Be My Baby Blanket

Perfect for those who enjoy trying new easy stitch patterns, this warm weather blanket is crocheted with cotton yarn. We've shown it using four soft pretty shades, but you may want to change it up to coordinate with the nursery.

Blanket measures 36½ wide x 38½” long (92.5 x 98 cm).

Special Stitches
Beg dc2tog (Beginning double crochet 2 together) = Ch 2, dc in next stitch.
Beg V-st (Beginning V-stitch) = Ch 4 (counts as first dc, ch 1), dc in first stitch.
dc2tog = [Yarn over, insert hook in next stitch, yarn over and pull up loop, yarn over, draw through 2 loops] 2 times, yarn over, draw through all 3 loops on hook.
shell = (2 dc, ch 2, 2 dc) in indicated stitch.
V-st (V-stitch) = (Dc, ch 1, dc) in indicated stitch.
4-dc Cl (4 double crochet cluster) = Yarn over, insert hook in indicated stitch, yarn over and pull up loop, yarn over, draw through 2 loops on hook (2 loops remain on hook); [yarn over, insert hook in same stitch, yarn over and pull up loop, yarn over, draw through 2 loops] 3 times, yarn over, draw through all 5 loops on hook.

Color Sequence
2 rows with A, 2 rows with B, 2 rows with C, 2 rows with D

Notes
1. Blanket is worked back and forth in rows with color change at the end of every 2nd row.
2. To change color, work last stitch of old color to last yarn over. Yarn over with new color and draw through all loops on hook to complete stitch. Proceed with new color. Cut old color or carry color not in use along wrong side until next needed.
3. Border is worked in joined rounds. Work Round 1 over carried strands. If you cut yarn at each color change, you may prefer to work over ends of tails to minimize weaving in ends.

BLANKET
With A, ch 120.
Row 1 (right side): Dc in 4th ch from hook (beginning ch count as first dc), dc in each ch across, turn—118 dc.
Row 2: Ch 1, working in back loops only, hdc in each st across; change to B, turn—118 hdc.
Row 3: Ch 1, sc in first 2 sts, *ch 2, skip next 2 sts, sc in next 2 sts; repeat from * across; change to C, turn—59 sc.
Row 4: Beg V-st, V-st in each remaining sc; change to D, turn—59 V-sts.
Row 5: Slp st in ch-1 space of first V-st, ch 3 (counts as first dc here and throughout), dc in same space, *ch 2, sc in ch-1 space of next V-st; ch 2, dc in ch-1 space of next V-st; repeat from * across, turn—thirty 2-dc groups and 29 sc.
Row 6: Beg V-st, V-st in each remaining sc; change to D, turn—59 V-sts.
Row 7: Slp st in ch-1 space of first V-st, ch 3 (counts as first dc here and throughout), dc in same space, *ch 2, sc in ch-1 space of next V-st, ch 2, dc in ch-1 space of next V-st; repeat from * across, turn—thirty 2-dc groups and 29 sc.
Row 8: Ch 1, sc in first dc, *ch 4, sc in first dc of next 2-dc group; repeat from * across to last 2-dc group, ch 4, sc in top of beginning ch; change to A, turn—30 sc and 29 ch-4 spaces.

Continued...
Row 9: Ch 3, shell in each ch-4 space across, dc in last sc, turn—29 shells.
Row 10: Ch 1, sc in first dc, ch 2, sc in ch-2 space of first shell, *ch 2, sc in first dc of next shell, ch 2, sc in ch-2 space of same shell; repeat from * across to beginning ch, sc in top of beginning ch; change to B, turn—59 sc.
Row 11: Beg V-st, V-st in each remaining sc, turn—59 V-sts.
Row 12: Ch 3, dc in ch-1 space of first V-st, 2 dc in ch-1 space of each V-st across to last V-st, dc in ch-1 space of last V-st, dc in 3rd ch of ch-4 of beg V-st; change to C, turn—118 sts.
Row 13: Ch 3, working in back loops only, dc in each st across, turn.
Row 14: Repeat Row 2; change to D.
Rows 15–72: Repeat Rows 3–14 four times, then repeat Rows 3–12 once; change color at the end of each even-numbered row as in the color sequence.
Fasten off.

Border
You may prefer to work over yarn tails to minimize weaving in ends. Work over carried strands.

Round 1 (right side): With right side of last row facing, join A with slip st in last st, ch 1, 3 hdc in same st (corner made); *working in ends of rows, evenly space 153 hdc* across first side; working in opposite side of foundation ch, 3 hdc in first ch (corner made), hdc in each ch across to last ch, 3 hdc in last ch (corner made); repeat from * to * across other side; join with slip st in first hdc—538 hdc (116 across each of top and bottom edges and 153 hdc across each side) and four 3-hdc corners. Fasten off.

Round 2: Join D with slip st in center st of any corner, ch 3, dc in same st, *ch 2, skip next st, sc in next st, ch 2, slip st in next st, 2 dc in next st; repeat from * around to last 2 sts, skip next st, ch 2; join with slip st in top of beginning ch. Fasten off.

FINISHING
Weave in ends.

ABBREVIATIONS
A, B, C = Color A, Color B, Color C, etc.;
ch = chain(s); dc = double crochet; hdc = half double crochet; sc = single crochet;
st(s) = stitch(es); ( ) = work directions in parentheses into same st; [ ] = work directions in brackets the number of times specified; * = repeat whatever follows the * as indicated.