


Zoo Blanket


By Megan Kreiner, Author of *Crochet a Zoo*

This generously sized blanket has eight little habitats that should make all your zoo animals feel right at home. Decorate with trees, rocks, and shrubs; and then personalize this blanket with the name of your favorite zookeeper. When playtime is done, you can roll up the blanket with all your animals tucked inside for easy storage!

Skill Level: Easy 

Finished size: Approx 41" x 65"

MATERIALS

Yarns: Worsted-weight yarn  in the following colors and approx amounts:

- A *Dark brown* 14 oz (400 g), 680 yds (624 m)
- B *Medium green* 10.5 oz (300 g), 510 yds (468 m)
- C *Gold* 10.5 oz (300 g), 510 yds (468 m)
- D *Yellow* 10.5 oz (300 g), 510 yds (468 m)
- E *Dark green* 7.0 oz (200 g), 340 yds (312 m)
- F *Light green* 3.5 oz (100 g), 170 yds (156 m)
- G *Blue* 3.5 oz (100 g), 170 yds (156 m)
- H *White* 3.5 oz (100 g), 170 yds (156 m)
- I *Light gray* 3.5 oz (100 g), 170 yds (156 m)
- J *Black* 10 yds

Hooks: I-9 (5.50 mm) or J-10 (6.00 mm) crochet hook, or size required for gauge

Embellishments: 8½" x 11" sheets of craft felt in the following colors and amounts:

- Medium green*, 5
- Brown*, 3
- Light green*, 2
- Dark green*, 2
- Light gray*, 2
- Dark gray*, 1
- Black*, 1
- Desired color for zoo sign*, 1

GAUGE

3 sts and 4 rows = 1" x 1" in sc

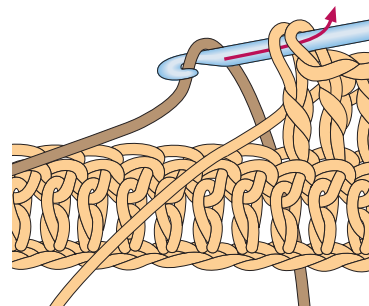
CHANGING YARN COLORS

Changing colors requires a little reading ahead, since a new color is actually introduced while you're completing the last stitch of the old color. To make it easier to manage a few colors at a time, consider using yarn bobbins when a color area is small (like the ponds or vertical pathways on this pattern).

I also recommend, when working the portions of the pattern that contain the ponds, to wind a bobbin of yarn with your ground color and work it on the opposite side of the pond instead of carrying the ground-colored yarn back and forth across the back of the water stitches. The extra effort will keep your blanket nice and tidy.

Adding a New Color

To add a new color, work the last stitch with the first color until two loops remain on the hook. Move the first color to the front of your work and pick up and pull the second color through the two loops on the hook. Continue the pattern as directed. If you are introducing the new color prior to starting a new row, chain one and turn to work the next stitch in the new color.





Color Transitions

Once you've worked a new color into the pattern, carry it through as much as possible to reduce the number of times you'll need to stop and start new yarn.

When making a color transition, you'll pick up the second color from the row below. One trick that keeps the blanket very neat on both the front and back is to move the first color to the front of the work before changing to the second color. That way the colors will always be on the correct side of your work after you've turned the blanket to work the next row.

Picking up a color from the stitch directly below:

When you're ready to change color, work the single crochet before the color change with the first color until two loops remain on the hook. Move the first color to the front of the work. Pick up the second color from the row below, yarn over with the second color, and pull through the two loops on the hook. Continue with the pattern as directed.

Picking up a color from a stitch farther ahead:

Work the single crochet before the color change with the first color until two loops remain on the hook. Move the first color to the front of the work. Pick up the second color from its location a few stitches ahead in the row below. Yarn over with the second color, leaving the yarn somewhat loose to cover the distance between the current stitch and the stitch where the second color is coming from. Pull the second color through the two loops on the hook. Hold the excess yarn from the second color against the back loops of the stitches as you continue with the pattern as directed, making sure to single crochet over both the front and back loops as well as the second yarn color as you continue the row.

Picking up a color from a stitch farther back: As you pass over the second color in the row below, pick it up and hold it next to the back loop of your next stitch. Single crochet with the first color as normal, making sure to pull the yarn around both the front and back loops as well as the second color. Continue to carry the second color along until you reach the point in the pattern where you're ready to change colors. Work the single crochet before the color change with the first color until two loops remain on the hook. Move the first color to the front of the work, yarn over with the second color and pull through the two loops on the hook. Continue with the pattern as directed.

BLANKET

Using A, ch 128. Cut A.

Row 1: Starting in 2nd ch from hook and working in back loops only, sc 50 with E, sc 27 with A, sc 50 with B, ch 1, turn. (127 sc)

Work remainder of blanket in both loops.

Row 2: Sc 51 with B, sc 25 with A, sc 51 with B, ch 1, turn.

Row 3: Sc 51 with B, sc 25 with A, sc 51 with B, ch 1, turn.

Row 4: Sc 52 with B, sc 23 with A, sc 52 with B, ch 1, turn.

Row 5: Sc 52 with B, sc 23 with A, sc 52 with B, ch 1, turn.

Row 6: Sc 53 with B, sc 21 with A, sc 53 with B, ch 1, turn.

Row 7: Sc 53 with B, sc 21 with A, sc 53 with B, ch 1, turn.

Row 8: Sc 54 with B, sc 19 with A, sc 54 with B, ch 1, turn.

Row 9: Sc 54 with B, sc 19 with A, sc 54 with B, ch 1, turn.

Row 10: Sc 55 with B, sc 17 with A, sc 55 with B, ch 1, turn.

Row 11: Sc 55 with B, sc 17, with A, sc 55 with B, ch 1, turn.

Row 12: Sc 56 with B, sc 15 with A, sc 56 with B, ch 1, turn.

Row 13: Sc 56 with B, sc 15 with A, sc 56 with B, ch 1, turn.

Row 14: Sc 57 with B, sc 13 with A, sc 57 with B, ch 1, turn.

Row 15: Sc 57 with B, sc 13 with A, sc 57 with B, ch 1, turn.

Row 16: Sc 58 with B, sc 11 with A, sc 58 with B, ch 1, turn.

Row 17: Sc 58 with B, sc 11 with A, sc 58 with B, ch 1, turn.

Row 18: Sc 59 with B, sc 9 with A, sc 59 with B, ch 1, turn.

Row 19: Sc 59 with B, sc 9 with A, sc 59 with B, ch 1, turn.

Rows 20–31: Sc 127 with A, ch 1, turn.

Row 32: Sc 59 with D, sc 9 with A, sc 59 with E, ch 1, turn.

Row 33: Sc 59 with E, sc 9 with A, sc 59 with D, ch 1, turn.

Work last 2 rows 3 more times for rows 34–39.

Row 40: Sc 59 with D, sc 9 with A, sc 59 with E, ch 1, turn.

Row 41: Sc 59 with E, sc 9 with A, sc 36 with D, sc 8 with G, sc 15 with D, ch 1, turn.

Row 42: Sc 11 with D, sc 14 with G, sc 34 with D, sc 9 with A, sc 59 with E, ch 1, turn.

Row 43: Sc 59 with E, sc 9 with A, sc 32 with D, sc 20 with G, sc 7 with D, ch 1, turn.

