Astrid's 4 Fallen leaves potholders



The technique

These potholders are made in crochet, the technique is Interlocking Crochet. Basically, two filet/mesh crochet parts of double crochet - chain one which are interlinked to form a pattern or drawing. Each row is worked first with the main (A) colour and then with the background (B) colour(s) before the work is turned around. At the end of the file there is more information on the technique if needed, including a photo guide on how to get started.

The video tutorial

If you are unsure about the technique and want to first watch some tutorials, I have some in my YouTube channel: Astrid's Interlocking Crochet. The pattern I used on these videos can be downloaded for free from Ravelry. Here are some links:

Free pattern in Ravelry: Astrid's Christmas tangle potholder YouTube channel: Astrid's Interlocking crochet YouTube channel

The size

The finished potholders measure approximately 22 x 25 cm. If you want it in a larger size, using a thicker yarn and a larger needle would be the solution. If you wish to make squares for a blanket, just avoid making the loop with the A border.

The varn

One potholder takes approximately 65 grams. The colour A is the one used in the border and the pattern (approx. 35gr) and the colour B is the one (or more) used in the background (30gr).

I used Scheepies Catona, 100% cotton mercerized, fingering weight, 125metres per 50gr, and used a 3,0mm hook though the suggested hook for this yarn is 3,5mm. My choice of colours is included at the start of each potholder.

The stitches

(US terminology)

ch	Chain	The pattern is abbreviated to		
sk	Skip	make it simple to read. It consists	B1	dcib, ch1
dc	Double crochet	of B's and F's with a number next	B3	(dcib, ch1)x3 times
dcib	Double crochet in the back	to it. To the right is the	F1	dcif, ch1
dcif	Double crochet in the front	explanation of the abbreviations.	F2	(dcif, ch1) twice
SC	Single crochet			
hdc	Half double crochet			

Row ends: Note: the B rows, end with B or F stitches, however the last stitch does not have a chain 1. I always end all rows with chain 3, instead of doing it at the beginning of the next, it is just a habit, and it is easier to "hang" the B colour back or front at the start of an A row. The last stitch of A and B rows goes in the last window of the previous row and not in a specific chain. Eventually, with a little tug the sides have square windows.

The solid stitches

The way to work these stitches is a bit different, but if you follow the instructions closely and work a bit slower. you should be fine. The big difference is that on one same row, sometimes we make a chain and skip one, other times we don't. Simply said, "solid stitches" are good old fashioned double crochet stitches, done on a row.



Some basics:

- Part of the row is normal interlocking, part solid stitches.
- The "new" stitches you have here are either dcib (dc in the back) or dcif (dc in the front).
- The dcif and dcib "sets" of stitches have always odd number of stitches. The first and every second after go on dc from the previous row, the rest go on the chain space from the row below.
- You make the dc stitches on a row WITHOUT chain 1 skip 1.
- At the end of each "set" you make, yes a chain 1 skip 1 once.

Example: F5, B1, F2, 5dcif, B2, 3dcif, 3dcif, B2

You make:

- a) F5, B1 and F2 as normal ending in the last *chain 1 skip 1* from the F2...
- b) then you make 5 dc on a row (the first, third and fifth on the next 3 dc from previous row, and the second and fourth in the chain one spaces in between)...

REMEMBER TO chain 1 – skip 1 after the set of dcif! ...

- c) Then you make B2 as usual,
- d) Then a set of 3dcif... chain 1 skip 1... another set of dcif... (when two sets of dcif (or dcib) are together, you have to chain 1 - skip 1 in between!)...
- e) And finish off with B2 as usual.

The colours

Two of the potholders are in just two colours, one for the A rows and one for the B rows. The other two have a second colour in the B rows. The colours are not carried in Interlocking, so you work with different skeins/bobbins. At the start of each potholder I listed the colours used and when you need two or more bobbins of a colour.

The colour changes

Throughout the years I have seen many ways of doing this and everyone has a meaning. You can chose your own method. If you need inspiration, here is the way I do colour changes:

The very first time you will insert a new colour, you work your first colour until the dc, then chain 1 with the new colour and continue with the second colour. It is returning back and forth these colour changes that can get tricky.

