

# Pastel Butterfly Granny Square Tote Bag

## COMPLETE TUTORIAL: PASTEL BUTTERFLY GRANNY SQUARE TOTE BAG (US TERMINOLOGY)



**FINISHED PROJECT**

### MATERIALS & TOOLS



**Recommended Yarn:**  
Sport or DK weight cotton yarn (e.g., 50g skeins) in Cream (base), plus smaller amounts of Pastel Green, Pink, Yellow, Purple, Blue. (Total ~200-250g).



**Recommended Hook:**  
Size G/6 (4.0mm) or matching yarn weight.

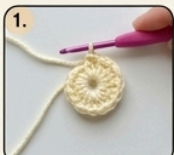


**Notions:**  
Yarn needle, Scissors.



### BUTTERFLY GRANNY SQUARE PATTERN

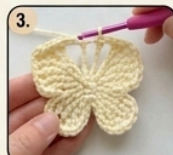
#### PART 1: MAKING THE 3D BUTTERFLY MOTIF (US TERMS)



1. Create magic ring. [MR].  
2. Work base dc clusters.



3. Form lower wings (ch 3, dc2tog in next 2 ch-sp, ch 3).



4. Form upper wings (ch 4, t2tog in next 2 ch-sp, ch 4, sc in base).



5. Slip stitch to form body, ch and attach antennae (tiny sc clusters or chain).

**COMPLETE MOTIF**

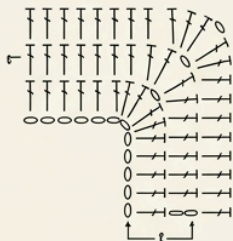
#### PART 2: CONSTRUCTING THE GRANNY SQUARE BASE (US TERMS)



1. Join square background yarn (e.g., Cream) into a corner chain-space of the butterfly.



2. Follow diagram: Corners (3 dc, ch 2, 3 dc); Sides (dc cluster pattern). Work over 2 rounds with the rounds to complete a square of matching size to others.



#### STEP-BY-STEP BAG ASSEMBLY

- MAKING ALL 18 SQUARES:** Create 9 distinct front squares (as per image layout) and 9 back squares (cream or matching pattern).
- JOINING THE SQUARES:** Work into a 3x3 grid for front and back panels using single crochet join or mattress stitch. Ensure all butterfly wings face upwards.
- FORMING THE BAG:** Single crochet front and back panels together along sides and bottom, leaving the top open. Option to add a 1-inch (2.5cm) side/bottom gusset panel before joining.
- TOP BORDER:** Work 2 rounds of single crochet (sc) and 1 round of reverse single crochet (rsc) around the top edge.
- HANDLES:** Calculate desired handle length (e.g., 15 inches). Chain 65 (or as needed). Work 2 rounds of double crochet (dc). Attach securely to the inside of the top edge.

#### US CROCHET TERMINOLOGY KEY & KEY POINTS

Abbreviation	US Stitch Name	Description
MR	Magic Ring	⊙ Magic ring, [MR]
ch	Chain	⇌ Base dc cts. (1H)
sl st	Slip Stitch	Slip Stitch (d st)
sc	Single Crochet	Single Crochet (MR), (sc)
dc	Double Crochet	Double Crochet (dc)
tr	Treble Crochet	Treble Crochet (tr)
dc2tog	Double Crochet 2	Double Crochet 2 Together (d2)

- Tension check:** Squares must be identical size for clean assembly.
- Butterfly orientation:** Critical for the design. Sew/sc securely.

This detailed step-by-step guide will teach you how to crochet a beautiful **Pastel Butterfly Granny Square Tote Bag** from start to finish using **US crochet terminology**. The bag is constructed from individual butterfly granny squares that are later joined together to create a soft, structured tote with comfortable handles.

This tutorial explains every stage carefully so that even beginners can follow along and complete the project successfully.

Finished bag measurements (approximate):

- **Width:** 13.5 inches (34.3 cm)
- **Height (without handles):** 13.5 inches (34.5 cm)
- **Handle length:** 15 inches (38 cm)
- **Square size:** about 4.5 – 4.8 inches (11.5 cm)

The bag is made using **18 granny squares total** — 9 for the front panel and 9 for the back panel.

## Materials and Tools

Prepare all materials before starting.

### Recommended Yarn

Use **Sport Weight or DK Weight cotton yarn.**

Suggested colors:

- Cream or off-white (base color)
- Pastel Green
- Pastel Pink
- Pastel Yellow
- Pastel Purple
- Pastel Blue

You will need approximately **200–250 grams total yarn.**

### Crochet Hook

- Size **G/6 (4.0 mm)** crochet hook

### Other Tools

- Yarn needle (for weaving ends)
- Scissors
- Stitch markers (optional but helpful)

## Crochet Abbreviations (US Terms)

MR – Magic Ring

ch – chain

sl st – slip stitch

sc – single crochet

dc – double crochet  
tr – treble crochet  
dc2tog – double crochet two together

## Step 1: Making the Butterfly Center (Magic Ring Base)

Start with the butterfly motif that will sit in the center of each granny square.

1. Hold the yarn tail in your palm and wrap the yarn around two fingers to form a loop.
2. Insert the hook into the loop and pull up a loop.
3. Chain 2 to secure the ring.

Now work the base stitches inside the magic ring.