Row 44: Sc 6 with D, sc 21 with G, sc 32 with D, sc 9 with A, sc 59 with E, ch 1, turn.

Row 45: Sc 59 with E, sc 9 with A, sc 32 with D, sc 22 with G, sc 5 with D, ch 1, turn.

Row 46: Sc 6 with D, sc 20 with G, sc 33 with D, sc 9 with A, sc 59 with E, ch 1, turn.

Row 47: Sc 59 with E, sc 9 with A, sc 35 with D, sc 17 with G, sc 7 with D, ch 1, turn.

Row 48: Sc 8 with D, sc 12 with G, sc 39 with D, sc 9 with A, sc 59 with E, ch 1, turn.

Row 49: Sc 59 with E, sc 9 with A, sc 38 with D, sc 16 with G, sc 5 with D, ch 1, turn.

Row 50: Sc 4 with D, sc 17 with G, sc 38 with D, sc 9 with A, sc 59 with E, ch 1, turn.

Row 51: Sc 59 with E, sc 9 with A, sc 39 with D, sc 16 with G, sc 4 with D, ch 1, turn.

Row 52: Sc 5 with D, sc 11 with G, sc 43 with D, sc 9 with A, sc 59 with E, ch 1, turn.

Row 53: Sc 59 with E, sc 9 with A, sc 45 with D, sc 7 with G, sc 7 with D, ch 1, turn.

Row 54: Sc 59 with D, sc 9 with A, sc 59 with E, ch 1, turn.

Row 55: Sc 59 with E, sc 9 with A, sc 59 with D, ch 1, turn.

Work last 2 rows 2 more times for rows 56–59.

Row 60: Sc 25 with D, sc 77 with A, sc 25 with E, ch 1, turn.

Row 61: Sc 25 with E, sc 77 with A, sc 25 with D, ch 1, turn.

Work last 2 rows 5 more times for rows 62–71.

Row 72: Sc 25 with D, sc 9 with A, sc 45 with H, sc 14 with G, sc 9 with A, sc 25 with E, ch 1, turn.

Row 73: Sc 25 with E, sc 9 with A, sc 15 with G, sc 44 with H, sc 9 with A, sc 25 with D, ch 1, turn.

Row 74: Sc 25 with D, sc 9 with A, sc 43 with H, sc 16 with G, sc 9 with A, sc 25 with E, ch 1, turn.

Row 75: Sc 25 with E, sc 9 with A, sc 16 with G, sc 43 with H, sc 9 with A, sc 25 with D, ch 1, turn.

Row 76: Sc 25 with D, sc 9 with A, sc 42 with H, sc 17 with G, sc 9 with A, sc 25 with E, ch 1, turn.

Row 77: Sc 25 with E, sc 9 with A, sc 17 with G, sc 42 with H, sc 9 with A, sc 25 with D, ch 1, turn.

Row 78: Sc 25 with D, sc 9 with A, sc 41 with H, sc 18 with G, sc 9 with A, sc 25 with E, ch 1, turn.

Row 79: Sc 25 with E, sc 9 with A, sc 18 with G, sc 41 with H, sc 9 with A, sc 25 with D, ch 1, turn.

Row 80: Sc 25 with D, sc 9 with A, sc 40 with H, sc 19 with G, sc 9 with A, sc 25 with E, ch 1, turn.

Row 81: Sc 25 with E, sc 9 with A, sc 20 with G, sc 39 with H, sc 9 with A, sc 25 with D, ch 1, turn.

Row 82: Sc 25 with D, sc 9 with A, sc 38 with H, sc 21 with G, sc 9 with A, sc 25 with E, ch 1, turn.

Row 83: Sc 25 with E, sc 9 with A, sc 22 with G, sc 37 with H, sc 9 with A, sc 25 with D, ch 1, turn.

Row 84: Sc 25 with D, sc 9 with A, sc 36 with H, sc 23 with G, sc 9 with A, sc 25 with E, ch 1, turn.

Row 85: Sc 25 with E, sc 9 with A, sc 23 with G, sc 36 with H, sc 9 with A, sc 25 with D, ch 1, turn.

Row 86: Sc 25 with D, sc 9 with A, sc 35 with H, sc 24 with G, sc 9 with A, sc 25 with E, ch 1, turn.

Row 87: Sc 25 with E, sc 9 with A, sc 24 with G, sc 35 with H, sc 9 with A, sc 25 with D, ch 1, turn.

Row 88: Sc 25 with D, sc 9 with A, sc 35 with H, sc 24 with G, sc 9 with A, sc 25 with E, ch 1, turn.

Row 89: Sc 25 with E, sc 9 with A, sc 25 with G, sc 34 with H, sc 9 with A, sc 25 with D, ch 1, turn.

Row 90: Sc 25 with D, sc 9 with A, sc 34 with H, sc 25 with G, sc 9 with A, sc 25 with E, ch 1, turn.

Row 91: Sc 25 with E, sc 9 with A, sc 25 with G, sc 34 with H, sc 9 with A, sc 25 with D, ch 1, turn.

Row 92: Sc 25 with D, sc 9 with A, sc 34 with H, sc 25 with G, sc 9 with A, sc 25 with E, ch 1, turn.

Row 93: Sc 25 with E, sc 9 with A, sc 26 with G, sc 33 with H, sc 9 with A, sc 25 with D, ch 1, turn.

Row 94: Sc 25 with D, sc 9 with A, sc 33 with H, sc 26 with G, sc 9 with A, sc 25 with E, ch 1, turn.

Row 95: Sc 25 with E, sc 9 with A, sc 26 with G, sc 33 with H, sc 9 with A, sc 25 with D, ch 1, turn.

Row 96: Sc 25 with D, sc 9 with A, sc 33 with H, sc 26 with G, sc 9 with A, sc 25 with E, ch 1, turn.

Row 97: Sc 25 with E, sc 9 with A, sc 27 with G, sc 32 with H, sc 9 with A, sc 25 with D, ch 1, turn.

Row 98: Sc 25 with D, sc 9 with A, sc 32 with H, sc 27 with G, sc 9 with A, sc 25 with E, ch 1, turn.

Row 99: Sc 25 with E, sc 9 with A, sc 28 with G, sc 31 with H, sc 9 with A, sc 25 with D, ch 1, turn.

Row 100: Sc 25 with D, sc 9 with A, sc 30 with H, sc 29 with G, sc 9 with A, sc 25 with E, ch 1, turn.

Row 101: Sc 25 with E, sc 9 with A, sc 30 with G, sc 29 with H, sc 9 with A, sc 25 with D, ch 1, turn.

Row 102: Sc 25 with D, sc 9 with A, sc 28 with H, sc 31 with G, sc 9 with A, sc 25 with E, ch 1, turn.

Row 103: Sc 25 with E, sc 9 with A, sc 32 with G, sc 27 with H, sc 9 with A, sc 25 with D, ch 1, turn.

Rows 104–115: Sc 127 with A, ch 1, turn.

Row 116: Sc 30 with E, sc 9 with A, sc 32 with C, sc 9 with A, sc 47 with F, ch 1, turn.

Row 117: Sc 47 with F, sc 9 with A, sc 32 with C, sc 9 with A, sc 30 with E, ch 1, turn.