When you are working your first colour and "meet" a new one, you do and chain 1. Without taking the yarn off your hook, you send the hook through the next stitch and pick up a loop of the next colour, chain 2 (now two loops on hook), varn over with new colour and pull through 2, continue as normal with second colour. This is an ok system, but the chains are visibly different than the other dc's and don't look so good. However it is a fast way to change colour and perfect for using it on the back side of the blanket, and even better if it is behind solid stitches. Below is a photo guide of the steps

Send the hook through the next stitch and
pick up a loop of the next colour
Chain 2 (you have two loops on your hook)



Pull the end of the chain 2 (white here) through the loop of your previous stitch (yellow here)



Chain one and continue with the stitches. When you meet a stitch below that has two colours joined in the previous row, send your hook catching the side loop as well to anchor it better.

The example above is when you have to make the change "before you meet the new colour", then you have a strand of the new colour (white), which you afterwards stitch over to fasten it.

If you meet the new colour but don't need to change before another few stitches, you carry that yarn stitching over it until you use it.

The questions

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions. You can reach me at aschandy@yahoo.no via email or you can join my Facebook group "Astrid's Interlocking crochet lab". You find my work also in Instagram at ati stitches.

The chart

A chart is included (with a photo) at the beginning of each pattern table for those who prefer to crochet from a picture. Also it is good to compare to make sure it is looking as it should.

The pattern

The table with the pattern has grey rows for all A rows, hopefully it is easier to read.

When you are working on even numbered rows, you are working with the back of the blanket facing you. It may help to know that when working on even rows, you are following the drawing from left to write.

When you are working on odd numbered rows, you are working with the front of the blanket facing you. When working on odd rows, you are following the drawing from right to left.

All rows should start with ch3, and at the beginning of each row, pay attention to where the B colour should hang, either to the front or the back, as this will affect the drawing/pattern. This is marked in the second column of the pattern. Also, at the end of all B rows, the very last stitch is not followed by a chain 1.

The border

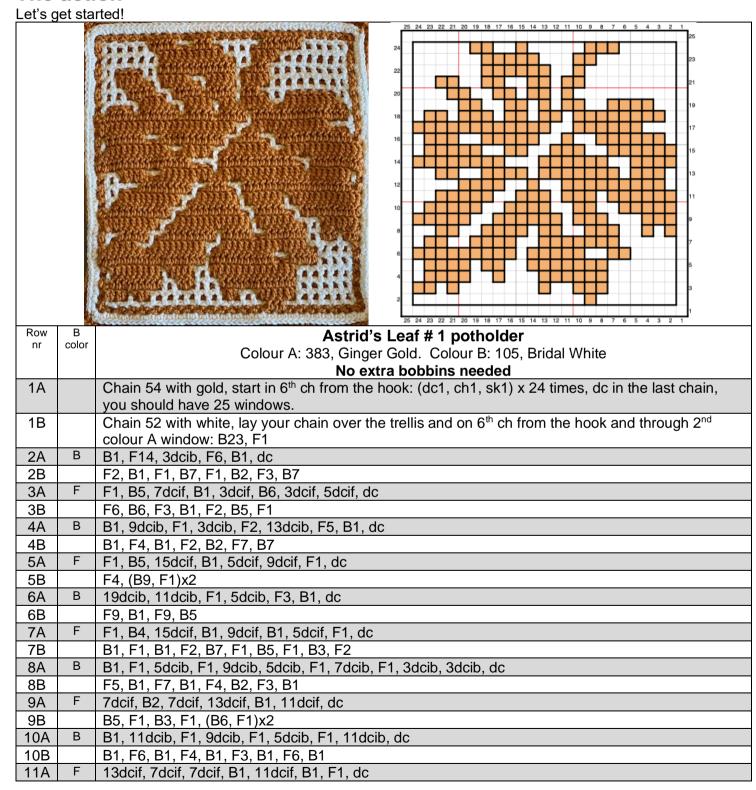
The border, as the rest of the potholder, is done one in each colour. First colour B:

With colour B: on colour B windows, 2sc in every window, 5sc in each corner.

