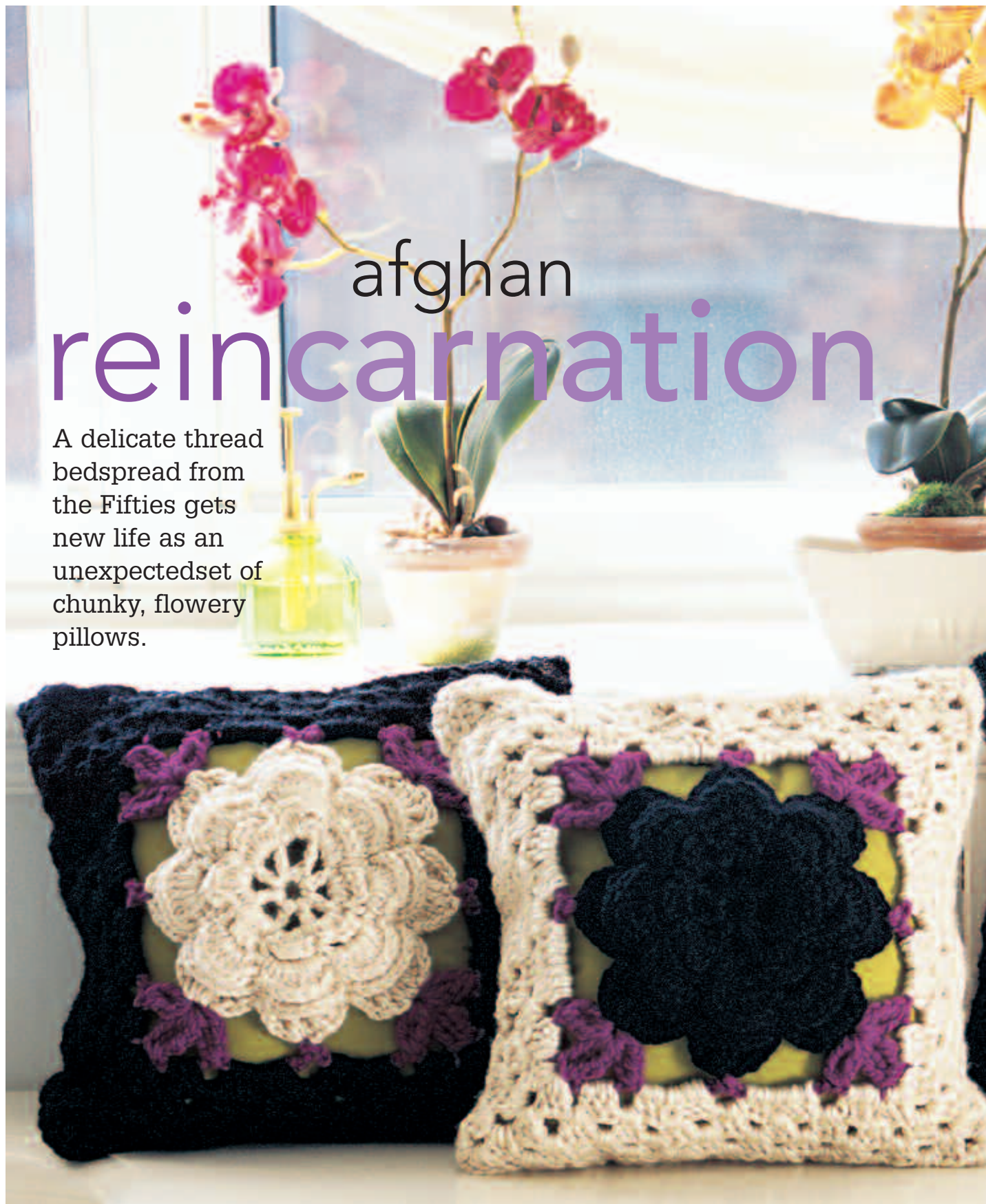


afghan reincarnation

A delicate thread
bedspread from
the Fifties gets
new life as an
unexpected set of
chunky, flowery
pillows.