Work last 2 rows 3 more times for rows 118–123.

Row 124: Sc 30 with E, sc 9 with A, sc 32 with C, sc 9 with A, sc 12 with F, sc 12 with G, sc 23 with F, ch 1, turn.

Row 125: Sc 21 with F, sc 16 with G, sc 10 with F, sc 9 with A, sc 32 with C, sc 9 with A, sc 30 with E, ch 1, turn.

Row 126: Sc 30 with E, sc 9 with A, sc 32 with C, sc 9 with A, sc 9 with F, sc 19 with G, sc 19 with F, ch 1, turn.

Row 127: Sc 17 with F, sc 22 with G, sc 8 with F, sc 9 with A, sc 32 with C, sc 9 with A, sc 30 with E, ch 1, turn.

Row 128: Sc 30 with E, sc 9 with A, sc 32 with C, sc 9 with A, sc 8 with F, sc 23 with G, sc 16 with F, ch 1, turn.

Row 129: Sc 16 with F, sc 22 with G, sc 9 with F, sc 9 with A, sc 32 with C, sc 9 with A, sc 30 with E, ch 1, turn.

Row 130: Sc 30 with E, sc 9 with A, sc 32 with C, sc 9 with A, sc 10 with F, sc 21 with G, sc 16 with F, ch 1, turn.

Row 131: Sc 17 with F, sc 18 with G, sc 12 with F, sc 9 with A, sc 32 with C, sc 9 with A, sc 30 with E, ch 1, turn.

Row 132: Sc 30 with E, sc 9 with A, sc 32 with C, sc 9 with A, sc 14 with F, sc 18 with G, sc 15 with F, ch 1, turn.

Row 133: Sc 14 with F, sc 20 with G, sc 13 with F, sc 9 with A, sc 32 with C, sc 9 with A, sc 30 with E, ch 1, turn.

Row 134: Sc 30 with E, sc 9 with A, sc 32 with C, sc 9 with A, sc 13 with F, sc 20 with G, sc 14 with F, ch 1, turn.

Row 135: Sc 15 with F, sc 18 with G, sc 14 with F, sc 9 with A, sc 32 with C, sc 9 with A, sc 30 with E, ch 1, turn.

Row 136: Sc 30 with E, sc 9 with A, sc 32 with C, sc 9 with A, sc 16 with F, sc 14 with G, sc 17 with F, ch 1, turn.

Row 137: Sc 47 with F, sc 9 with A, sc 32 with C, sc 9 with A, sc 30 with E, ch 1, turn.

Row 138: Sc 30 with E, sc 9 with A, sc 32 with C, sc 9 with A, sc 47 with F, ch 1, turn.

Rep last 2 rows 12 more times for rows 139–162.

Row 163: Sc 47 with F, sc 9 with A, sc 32 with C, sc 9 with A, sc 30 with E, ch 1, turn.

Rows 164–175: Sc 127 with A, ch 1, turn.

Row 176: Sc 23 with B, sc 36 with G, sc 9 with A, sc 59 with D, ch 1, turn.

Row 177: Sc 59 with D, sc 9 with A, sc 35 with G, sc 24 with B, ch 1, turn.

Row 178: Sc 24 with B, sc 35 with G, sc 9 with A, sc 59 with D, ch 1, turn.

Row 179: Sc 59 with D, sc 9 with A, sc 34 with G, sc 25 with B, ch 1, turn.

Row 180: Sc 25 with B, sc 34 with G, sc 9 with A, sc 59 with D, ch 1, turn.

Row 181: Sc 59 with D, sc 9 with A, sc 34 with G, sc 25 with B, ch 1, turn.

Row 182: Sc 26 with B, sc 33 with G, sc 9 with A, sc 59 with D, ch 1, turn.

Row 183: Sc 59 with D, sc 9 with A, sc 33 with G, sc 26 with B, ch 1, turn.

Row 184: Sc 27 with B, sc 32 with G, sc 9 with A, sc 59 with D, ch 1, turn.

Row 185: Sc 59 with D, sc 9 with A, sc 32 with G, sc 27 with B, ch 1, turn.

Row 186: Sc 28 with B, sc 31 with G, sc 9 with A, sc 59 with D, ch 1, turn.

Row 187: Sc 59 with D, sc 9 with A, sc 31 with G, sc 28 with B, ch 1, turn.

Row 188: Sc 29 with B, sc 30 with G, sc 9 with A, sc 59 with D, ch 1, turn.

Row 189: Sc 59 with D, sc 9 with A, sc 29 with G, sc 30 with B, ch 1, turn.

Row 190: Sc 31 with B, sc 28 with G, sc 9 with A, sc 59 with D, ch 1, turn.

Row 191: Sc 59 with D, sc 9 with A, sc 27 with G, sc 32 with B, ch 1, turn.

Row 192: Sc 33 with B, sc 26 with G, sc 9 with A, sc 59 with D, ch 1, turn.

Row 193: Sc 59 with D, sc 9 with A, sc 24 with G, sc 35 with B, ch 1, turn.

Row 194: Sc 37 with B, sc 22 with G, sc 9 with A, sc 59 with D, ch 1, turn.

Row 195: Sc 59 with D, sc 9 with A, sc 20 with G, sc 39 with B, ch 1, turn.

Row 196: Sc 41 with B, sc 18 with G, sc 9 with A, sc 59 with D, ch 1, turn.

Row 197: Sc 59 with D, sc 9 with A, sc 17 with G, sc 42 with B, ch 1, turn.

Row 198: Sc 43 with B, sc 16 with G, sc 9 with A, sc 59 with D, ch 1, turn.

Row 199: Sc 59 with D, sc 9 with A, sc 15 with G, sc 44 with B, ch 1, turn.

Row 200: Sc 45 with B, sc 14 with G, sc 9 with A, sc 59 with D, ch 1, turn.

Row 201: Sc 59 with D, sc 9 with A, sc 13 with G, sc 46 with B, ch 1, turn.

Row 202: Sc 46 with B, sc 13 with G, sc 9 with A, sc 59 with D, ch 1, turn.

Row 203: Sc 59 with D, sc 9 with A, sc 12 with G, sc 47 with B, ch 1, turn.

Row 204: Sc 47 with B, sc 12 with G, sc 9 with A, sc 59 with D, ch 1, turn.

Row 205: Sc 59 with D, sc 9 with A, sc 11 with G, sc 48 with B, ch 1, turn.

Row 206: Sc 48 with B, sc 11 with G, sc 9 with A, sc 59 with D, ch 1, turn.

Row 207: Sc 59 with D, sc 9 with A, sc 10 with G, sc 49 with B, ch 1, turn.

Row 208: Sc 49 with B, sc 10 with G, sc 9 with A, sc 59 with D, ch 1, turn.

Row 209: Sc 59 with D, sc 9 with A, sc 9 with G, sc 50 with B, ch 1, turn.

Row 210: Sc 50 with B, sc 9 with G, sc 9 with A, sc 59 with D, ch 1, turn.

Row 211: Sc 59 with D, sc 9 with A, sc 8 with G, sc 51 with B, ch 1, turn.

Row 212: Sc 51 with B, sc 8 with G, sc 9 with A, sc 59 with D, ch 1, turn.

Row 213: Sc 59 with D, sc 9 with A, sc 7 with G, sc 52 with B, ch 1, turn.

