 3ch (21 sts on each side).

**Round 6:** 3ch, RtrF, (RtrB, RtrF) five times, 2tr, 2ch, 2tr in corner,  
\*RtrF, (RtrB, RtrF) ten times, 2tr, 2ch, 2tr in corner,  
repeat from \* once more, RtrF, (RtrB, RtrF) four times,  
join with a ss to top of 3ch and fasten off.  
(25 sts on each side).

That all looks very complicated but the pattern is repetitive and simple to learn once you get going.

Your triangle isn't quite finished yet; it needs its ric rac edging. I wanted this edging to contrast with the triangles a bit so I crocheted two triangles, then added to the edging to the first one. After the third triangle I worked the edging on the second one and so on. This meant that the edging was generally a different colour to the triangle.



### **The Edging**

I made this up as I went along so some of the stitches aren't standard ones. You'll just have to follow my instructions blindly and have faith in me.

Join the yarn round the post of the last treble before a corner and work a RdcF round this stitch; note that it's a double crochet, not a treble.

\* \* \* \*

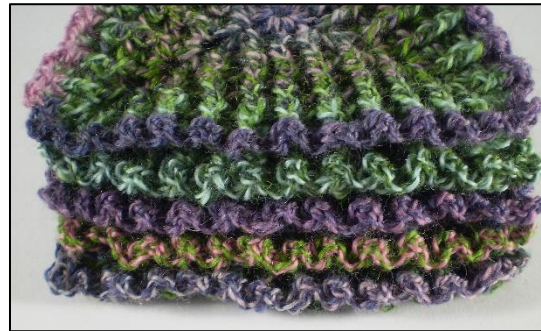
Next work dc, 3ch, dc in the corner, RdcF round the next tr and 3ch. This is where I start making stitches up ...

\*Working into the space before the next treble post, insert hook from front to back, put the yarn over the hook and pull through, yarn over again and pull through 1 loop (2 loops on hook), insert the hook in the same space, yarn over and pull through, yarn over and pull through all 3 loops.

Honestly, it's quick and easy once your hands have learnt it.

RdcF round next treble, 3ch, repeat from \* to the last 2 trebles on the side, RdcF round the last treble and that's that side finished. Now you can start again from the line of asterisks above.

The round of edging will end with 3ch, joined to the RdcF before the corner and fastened off.

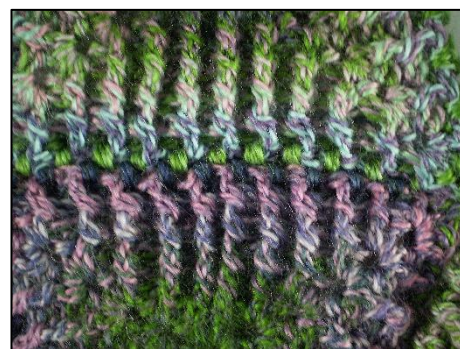


Here's the triangle, complete with its edging. You can see the ric rac effect when you look at the triangles from the side.

So, now you just have to make lots and lots of triangles. When you have 49 of them you can start sewing them together.

### **Joining the Triangles**

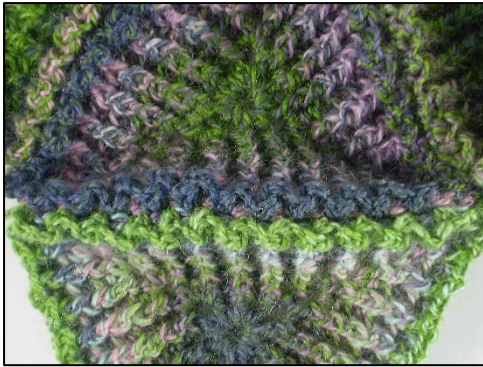
This turns the flat triangles into three dimensional shapes. I worked through the stems of the edging stitches which you can see on the wrong side of the triangles - they should show up nicely as they're in a different colour.



The stitches pull the edges together so that they interlock like the teeth on a zip.



And this is what it looks like from the front. The seams pull the edges of the triangles up, giving a deep, sculptural look to the crochet.



Anyway, back to the shawl. First sew 25 triangles together to make one big triangle; this will be the back of the shawl.



Now work on one of the two 'wings'; these will be joined to the two outside triangles at each side of the top edge. The middle triangle will be at the back of the neck when the shawl is worn. These wings are made up of four rows.

First add a row of four triangles to the two end triangles at the top of the shawl.



Then add a second row of four triangles on top of the first.



The third row has three triangles.



And the fourth row is just one triangle, sewn to the middle triangle of the third row.



Here's what the finished wing looks like. I've marked the rows so that it makes sense.

Now sew the remaining 12 triangles to the other side of the shawl in the same way. And that's it finished. When worn, those two wings will meet together at the front, making this a shawl that stays on.



## Abbreviations

ch	chain
ss	slip stitch
st / sts	stitch / stitches
tr	treble (US double crochet)
dc	double crochet (US single crochet)

RtrF	<u>Raised treble front</u> – work a treble round the stem of the next stitch, inserting the hook from the front to the back and then to the front again.
RtrB	<u>Raised treble back</u> – work a treble round the stem of the next stitch, inserting the hook from the back to the front and then to the back again.
RdcF	<u>Raised double crochet front</u> - work a double crochet round the stem of the next stitch, inserting the hook from the front to the back and then to the front again.

These raised stitches are called post stitches in the US but are worked in the same way.



© Frankie Brown, 2016.

My patterns are for personal use only and should not be used to knit items for sale.  
Please do not use them for teaching purposes without my permission.