BEFORE



AFTER

Our "before" bedspread (above), was quaint and nostalgic, but as a set of pillows (below), this pattern is funky and fun.



Abbreviations used in this pattern

ch(s) chain(s)
dc double crochet
hdc half double crochet
lp(s) loop(s)
sc single crochet
sk skip
sl st slip stitch
sp(s) space(s)
tr treble
yo yarn over

special abbreviations

cl cluster
treble cluster (tr cl) *yo twice, insert hook in specified st and draw up a lp, (yo and draw through 2 lps on hook) twice; repeat from * two times more; yo and draw through all 4 lps on hook.

what you'll need

YARN

RED HEART *Soft Yarn*, 5oz/140g balls, each approx 256yd/234m (acrylic)

- 1 ball #4614 Black (A)
- 1 ball #9537 Fuchsia (B)
- 2 balls #4601 Off White (C)

CROCHET HOOK

- I/9 (5.5mm) crochet hook *or any size to obtain correct gauge*

NOTIONS

- 12"/30.5cm square pillow form
- Two 13"/33cm square pieces of coordinating fabric
- Sewing needle
- Matching thread
- Yarn needle

the yarn



Soft Yarn in Fuchsia

The year 1959 ushered in the birth of Barbie, beatniks, hourglass silhouettes and the Chanel suit. Homemakers everywhere redecorated their living rooms in Danish modern design and decked out their kitchens in pastel colors and "state of the art" appliances.

Contented domesticity was the image of the day, and women's magazines frequently featured such crochet patterns as ladylike lace gloves and picture-perfect home décor items.

Our "before" bedspread, originally published in 1959 (see photo on previous page), took this mindset to heart, featuring a garden of delicate thread roses in a sweet, old-fashioned design.

Fast forward some fifty years and our garden blooms anew. To get this more modern look, we took a single square from this



pattern and reworked it using two strands of vibrant yarn.

The result? A throw pillow that's at once thoroughly modern and vintage-chic.

—Amy O'Neill Houck



SKILL LEVEL: easy

finished measurements

12"/30.5cm square

gauge

Rounds 1-3 on back = 4 1/2"/11.5cm square

Remember to check gauge for best results!

how to make a gauge swatch

With 2 strands of yarn held together, ch 5. Join with sl st to form a ring.

Work Rounds 1 through 3 of Back instructions.

Swatch should measure 4 1/2"/11cm square. If necessary, adjust hook size to obtain correct gauge.

notes

1 Use two strands of yarn held together throughout.

2 Pillow can be made in choice of colors for flower, leaves and background. Throughout pattern, A refers to your color choice for flower, B refers to leaves around flower and C refers to background on front and back.

FRONT

Starting in center with A, ch 6. Join with sl st to

form a ring.

Round 1 (right side) Ch 5 (counts as dc and ch-2 sp), (dc in ring, ch 2) 7 times – 8 dc and 8 ch-2 sps. Join with sl st in 3rd ch of beginning ch-5.

Round 2 *Work (sc, hdc, 3 dc, hdc, sc) in next ch-2 sp (petal made); repeat from * around – 8 petals. Join with sl st in first sc.

Round 3 Ch 4; *sc between next 2 petals, ch 4; repeat from * around – 7 sc and 8 ch-4 sps. Join with sl st in joining sl st.

Round 4 *Work (sc, hdc, 5 dc, hdc, sc) in next ch-4 sp (petal made); repeat from * around – 8 petals. Join with sl st in first sc.

Round 5 Repeat Round 3.

Round 6 *Work (sc, hdc, 7 dc, hdc, sc) in next ch-4 sp (petal made); repeat from * around – 8 petals. Join with sl st in first sc.

Round 7 Repeat Round 3.

Round 8 *Work (sc, hdc, dc, 7 tr, dc, hdc, sc) in next ch-4 sp (petal made); repeat from * around – 8 petals. Join with sl st in first sc. Fasten off A.

Round 9 Join B with sl st in center tr on any petal, ch 1, sc in same tr; *ch 7, [(tr cl, ch 4) twice, tr cl] in center tr on next petal, ch 7**; sc in center tr on next petal; repeat from * 3 times more, ending final repeat at ** – 12 tr cl, 4 sc, 8 ch-7 sps and 8 ch-4

sps. Join with sl st in first sc. Fasten off B.