Row 214: Sc 52 with B, sc 7 with G, sc 9 with A, sc 59 with D, ch 1, turn.

Row 215: Sc 59 with D, sc 9 with A, sc 6 with G, sc 53 with B, ch 1, turn.

Row 216: Sc 54 with B, sc 5 with G, sc 9 with A, sc 59 with D, ch 1, turn.

Row 217: Sc 59 with D, sc 9 with A, sc 4 with G, sc 55 with B, ch 1, turn.

Row 218: Sc 57 with B, sc 2 with G, sc 9 with A, sc 59 with D, ch 1, turn.

Row 219: Sc 59 with D, sc 9 with A, sc 59 with B, ch 1, turn.

Row 220: Sc 59 with B, sc 9 with A, sc 59 with D, ch 1, turn.

Work last 2 rows 7 more times for rows 221–234.

Row 235: Sc 59 with D, sc 9 with A, sc 59 with B. Fasten off and weave in ends.

BORDER

Before starting the border, place a st marker in each of the 4 corners.

For tips on making perfect corners, refer to “Perfect Corners” below before you beg.

Rnd 1: Attach A to any side (not a corner) and ch 1, sc around edge of blanket, working 1 sc in each st across and 1 sc in each row, end with sl st in the first sc.

Rnd 2: With C, ch 1, sc in each sc around, end with sl st in first sc.

Rnd 3: With A, ch 1, sc in each sc around, end with sl st in first sc.

Rnd 4: With C, ch 3, dc in each sc around, end with sl st in top of ch 3.

Rnd 5: With A, ch 1, sc in beg ch 3 and each dc around, end with sl st in first sc.

Rnd 6: With C, ch 1, sc in each sc around, end with sl st in first sc.

Rnd 7: With A, ch 1, sc in each sc around, end with sl st in first sc.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

Perfect Corners

On sc rnds: When you reach a corner, remove st marker, sc 2 in corner st, place marker, sc 1 in corner st (total of 3 sc in corner st). Cont patt as directed.

On dc rnds: When you reach a corner, remove the st marker, dc 3 in corner st, place marker, dc 2 in corner st (total of 5 dc in corner st). Cont patt as directed.

BLANKET EMBELLISHMENTS

Ready to decorate your zoo? Monkeys need trees to swing from, lions need rocks to lounge on, and zebras love grasses and shrubs to eat! Add fences to keep your animals safe and secure and place borders around your ponds and pools for a little extra textural pop. Give your zoo a name by personalizing an entrance sign out of felt and yarn. Refer to the photo on page 2 and the following hints for decorating ideas, or go wild and come up with your own.

Water Edges

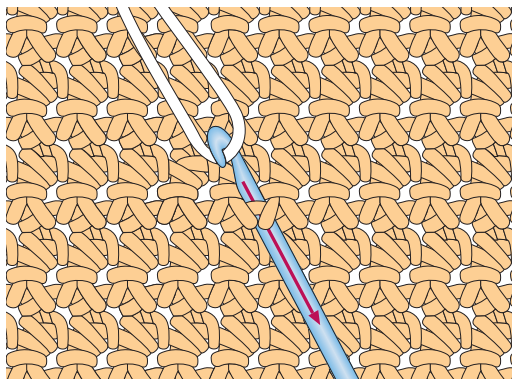
Adding a free-form line of sc crochet will help add a little pop to the water’s edge.

Referring to “Crocheting on the Surface” on page 7 and using background yarn, sc along the edge of your water. For water features that have continuous borders (like ponds), sl st in the first sc of the rnd once you’ve made it all the way around the water and fasten off.

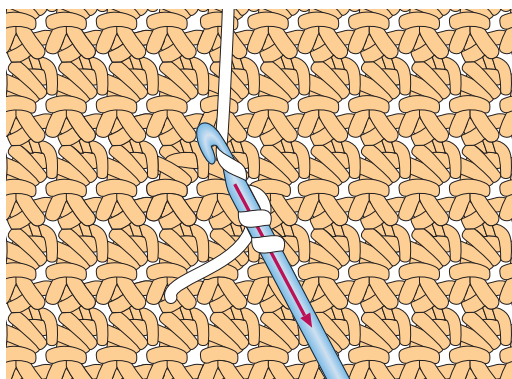
Crocheting on the Surface

Crocheting on the surface of your blanket a great way to clean up color borders and add a little pop to your pattern. The spots that call out for this technique include the water edges and the fences that go around each animal habitat.

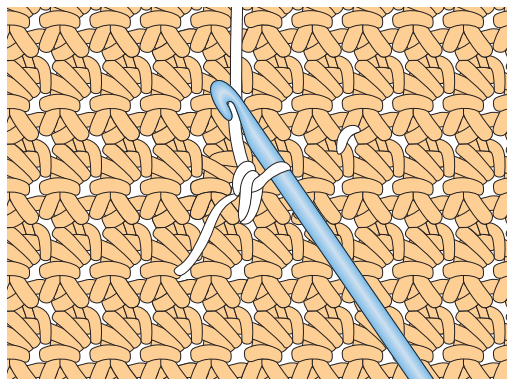
- 1 On the right side of your work, insert your hook through the stitch spaces on the surface of your piece, and yarn over the hook.



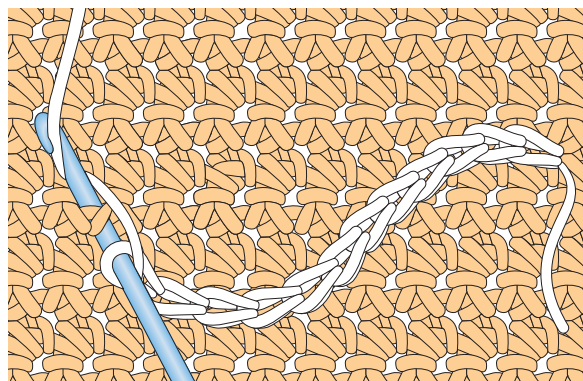
- 2 Insert your hook into a space very close to your starting point and draw out another loop of yarn through the surface of your piece. You'll have two loops on your hook. Yarn over the hook in preparation for making the single crochet in the next step.



- 3 Pull the yarn through the two loops. You've just made a single crochet on the surface of your piece.



- 4 Repeat steps 2 and 3 to create a line of single crochet along the surface of your piece. Fasten off and weave in ends.



Fences

Add fences around the edges of the habitats to keep your zoo animals from wandering off.

With 1, sc on the surface around the edge of each habitat. Once you've made it all the way around, sl st in the first sc of the rnd and fasten off.

Felt Shapes

Using the patterns on pages 8–11, cut out as many trees, rocks, and shrubs as you like. To get the most pleasing placement of your zoo decorations, I recommend grouping various felt pieces together

in what I like to call “opulent clusters.” Try overlapping a few rocks of various sizes at the base of your tree or peppering a few clumps of shrubs around your ponds. Have the boughs of your trees overlap the fences of your animal habitats and experiment with the various templates by flipping them over or cutting out a few different sizes before you trace them onto your felt. It's all about variety!

To keep your shrubs nice and leafy, attach them by putting a few running stitches along their base and one or two stitches at the corners where the leaves come together. That way the leaves will stay loose.

