

Complete Crochet Tutorial: Dove Granny Square Motif (English)



DOVE IN SQUARE MOTIF

Step-by-Step Crochet Tutorial

Create a beautiful 3D dove with an olive branch inside a lacy square motif.



SIZE
Approx. 6.5 x 6.5 in
(16.5 x 16.5 cm)
with medium
weight yarn.

MATERIALS

- Worsted weight cotton yarn (yellow, cream, green, pink)
- 3.5 mm (E/4) crochet hook
- Tapestry needle
- Scissors
- Black bead (6 mm) for eye
- Stitch marker (optional)

LEGEND (US CROCHET TERMS)

- ch chain
- sl st slip stitch
- + sc single crochet
- T hdc half double crochet
- T dc double crochet
- T tr treble crochet
- T dtr double treble crochet
- T yc yarn over
-) work in same stitch
- bead/eye placement
- x skip stitch
- slip stitch join

DOVE PARTS OVERVIEW (from chart)

Dove Body: center
Head: upper left of body
Wing: right side
Tail: bottom
Olive Branch: in beak
Square Motif: lacy border



ABBREVIATIONS (US)

- ch = chain
- sl st = slip stitch
- sc = single crochet
- hdc = half double crochet
- dc = double crochet
- tr = treble crochet
- dtr = double treble crochet
- st(s) = stitch(es)
- sp = space
- rn(s) = round(s)
- sk = skip
- rep = repeat
- yo = yarn over

STEP-BY-STEP INSTRUCTIONS

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

Make the 3D dove first, then build the square motif around it.



DOVE - BODY (Center)

Rnd 1

Magic ring, ch 1, 6 sc in ring. Pull tight. Join with sl st to first sc. (6 sts)



Rnd 2

ch 1, 2 sc in each st around. Join. (12 sts)



Rnd 3

ch 1, *sc in next st, 2 sc in next st; rep around. Join. (18 sts)



Rnd 4

ch 1, *sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st; rep around. Join. (24 sts)



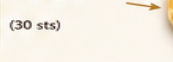
Rnd 5

ch 1, sc in each st around. Join. (24 sts)



Rnd 6

ch 1, *sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st; rep around. Join. (30 sts)



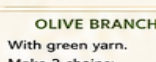
Rnd 7

ch 1, sc in each st around. Join. (30 sts)



HEAD

Rnd 8 (partial)
ch 1, sc in next 8 sts, sl st in next st, fasten off. (form head shape)



BEAK

With pink yarn, attach to head. ch 2, sl st in 2nd ch from hook, sc, hdc, fasten off.



WING (Right Side)

Join yarn at Rnd 5-6 on right side. Work in rows.

Row 1: ch 1, sc in next st, hdc in next, 2 dc in next, hdc in next, sc in next, sl st. (5 sts)
Fasten off.



WING (Rows 2-6)

Each row increases length with dc and tr.
Row 2: ch 1, hdc, dc, 2 tr, dc, hdc, sl st.
Row 3-6: repeat pattern, adding stitches to extend feathers.



TAIL (Bottom)

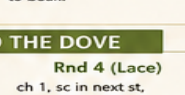
Join yarn at bottom.

Row 1: ch 1, 5 dc, sl st.
Row 2-5: increase stitches each row (dc and tr) to form fan tail.



OLIVE BRANCH

With green yarn. Make 2 chains:
Leaf: ch 5, sl st in 2nd ch from hook, sc, hdc, dc, sl st.
Make 6 leaves total. Attach branch to beak.



ASSEMBLE DOVE

Weave in all ends. Dove is now complete.



BUILDING THE SQUARE MOTIF AROUND THE DOVE

Rnd 1 (Around Dove)

Join yarn at bottom center. ch 1, sc evenly around dove, working into free stitches and spaces. Join. (approx. 60 sts)



Rnd 2 (Scallops)

ch 1, [sc, hdc, dc, hdc, sc] in next 5 sts, ch 2, skip 2 sts; rep around. Join.