Round 10 Join C with sl st in center tr cl of any 3 tr cl group, ch 3 (counts as dc now and throughout), 2 dc in same st; *ch 1, 3 dc in next ch-4 sp, [(ch 1, 3 dc) two times in next ch-7 sp] two times, ch 1, 3 dc in next ch-4 sp, ch 1*; (3 dc, ch 3, 3 dc) in next tr cl; repeat from * 3 times more, ending final repeat at **; 3 dc in next tr cl; ch 1, join with hdc in 3rd ch of beginning ch-3 (counts as ch-3 sp) – 96 dc, 4 ch-3 sps and 28 ch-1 sps.

Rounds 11-13 Ch 3, 2 dc around post of joining hdc; *ch 1, 3 dc in next ch-1 sp; repeat from * across to next ch-3 sp*; ch 1, work (3 dc, ch 3, 3 dc) in ch-3 sp; repeat from * 3 times more, ending final repeat at **; ch 1, 3 dc in last ch-sp; ch 1, join with hdc in 3rd ch of beginning ch-3 (counts as ch-3 sp) – 108 dc, 4 ch-3 sps and 32 ch-1 sps at end of round 11. At end of round 13 – 132 dc, 4 ch-3 sps and 40 ch-1 sps. Fasten off at end of round 13.

BACK

With C, ch 5. Join with sl st to form a ring.

Round 1 (right side) Ch 3 (counts as dc now and throughout), 2 dc in ring, (ch 3, 3 dc in ring) 3 times; ch 1, join with hdc in 3rd ch of beginning ch-3 (counts as ch-3 sp now and throughout) – 12 dc and 4 ch-3 sps.

Round 2 Ch 3, dc around post of joining hdc, dc in same ch as joining and in next 2 dc; *(2 dc, ch 3, 2 dc) in next ch-3 sp, dc in next 3 dc; repeat from * 2 times more; 2 dc in next ch-1 sp; ch 1, join with hdc in 3rd ch of beginning ch-3 – 28 dc and 4 ch-3 sps.

Rounds 3-8 Ch 3, dc around post of joining hdc, dc in same ch as joining and in each dc across to next ch-3 sp; *(2 dc, ch 3, 2 dc) in next ch-3 sp, dc in each dc across to next ch-3 sp; repeat from * 2 times more, ending final repeat at **; 2 dc in next ch-1 sp; ch 1, join with hdc in 3rd ch of beginning ch-3 – 44 dc and 4 ch-3 sps at end of round 3. At end of round 8 – 124 dc and 4 ch-3 sps.

Round 9 Ch 3, 2 dc around post of joining hdc; *(ch 1, sk next 3 dc, 3 dc in next dc) two times; (ch 1, sk next 2 dc, 3 dc in next dc) 7 times; ch 1*; (3 dc, ch 3, 3 dc) in next ch-3 sp; repeat from * 3 times more, ending final repeat at **; 3 dc in next ch-1 sp, ch 3 – 132 dc, 4 ch-3 sps and 40 ch-1 sps. Join with sl st in 3rd ch of beginning ch-3. Fasten off.