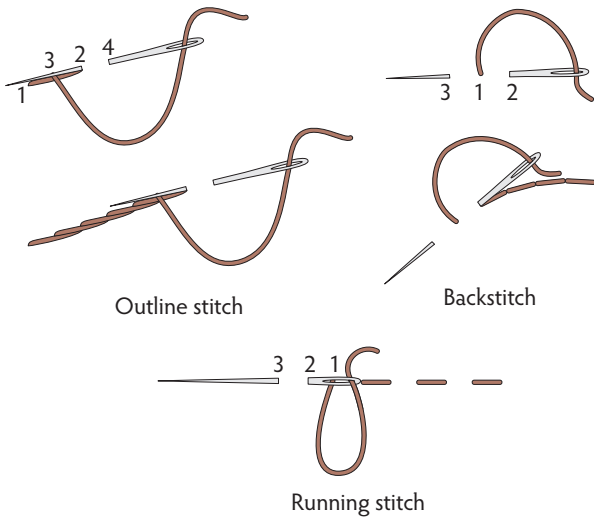
Zoo Entrance Sign

Signposts (Make 2.)

Ch 26 with J.

Starting in 2nd ch from hook and working in back loops, sc 25 and fasten off.

Cut out a zoo sign (page 11) in a felt color of your choice. Use a pencil to sketch out the name of your head zookeeper on the felt (don't forget the apostrophe!). Using yarn or embroidery thread and a needle, embroider over the pencil lines using an outline stitch or a backstitch. You can also use fabric paint or iron-on letters (available from your local craft store) if you prefer.

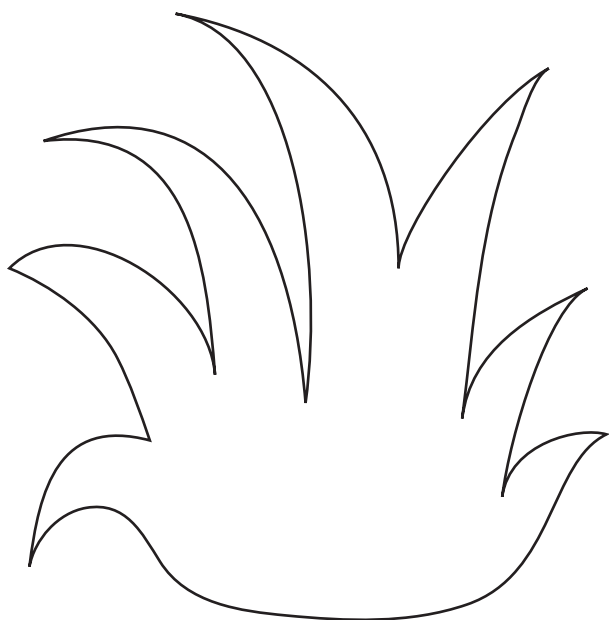


To attach the sign, sew the 2 signposts onto the blanket at the entrance of your zoo using J and a running stitch. Pin them in place with straight needles or safety pins first to keep them even. Place the sign over the zoo entrance so it overlaps the signposts on both sides and sew it down using a running stitch.

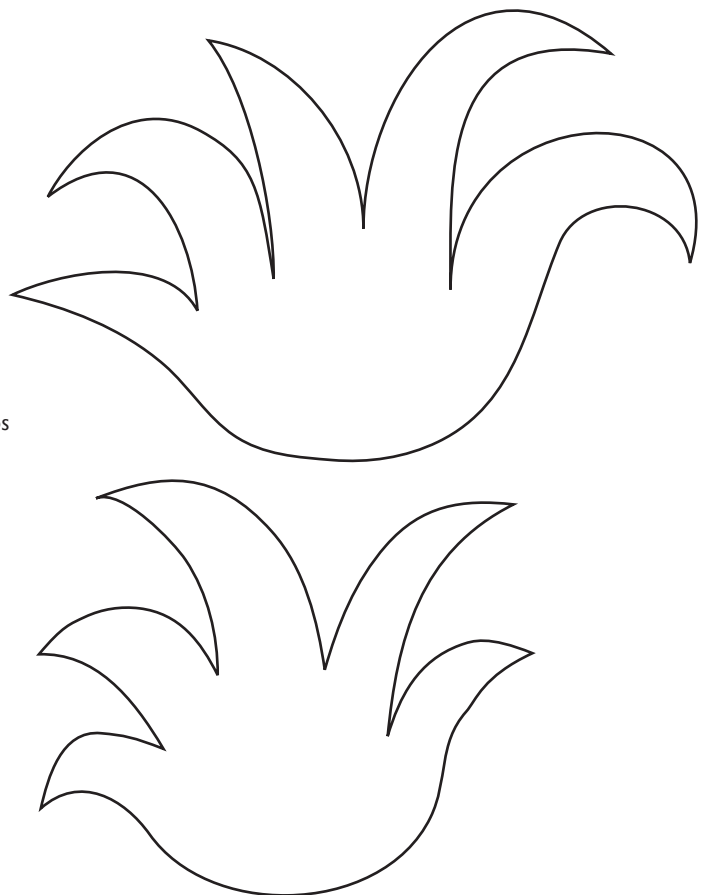
Yarns Used

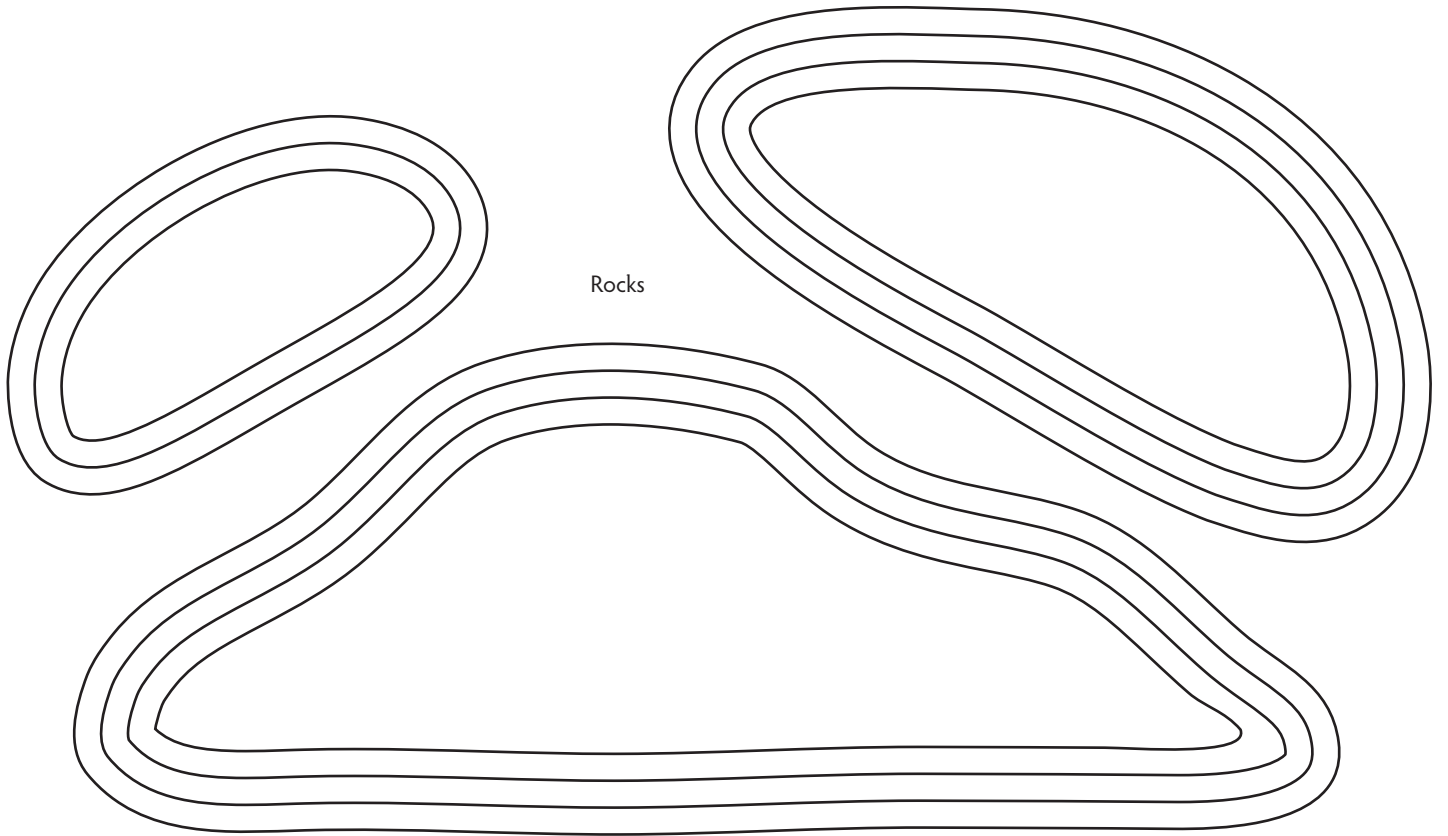
Lion Brand Vanna's Choice in the following colors:

- Chocolate #860-126 (4 skeins)
- Dusty Green #860-173 (3 skeins)
- Honey #860-130 (3 skeins)
- Mustard #860-158 (3 skeins)
- Olive #860-174 (2 skeins)
- Seaspray mist #860-304 (1 skein)
- Dusty Blue #860-108 (1 skein)
- White #860-100 (1 skein)
- Silver Heather #860-405 (1 skein)
- Black #860-153 (10 yards)

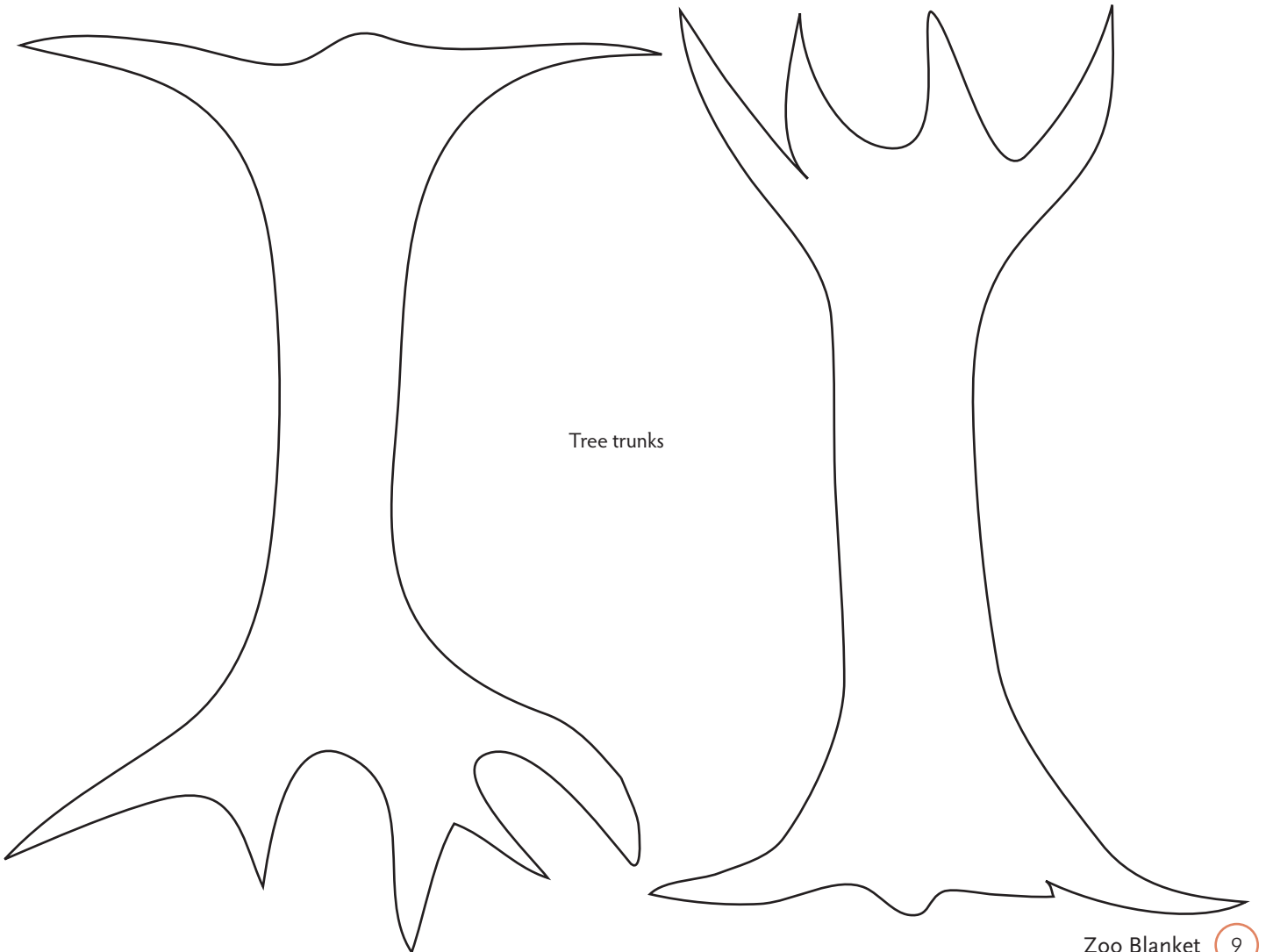


Shrubs

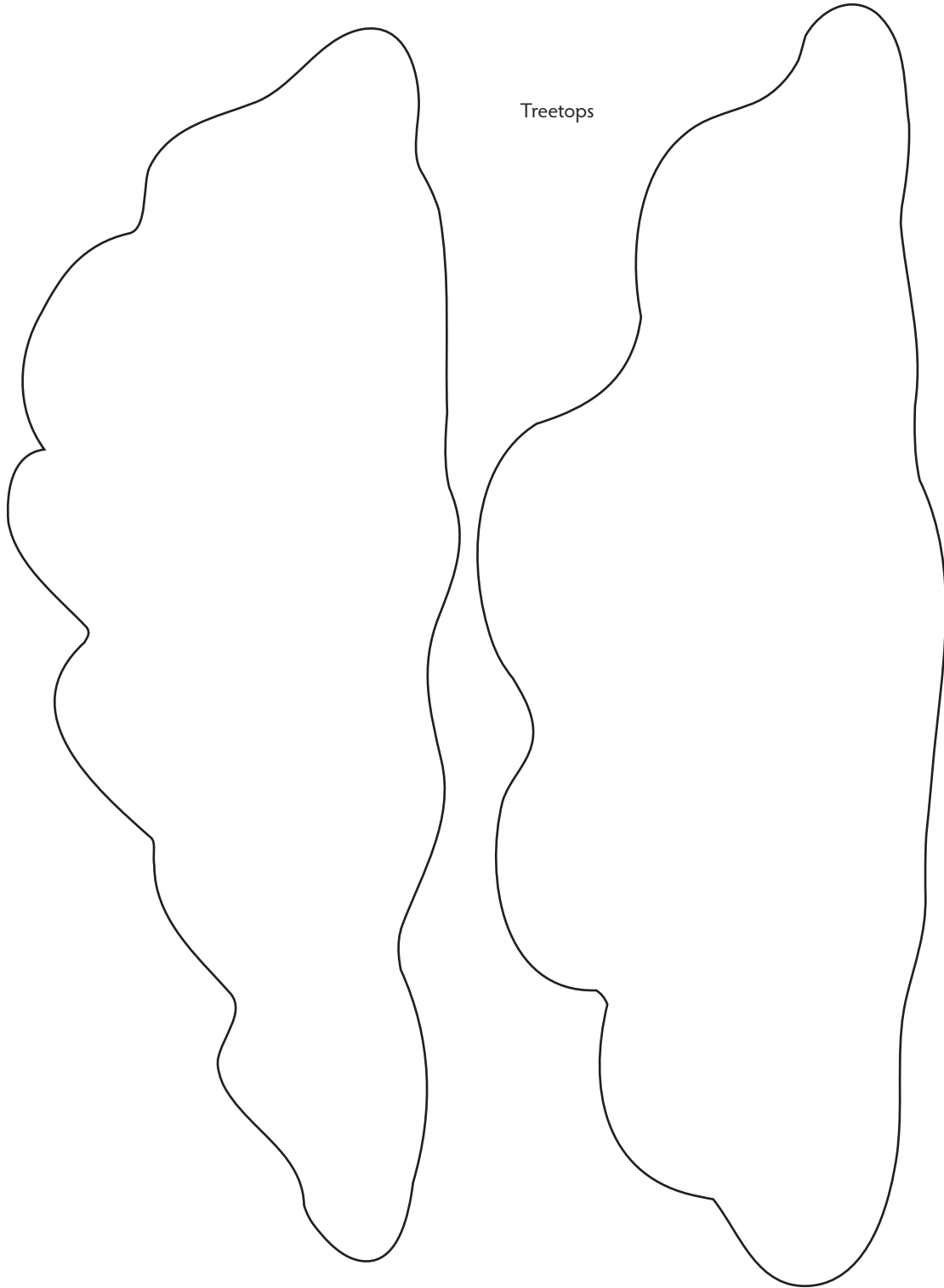




Rocks



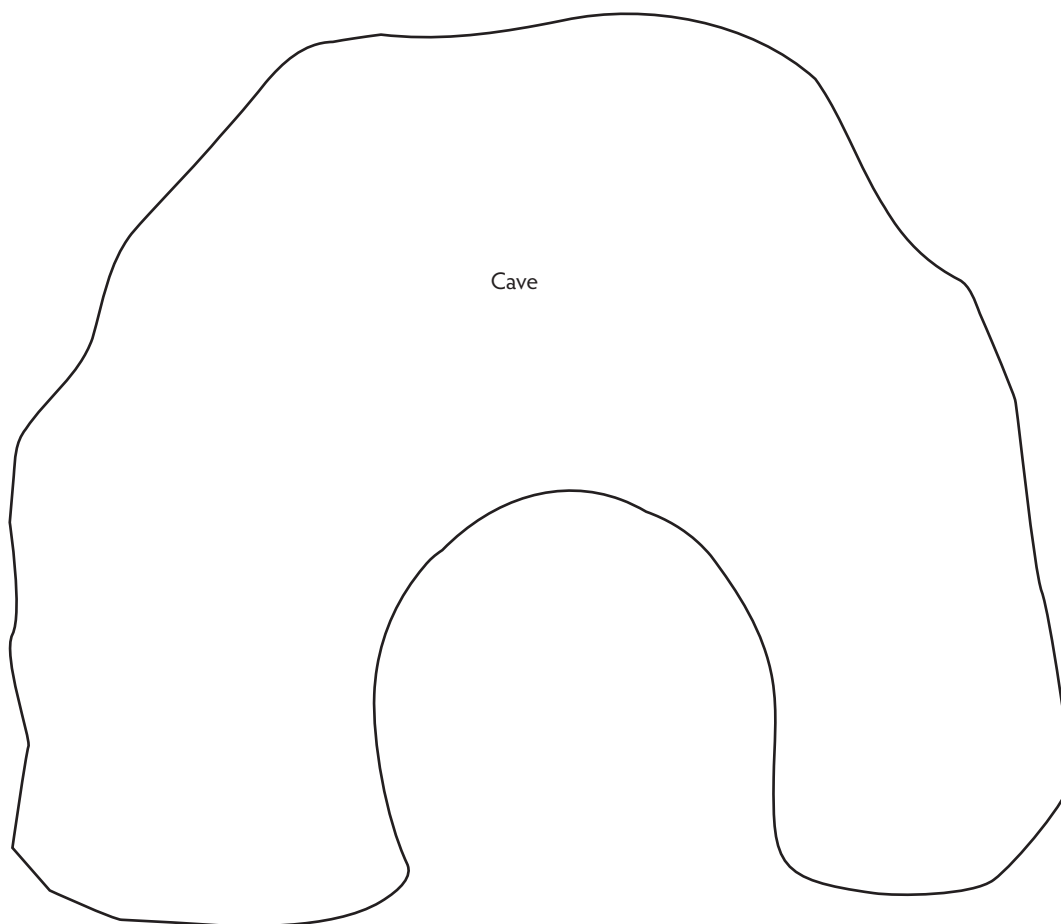
Tree trunks