Rnd 3 (Fans)

sl st into next ch-2 sp, ch 3, 2 dc, ch 1, 3 dc, in same sp (corner fan), ch 3, skip next scallop; rep around. Join.



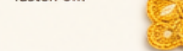
Rnd 4 (Lace)

ch 1, sc in next st, ch 5, sc in next st; rep around. Join.



Rnd 5 (Edge)

sl st into next ch-5 sp, [sc, hdc, dc, hdc, sc] in same sp, sc in next sc; rep around. Join and fasten off.



USUAL STITCH METHODS (DETAILED)

FINISHING

- Weave in all yarn ends.
- Gently block the motif to shape.
- Use as a square for blankets, pillows, bags, or wall art!

Chain (ch)

Yarn over, pull through loop.



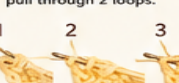
Slip Stitch (sl st)

Insert hook, yarn over, pull through both loops.



Single Crochet (sc)

Insert hook, yarn over, pull up loop, yarn over, pull through 2 loops.



Half Double (hdc)

Yarn over, insert hook, yarn over, pull up loop, yarn over, pull through all 3 loops.



Double Crochet (dc)

Yarn over, insert hook, yarn over, pull up loop, yarn over, pull through 2 loops, yarn over, pull through 2 loops.



Treble Crochet (tr)

Yarn over twice, insert hook, yarn over, pull up loop, [yarn over, pull through 2 loops] 3 times.



TIPS

- Keep tension even for a flat square.
- Use stitch markers to mark round beginnings.
- Block lightly to open up lace spaces.
- Try different colors for unique looks!

COLOR SUGGESTION



YOU DID IT!

Enjoy your handmade Dove in Square Motif!



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Introduction

This tutorial is based on the provided crochet chart and follows its structure as closely as possible. The design features a peaceful dove carrying an olive branch, surrounded by a decorative granny square border.

This pattern is written for crocheters who already know the basic crochet stitches and how to read symbol charts. Every section follows the chart carefully so you can recreate the motif from start to finish.

Skill Level: Intermediate

Finished Shape: Square Motif

Construction: Crochet the dove first, then the olive branch, wings, tail, and finally build the square around the bird.

Materials Needed

- Worsted Weight (#4) cotton yarn or your preferred yarn
- 4.0 mm (G-6) crochet hook (or hook appropriate for your yarn)
- Yarn needle
- Scissors
- Stitch markers (optional)