4. Crochet **8 double crochets (dc)** into the magic ring.
5. Pull the yarn tail gently to tighten the ring.
6. Join with a **slip stitch** into the first stitch.

This forms the circular center of the butterfly.

## Step 2: Creating the Lower Butterfly Wings

Now we will form the bottom wings of the butterfly.

1. Chain **3**.
2. Work **2 double crochets in the same stitch**.
3. Chain **2**.
4. Slip stitch into the next stitch.

Repeat this process for the opposite side:

5. Chain **3**, make **2 double crochets** in the same stitch.
6. Chain **2**.
7. Slip stitch into the next stitch.

You should now see two small rounded shapes that will become the **lower butterfly wings**.

## Step 3: Forming the Upper Butterfly Wings

The upper wings are larger and give the butterfly its recognizable shape.

1. Move to the next stitch with a slip stitch.
2. Chain **4**.
3. Make **2 treble crochets (tr)** in the same space.
4. Chain **4** again.
5. Slip stitch into the next stitch.

Repeat for the opposite side to create the second top wing.

After finishing both sides, you will see **four wings total** — two smaller lower wings and two larger upper wings.

## Step 4: Creating the Butterfly Body and Antennae

Now we form the center body of the butterfly.

1. Insert the hook between the wings in the center.
2. Chain **4**.
3. Slip stitch back down to the center to secure the body.

For the antennae:

1. Attach a small piece of darker yarn (brown or similar).
2. Chain **3**.
3. Slip stitch back down.
4. Repeat for the second antenna.

Your **3D butterfly motif is now complete**.

## Step 5: Attaching the Background Yarn

To turn the butterfly into a granny square, we now crochet a square background.

1. Attach the **cream yarn** to one corner space between the wings.
2. Chain **3** (counts as first double crochet).
3. Work **2 double crochets** into the same space.

This creates the first **corner cluster**.

## Step 6: Building the Square Shape

Continue around the butterfly to build the square.

Corner pattern:

- 3 dc
- ch 2
- 3 dc

Side pattern:

- 3 dc cluster

Steps:

1. In the next space, work **3 double crochets**.
2. In the corner space work:
  - **3 dc**
  - **ch 2**
  - **3 dc**

Repeat this structure around the butterfly.

You should end with **four corners**, forming a square.

Join with a **slip stitch** to the starting chain.

## Step 7: Expanding the Granny Square

To match the size shown in the design, crochet **two additional rounds**.

Round instructions:

1. Slip stitch to the next corner space.
2. Chain **3** (counts as dc).
3. Work **2 dc, ch 2, 3 dc** in the same corner.

For the sides:

- Work **3 dc in each side space**.

At every corner:

- **3 dc, ch 2, 3 dc**

Continue around and join with a slip stitch.

Repeat one more round if needed so each square measures about **4.5–4.8 inches**.

Fasten off and weave in yarn ends.

## **Step 8: Making All Squares**

You will need **18 squares total**.

Make:

- **9 squares for the front panel**
- **9 squares for the back panel**

Use different pastel butterfly colors to create a soft patchwork effect.

Ensure:

- All squares are **the same size**
- Butterflies are **facing the same direction**

## **Step 9: Arranging the Panels**

Lay the squares flat before joining.

Arrange them in a **3 × 3 grid**.

Example arrangement:

Row 1 – pastel butterflies

Row 2 – mixed colors

Row 3 – pastel butterflies

Repeat the same process for the **back panel**.

## Step 10: Joining the Squares

There are two joining options:

### Option 1 – **Single Crochet Join**

1. Place two squares with right sides facing out.
2. Insert hook through both edges.
3. Work **single crochet across** the seam.

### Option 2 – **Mattress Stitch**

1. Use a yarn needle.
2. Sew through the back loops of both squares.
3. Pull yarn gently to create an invisible seam.

Join squares until both panels (front and back) are complete.

## Step 11: Forming the Tote Bag

Place the front and back panels together.

Join them as follows:

1. Start at the bottom corner.
2. Single crochet across the **bottom edge**.
3. Continue up one side.
4. Repeat on the other side.

Leave the **top open**.

Optional: add a **1 inch (2.5 cm) gusset** by inserting a narrow panel before joining the sides.

## Step 12: Crocheting the Top Border

To strengthen the opening of the bag:

Round 1:

- Work **single crochet (sc)** evenly around the top.

Round 2:

- Work another round of **single crochet**.

Round 3 (optional decorative edge):

- Work **reverse single crochet (crab stitch)** around the edge.

This makes the top sturdy and neat.

## Step 13: Making the Handles

Handles should be comfortable and durable.

1. Attach yarn to one side of the bag opening.
2. Chain **65 stitches** (or until the strap measures about **15 inches / 38 cm**).
3. Turn and work **double crochet across the chain**.
4. Crochet **2 rows of dc** total.

Fasten off and attach the other end securely inside the bag.

Repeat to create the second handle.

## Step 14: Finishing the Bag

Final steps:

1. Weave in all loose yarn ends using a yarn needle.
2. Check seams for strength.
3. Block the bag lightly if needed to shape the squares evenly.

Your **Pastel Butterfly Granny Square Tote Bag** is now finished 🦋✨

It is perfect for:

- Spring outfits
- Market shopping
- Yarn projects
- Everyday use

The soft pastel butterflies combined with the classic granny square design create a charming handmade accessory that stands out beautifully.