Basic Crochet Instructions

Video 1: Slip Knot

Start by making a slip knot, leaving a tail of a few inches. Insert your hook into the loop.  Pull the end of the tail to tighten the loop on your hook, making sure it's not too tight and can still easily move up and down the hook.

Video 2: Chain Row

Create foundation row using chain stitches.  To create a chain stitch, wrap the working end of your yarn around your hook and pull up a loop through the loop on your hook.

Video 3: Double Crochet on Chain Row

To double crochet:
1. Wrap your yarn around your hook once.
2. Insert your hook into the last chain stitch from your hook.  Each chain stitch looks like a V or a braid.
3. Wrap your yarn around your hook and pull a loop through the chain.
4. Wrap your yarn around your hook again. Pull the yarn through the first two loops on your hook, so you're left with two loops on your hook.
5. Wrap your yarn around your hook. Pull the yarn through the last two loops on your hook, so you're left with one loop on your hook.

Video 4: Turning Your Work

At the end of your row, count your double crochet stitches to make sure you have the correct number.  Each stitch looks like a vertical post.  Unlike other crochet patterns, do not add any chains at the end of your row.  Instead, after the last double crochet, turn your work.  Then, double crochet into the last double crochet of the previous row.

Video 5:  Double Crochet on Prior DC Rows

For your second row and beyond, you will be working into the double crochet stitches from the previous row.  When you insert your hook, make sure you are going under both front and back loops of each double crochet stitch.  At the end of the row, count your stitches to make sure you have the right number.

Video 6:  Changing Colors

Each square has a color or symbol to denote the color yarn to be used.  When the pattern denotes a color change, you'll need to tie in your next color to continue working. On the last double crochet before changing colors, stop before pulling through the last two loops on your

hook (after step 4, above).  With the last two loops till on your hook, clip the end of the yarn you've been working with to about 2 inches.  Take the end of your next color, and tie it to the tail of your last color, using a double knot.  All knots and ends should be moved to the back side of your work. Do not weave in ends.  Yarn over with your next color and pull through the last two loops.  Continue to double crochet with next color.


Following the Patterns:

1. Use a 4.0mm (G) size hook.  If you tend to crochet more loosely, use a 3.5 (E) or 3.75 (F) crochet hook.  Please check your gauge with Olek or assistants.
2. Create foundation row, following the pattern from left to right.  Each square represents two chain stitches, for a total of 80 stitches.  Change colors when necessary.
3. Starting from the right side of the pattern, crochet row 1.  Each square represents 2 double crochet stitches, for a total of 80 double crochet stitches across per row. Change colors when necessary.  Do not chain 2 at the ends.
4. After completing each row, cross it off with a pen/pencil to keep track of where you are.
5. Each row is one double crochet high.  You should finish with a total of 54 rows + foundation chain row.
6. Each square will end up being about 2' x 2'.  Do not stretch your work, as we will do this later when we go to connect the pieces.  However, if your rows seem much shorter than 22" (more than a few inches shorter) make sure you're doing 80 stitches across.