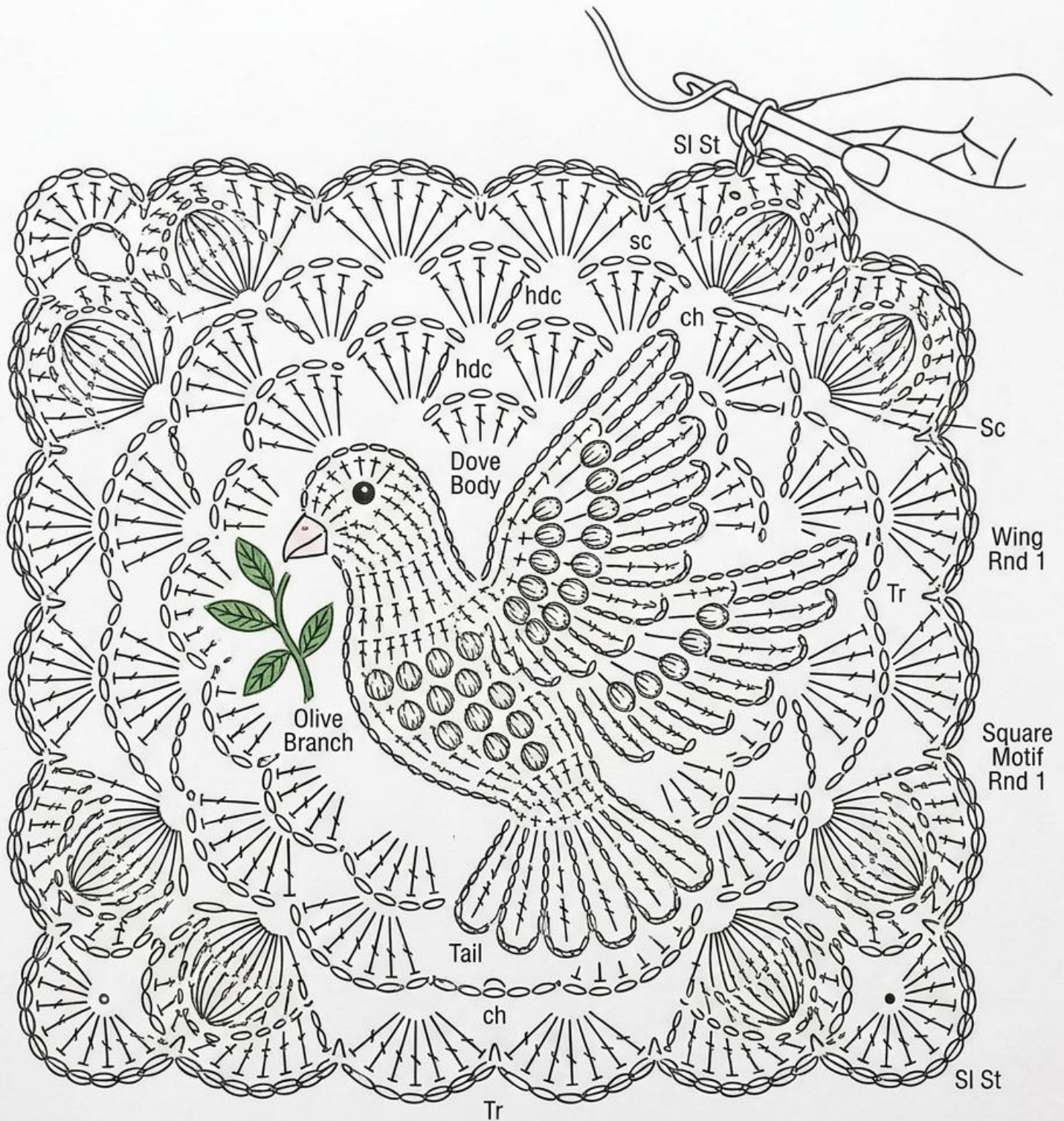
Suggested Colors

- White — Dove
- Olive Green — Leaves
- Brown or Light Green — Stem
- Cream or White — Background
- Yellow or Gold — Beak (optional)
- Black — Eye

Crochet Abbreviations

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- sl st — slip stitch
- sc — single crochet
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- dc — double crochet
- tr — treble crochet
- st — stitch
- sp — space
- rnd — round
- rep — repeat
- sk — skip - yo — yarn over

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Before You Begin

The chart is worked from the center outward.

The dove is crocheted directly into the design rather than being sewn on later. The surrounding square is built around the completed bird.

Follow each round in sequence.

Step 1 – Crochet the Dove Body

Begin at the center of the dove's body.

Create the starting ring according to the chart.

Round 1 forms the center of the body using single crochet and half double crochet stitches.

Continue increasing gradually to create the rounded breast.

As shown in the chart:

- work sc where indicated
- transition into hdc
- then dc stitches
- maintain smooth increases
- follow every increase exactly as illustrated

The chest should become nicely rounded while the back remains slightly straighter.

Do not tighten your tension excessively.

Step 2 – Shape the Neck

Continue following the chart upward.

The neck narrows before expanding into the head.

Use the indicated combination of:

- sc
- hdc
- dc

The narrowing is created naturally by reducing stitch height.

Avoid forcing the shape.

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Step 3 – Crochet the Head

The head is worked in continuous shaping.

Increase gradually until the head forms a smooth oval.

Pay attention to the beak placement shown on the chart.

Leave a small opening where the beak will later be embroidered or crocheted.

Add the eye after completing the head.

The eye may be:

- embroidered
- made with black yarn
- attached as a small safety eye (if appropriate)

Step 4 – Create the Beak

The chart shows a small triangular beak.