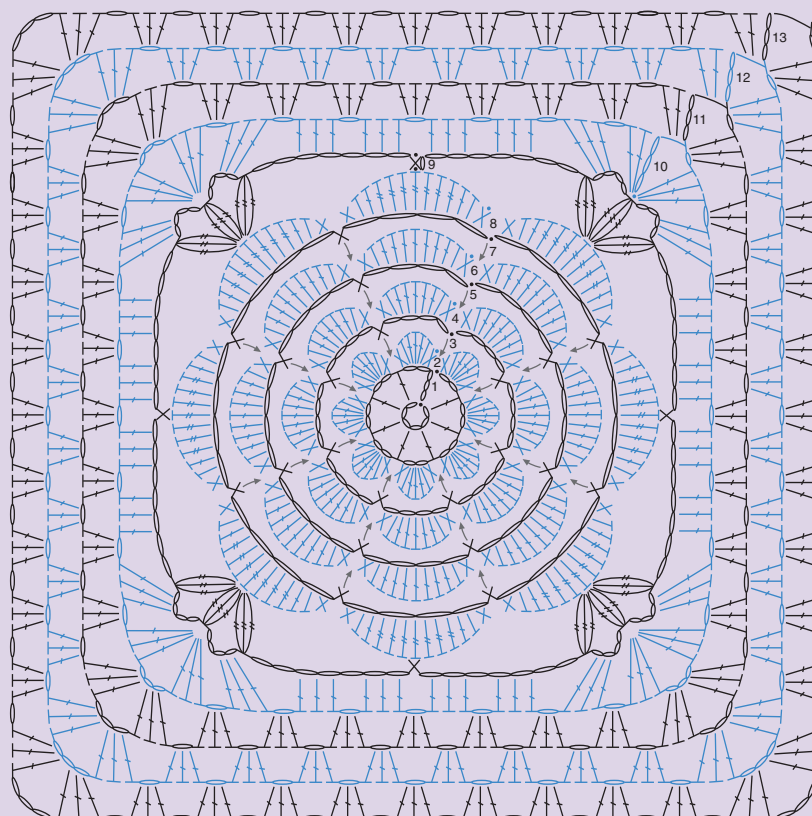
finishing

Align two 13"/33cm pieces of fabric with right sides together. With sewing needle and thread, sew seam around 3 edges of fabric with $\frac{1}{2}$ " /1.25cm seam allowance. Turn fabric to right side. Insert pillow form and stitch last edge of fabric with $\frac{1}{2}$ " /1.25cm seam allowance.

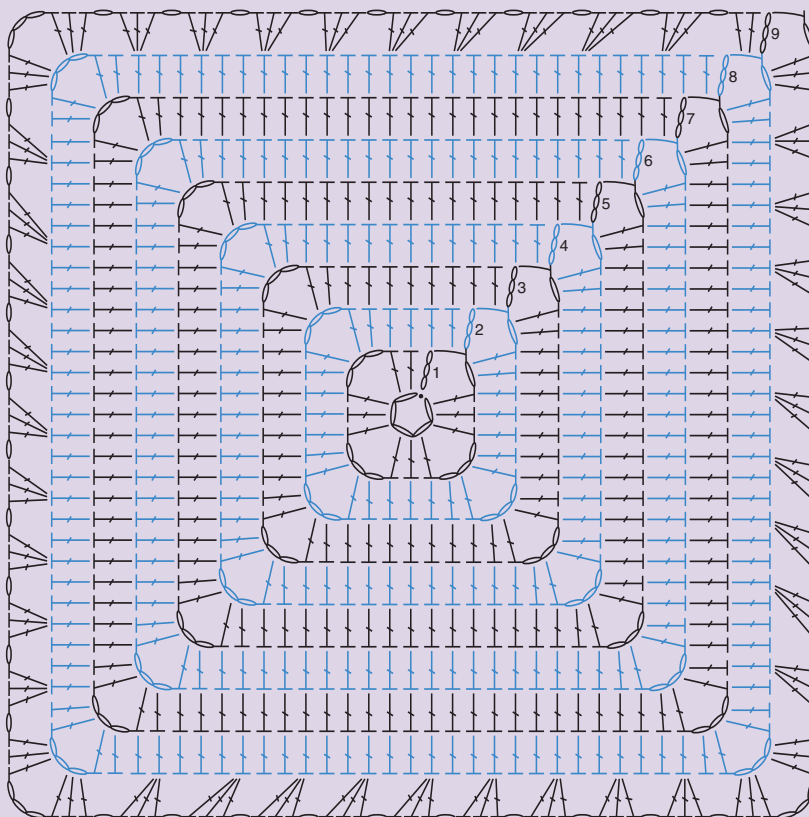
Weave in all ends on front and back pieces.

With wrong sides of front and back together, whipstitch edges together, inserting pillow before joining last edge.

Weave in ends. ■



FRONT



BACK