With colour A: on colour A windows, start with chain 25 for your loop, and slip stitch into the same corner window. Make 2 hdc in the first window. Continue all around with 2 hdc in every window. The first three corners: 2hdc, 1hdc grabbing the middle (3rd) sc of the colour B window, 2 hdc. When you reach the end of © Astrid Schandy 2023 aschandy@yahoo.no Fallen leaves potholders v.71.1 4 the round, 2hdc in the last window, and 25 sc on the 25 chains of the loop. Join to the first hdc with an invisible join, and cut a bit longer than usual. When you thread a needle to "hide" the last thread, stitch twice on the 3rd sc (colour B) of this last corner to fasten it to the A colour, as the other three corners.

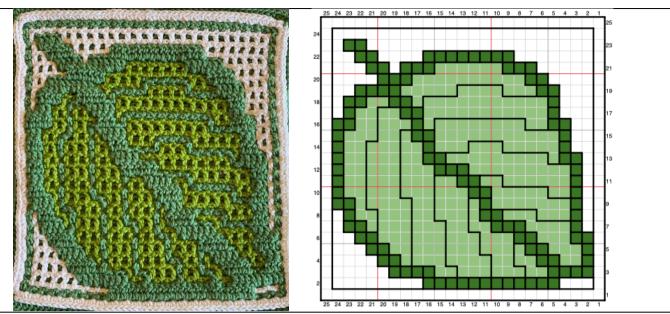
Hope you enjoy this!

The action



11B		B10, F1, B3, F1, B6, F3
	В	, , , , ,
12A	ь	B1, F3, 9dcib, F1, 3dcib, F1, 19dcib, B1, dc
12B		B2, F20, B2
13A	F	F1, 7dcif, 15dcif, 9dcif, B1, 5dcif, B1, F1, dc
13B	_	B4, F1, B7, F1, B10, F1
14A	В	17dcib, F2, 13dcib, F1, 9dcib, dc
14B		F10, B1, F12, B1
15A	F	13dcif, B1, 7dcif, B1, 5dcif, B1, 11dcif, F1, dc
15B		B7, F1, B3, F1, B10, F2
16A	В	B1, 7dcib, F1, 11dcib, F1, 3dcib, F1, 13dcib, B1, dc
16B		F12, B1, F9, B2
17A	F	F1, B2, 13dcif, B1, 25dcif, dc
17B		F1, B8, F1, B13, F1
18A	В	B1, 5dcib, 7dcib, 5dcib, 5dcib, 17dcib, B1, dc
18B		B1, F2, B1, F3, B1, F2, B1, F11, B2
19A	F	F1, B1, 9dcif, B1, 5dcif, 3dcif, 5dcif, B1, 5dcif, B3, F1, dc
19B		F2, B4, F2, B2, F1, B5, F1, B3, F4
20A	В	B1, F2, 5dcib, F1, 5dcib, 5dcib, 3dcib, F8, B1, dc
20B		B2, F3, B1, F3, (B1, F2)x2, B9
21A	F	F1, B7, 5dcif, 5dcif, (B1, 5dcif)x2, B1, F1, dc
21B		F8, B2, F1, B6, F2, B2, F3
22A	В	B1, F5, 13dcib, F1, 3dcib, F7, B1, dc
22B		B6, F6, B2, F2, B8
23A	F	F1, B6, 5dcif, B2, 11dcif, B5, F1, dc
23B		F5, B4, F3, B6, F6
24A	В	B1, F4, 5dcib, F1, 3dcib, F4, 7dcib, F4, B1, dc
24B		F23, B1 (chain 1 but do not cut off colour B. The chain 1 is the first sc of border B)
25A	Х	B24, dc (do not cut off colour A, continue with border A).
ZUA	,,	D27, do (do not out on colour A, continue with border A).





NOTE: I was not extremely happy with the choice of greens. There is little contrast between them, so you may want to find two greens with higher contrast.