Work a few stitches using yellow, cream, or beige yarn.

Keep the beak small.

Its purpose is only to define the dove's profile.

Step 5 – Crochet the Olive Branch

The olive branch is made separately while remaining attached to the surrounding stitches.

Work the stem first.

Use chains followed by slip stitches or single crochet according to the chart.

Each leaf begins with a short chain.

Work around both sides of each chain to create pointed leaves.

Each leaf should taper naturally.

Repeat until every leaf shown in the chart has been completed.

The finished branch should angle diagonally upward toward the dove's beak.

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Step 6 – Form the Wing (Wing Round 1)

The wing is one of the most detailed parts of the design.

Follow every shell shown on the chart.

Each feather is created using groups of tall stitches.

Typically each feather consists of:

- chain stitches
- double crochet
- treble crochet
- chains returning toward the body

Each feather overlaps the previous one.

Work slowly.

Maintain even spacing.

The feathers should fan outward naturally.

Do not stretch them.

The wing should curve upward exactly as illustrated.

Step 7 – Add Wing Texture

After the primary feathers are complete, continue adding the internal feather rows.

These rows are formed with:

- chains
- slip stitches
- double crochet

Each smaller feather connects back into the previous row.

The layered appearance gives the wing its realistic texture.

Keep every row evenly tensioned.

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Step 8 – Crochet the Tail

Move to the lower body.

The tail is created using repeated fan-shaped groups.

Each tail feather consists of tall stitches separated by chain spaces.

Work every feather individually.

The finished tail should spread evenly beneath the body.

Step 9 – Build the Background Around the Dove

Once the bird is complete, begin crocheting the open background.

The chart uses repeated arches made from:

- chain spaces
- double crochet
- half double crochet

These arches surround the dove without touching most of the body.

Maintain consistent spacing.

This openwork creates the lace effect.

Step 10 – Continue the Open Lace Pattern

Repeat the chain arches exactly as shown.

Each new row builds onto the previous arches.

Pay attention to where stitches anchor into the previous round.

The lace should remain symmetrical on both sides of the dove.

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Step 11 – Begin the Square Motif (Square Round 1)

The square begins once the lace background reaches the outer edge.

Corners are created using larger shell groups.

Each corner contains:

- multiple double crochet stitches
- chain spaces
- additional double crochet stitches

The sides between corners are formed with shell stitches.

Maintain identical stitch counts on all four sides.

Step 12 – Crochet the Decorative Corner Fans

Each corner includes decorative shell motifs.

These shells create the floral appearance visible in the chart.

Work every shell into its designated chain space.

Each shell should open toward the outside edge.

Keep the corners flexible.

Do not tighten the chain spaces.

Step 13 – Work the Side Shells

The sides between corners use repeating shell motifs.

Each shell is separated by chain spaces.

Repeat the sequence exactly across every side.

The motif should remain perfectly square.

Count stitches frequently.

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Step 14 – Crochet the Final Border

The outer border consists of decorative scallops.

Each scallop is formed using:

- chain stitches
- treble crochet
- double crochet
- slip stitches

Repeat around the entire square.

Every side should contain the same number of scallops.

Corners remain symmetrical.

Step 15 – Fasten Off

After completing the final round:

Cut the yarn.

Pull the tail through the final loop.

Tighten gently.

Weave in every loose end using a yarn needle.

Hide all tails inside stitches.

Step 16 – Blocking the Motif

Blocking is highly recommended.

Lightly dampen the finished square.

Pin every corner flat.

Shape the scalloped edges evenly.

Allow the motif to dry completely before removing the pins.

Blocking will greatly improve stitch definition and help the dove, wings, and lace background lie flat.

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Finished Result ✨

You should now have a beautiful square crochet motif featuring:

- A detailed dove
- An olive branch
- Layered feathered wings
- Decorative tail feathers
- Open lace background
- Floral corner shells
- A scalloped outer border

The finished square can be used for blankets, table runners, cushions, wall hangings, afghans, decorative panels, baby blankets, heirloom projects, or joined with additional motifs to create larger crochet pieces.