Treetops

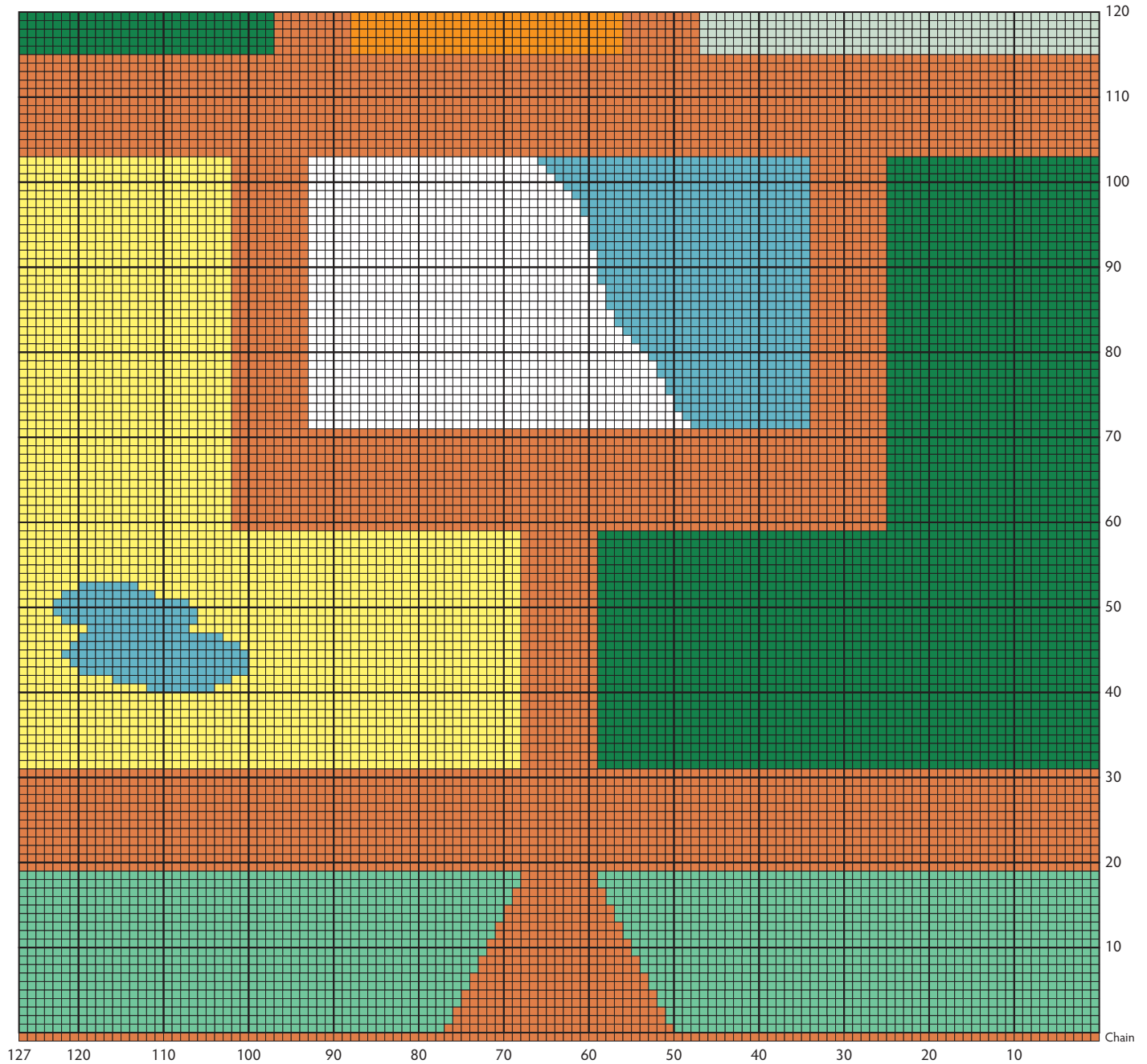


Zoo entrance sign











Optional: To give your cave a dark interior, cut out a square of black felt and slip it behind the cave entrance before sewing your cave in place.

Continue with top half of blanket on page 13.



Bottom half of blanket

Yarn Key

 A	 E
 B	 F
 C	 G
 D	 H

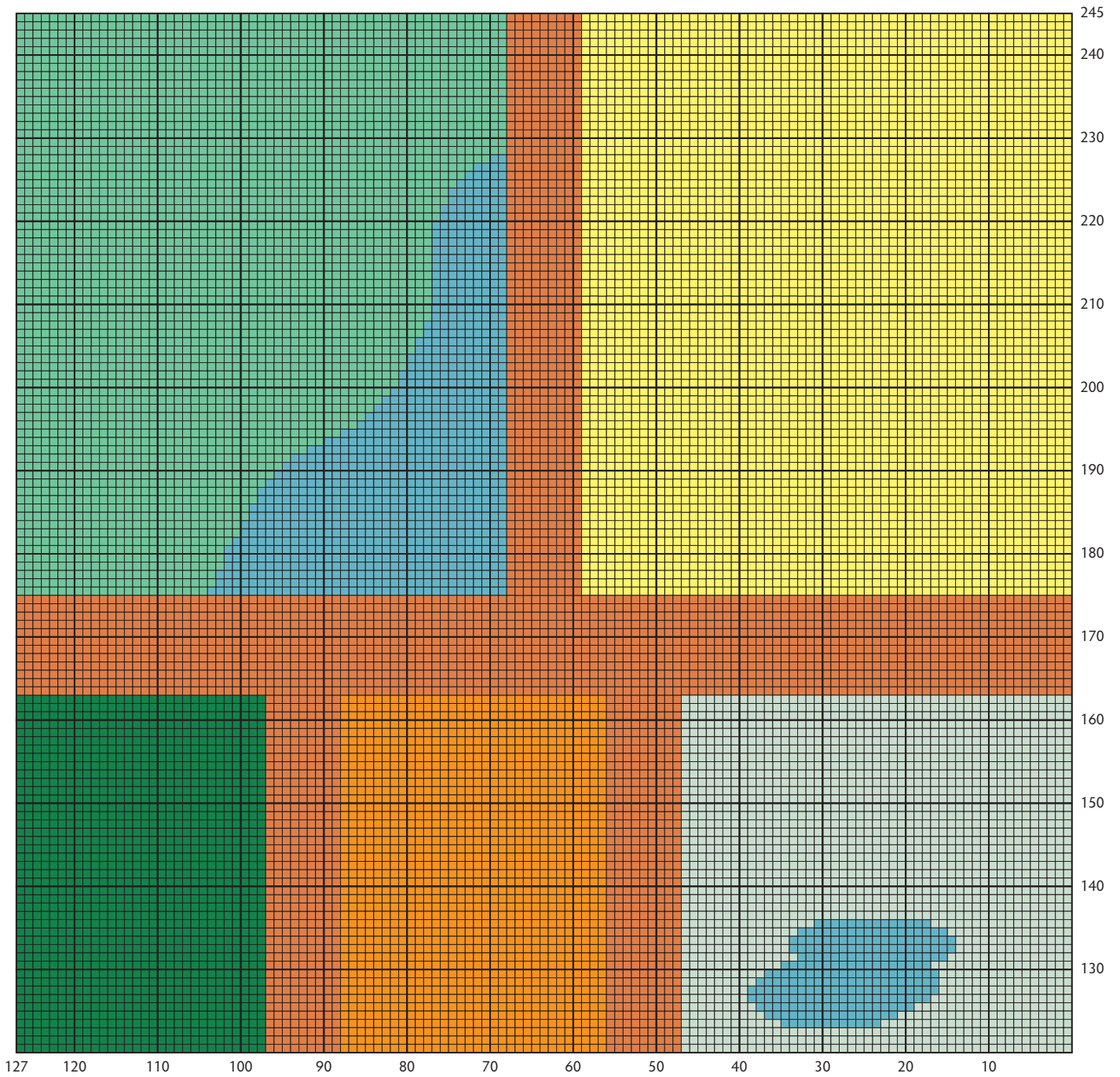
© 2013 by Megan Kreiner



19021 120th Ave. NE, Ste. 102
Bothell, WA 98011 USA
800.426.3126









www.ShopMartingale.com

Register at ShopMartingale.com to **get a free subscription** to the *Stitch This!* blog. You'll get free patterns, tutorials, how-to videos, giveaways, and the first word on sales.



Top half of blanket, continued from page 12.

Yarn Key

 A	 E
 B	 F
 C	 G
 D	 H

Bring your zoo blanket to life—
**crochet the animals
who live there!**



Buy the book or eBook now at your local
yarn shop or at ShopMartingale.com.

