

Crocheted Pocket Prayer Shawl with Cross Motif

Note from Kathy Dill, Co-chair of the Oakdale UMC Prayer Shawl Ministry:

Here is a pattern to crochet. The cross motif shows up better in a solid color rather than a variegated color. Choose yarns that are soft to the touch and not coarse feeling. The feel of the yarn should be soothing. Use quiet colors meant to be calming such as blue, green, soft yellow, tan, brown, pastels and soft shades. Do not use bright colors or neon colors as the purpose is to comfort and calm the receiver. You may embellish the pocket shawl with a tassel left plain, or add letter beads (threaded onto one string) that spell inspirational words.

Creating a spiritual setting:

Find a quiet place to sit and pray before you begin, and as you work on this project. Ask for healing, comfort, and guidance for the receiver. If you know who will receive it, say a specific prayer for the needs of that person.

Attach a tag to each (see our sample on this web site)

Place the pocket shawls on the altar for a blessing before giving it to the receiver. Your congregation may participate in a laying on of hands blessing, which will bring more meaning to the entire church membership and to the receiver.

Sandie's Filet Prayer Cloth

By Sandra Petit copyright 2008

Size: About 4" by 5"

Materials: G or H hook (or whatever size your yarn dictates), small amount of yarn, 4 ply worsted weight gives the size listed but you can actually use any weight if size doesn't matter.

Time to Complete: about 20 minutes

Note: If you prefer to have all the holes the same size, ch one less and do (ch 1, sk 1) instead of (ch 2, sk 2)

Abbreviations for both patterns: dc=double crochet, sc= single crochet, scs= plural single crochets, hdc= half- double crochet, sk= skip, tch= turning chain, st=stitch, sp= space, yo= yarn over

Directions:

Chain 16 (or 15 refer to note above)

Row 1: 1 dc in fourth chain from hook and in each chain across. Ch 2 and turn. (14 dc)

Row 2: 1 dc in each of the next 5 dc, ch 2, sk 2 dc, dc in each of the next 6 dc including tch, ch 2 and turn.

Row 3 through 5: repeat Row 2

Row 6: dc, (ch1,sk1, 1dc) twice, ch2, sk 2, 1dc, (ch1, sk1, 1dc) twice, 1 dc in tch, ch2 and turn.

Row 7: (1dc in next dc and in next ch-1 sp) twice, 1 dc in next dc, ch 2, sk 2, (dc in next dc and in next ch-1 sp) twice, dc in last two stitches, ch 2 and turn.

Row 8: Repeat Row 2

Row 9: dc in each st across, working 2 dc in ch-2 sp.

You will end on the right side. With either same yarn, or contrasting color, work border on this side.

Border: ch 1, sc around, at corners work (1sc, 1hdc, 1sc) or (1sc, ch2, 1sc) whatever keeps the corners from curling. Along the sides work 2 sc in the post of each dc and 1 sc in each st along the top and bottom. If your work does not lie flat, use a hook one size smaller for the border.

Pocket Prayer Shawl with Puffy Cross Motif

Sandie's Puff Stitch Prayer Cloth

By Sandra Petit copyright 2008

Materials: same as the Filet pattern

Note: The puffy part will be on the wrong side. Work your border on the same wrong side.

Puff Stitch Directions: yo, insert hook in next sc, yo, pull through (3 loops on the hook), yo, insert hook in the same sc, yo and pull through (5 loops on the hook), yo, insert hook in the same sc, yo, pull through (7 loops on the hook), yo and pull through ALL 7 loops.

Size: same as filet pattern (size of hook and type of yarn) Try for a 4 "by 5"

Directions:

Ch 14

Row 1: 1 sc in second chain from the hook and in each chain across, ch 1 and turn (13 sc)

Row 2: 1 sc in each of next 6 sc, puff stitch in next sc, 1 sc in each of the next 6 sc, ch 1 and turn.

Row 3: 1 sc in each st across, ch 1 and turn.

Row 4 through 9: Repeat Rows 2 and 3

Row 10: 1 sc in each of the first 2 scs, (puff stitch, sc) 5 times, 1 sc in last sc, chain 1 and turn.

Row 11: 1 sc across, ch1 and turn.

Row 12 through 15: Repeat Rows 2 and 3

You will end on the wrong side.

Border: Work your border on the wrong side and do it the same way as the Filet pattern directions.

Prayer Pocket Pattern

Created by Kathy Dill Copyright 2010

(See the photos attached to this web site.)

Purpose: The purpose of the Prayer Pocket is to hold prayer requests, be a reminder for what and who to pray for, and to encourage a prayer time each day.

Directions for its purpose: Write a prayer request or the name of someone you wish to pray for, on a small piece of paper. You could add the person's prayer need to the paper as well. Place this paper in the pocket to remind you what or who to pray for when you have your prayer time. This is good for adults and as well as children, as it gives a direction for prayer time and encourages daily prayer.

Hang it on the bed post or in an area that will remind you to prayer. More than one prayer request can be placed in the pocket. From time to time, take the prayer requests out of the pocket to review how these prayers have been answered.

Directions for construction:

The Prayer Pocket is created by sewing together 2 Pocket Prayer Shawls (with matching yarn) on 3 sides leaving the side at the top of the cross open so it looks like a bag. The knitted and crocheted Pocket Prayer Shawl patterns and photos of them are found in this website.

For a handle, using a crochet hook (G or H), make a chain of 21, sc in the 2nd chain and in each chain across (20 sc). Attach the handle to the top of the pocket, like a bag handle.

Make 3 tassels to hang, one in each corner of the bottom, and one in the center of the bottom. Each tassel is created by cutting 3 strands, each 12 inches long. Fold all 3 strand held together in half, and attach with a crochet hook by putting the hook into the bottom of the pocket, picking up the loop and pulling it through to the front, and pulling the tassel tail through the loop.

The 3 tassels represent the Trinity, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Using letter beads, string a word to each tassel. It could be "God Hears Prayers" or "Say Your Prayers" or other inspirational message. To keep the beads in place, make several knots in the same place beneath the word.

Attach a tag to each Prayer Pocket. (See our sample). Include these Prayer Pockets in your Prayer Shawl Blessing Service.



Prayer Pocket



Crocheted Puff Stitch Pocket Prayer Shawl



Crocheted Filet Pocket Prayer Shawl



Prayer Pocket



Prayer Pocket tassels