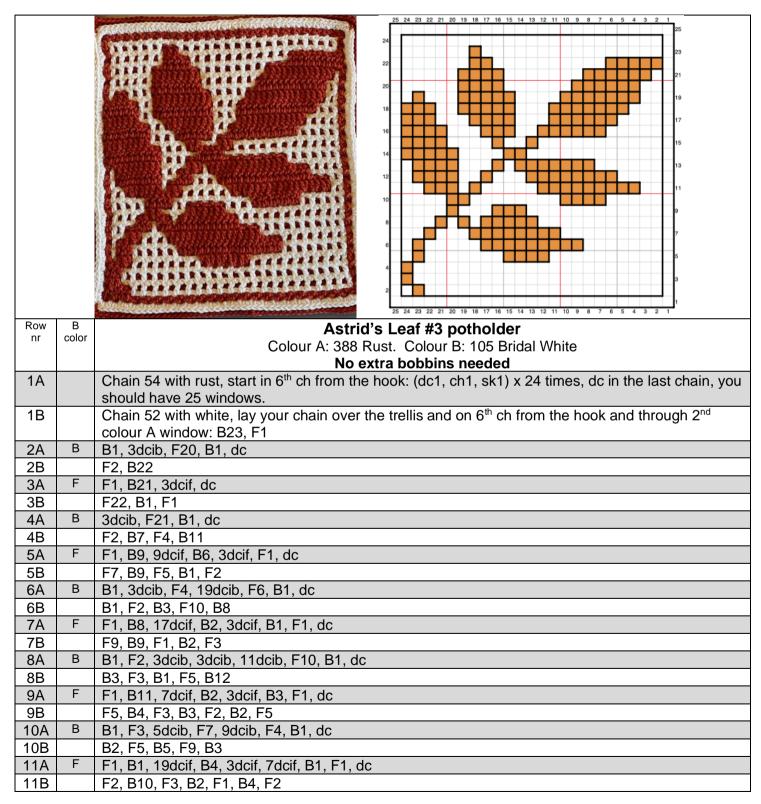
	journal name to ground maringner community		
Row	B color	Astrid's Leaf # 2 potholder	
nr	COIOI	Colour A: 412, Forest Green. Colours B: (WH) 105 Bridal White, (G) 205 Kiwi	
		WH: You will need two bobbins	
1A		Chain 54 with forest green, start in 6th ch from the hook: (dc1, ch1, sk1) x 24 times, dc in the last	
		chain, you should have 25 windows.	
1B		Chain 52 with white, lay your chain over the trellis and on 6 th ch from the hook and through 2 nd	
		colour A window: B23, F1	
2A	В	B1, F7, 25dcib, F2, B1, dc	

The rows as you know, start with ch3. It is a good habit to make the ch3 when you end a row, to have it ready. Whether you do or you don't, you should do it in these potholders, to have the white rim. The alternative is to

reme	remember to always make the ch3 at the start with white, regardless what the first stitch colour in the B row is.		
2B		WH : B5, F3	
		G (new): F11	
		WH (new): F4, B1	
3A	F	9dcif, B1, F1, (B2, F1)x2, B1, 9dcif, B4, F1, dc	
3B		G : B5, F1, B1, F5, B1, F1, B3	
		WH : B2, F5	
4A	В	B1, F3, 5dcib, B1, F2, B1, F3, (B1, F1)x2, 5dcib, F1, 3dcib, dc	
4B		WH : B3, F1	
		G : F2, B7, F1, B3, F3, B2	
		WH : F1, B1	
5A	F	3dcif, B2, 5dcif, F1, (B2, F1)x3, B1, 5dcif, B2, F1, dc	
5B		G : B2, F2, B3, F11, B1	
		WH : B2, F3	
6A	В	B1, F1, 5dcib, F2, (B1, F2)x3, 5dcib, F2, 5dcib, dc	
6B		WH : B1, F1	
		G : F2, B8, F1, B1, F4, B3	
		WH : F2, B1	
7A	F	F1, 3dcif, B3, 7dcif, (B1, F1)x2, (B2, F1)x2, 5dcif, F1, dc	
7B		WH : F1	
		G : B4, F1, B4, F3, B1, F6, B1	
		WH : B1, F2	
8A	В	B1, 3dcib, F1, B1, F2, B1, F1, B1, F2, B1, 5dcib, F2, B1, F2, 3dcib, B1, dc	

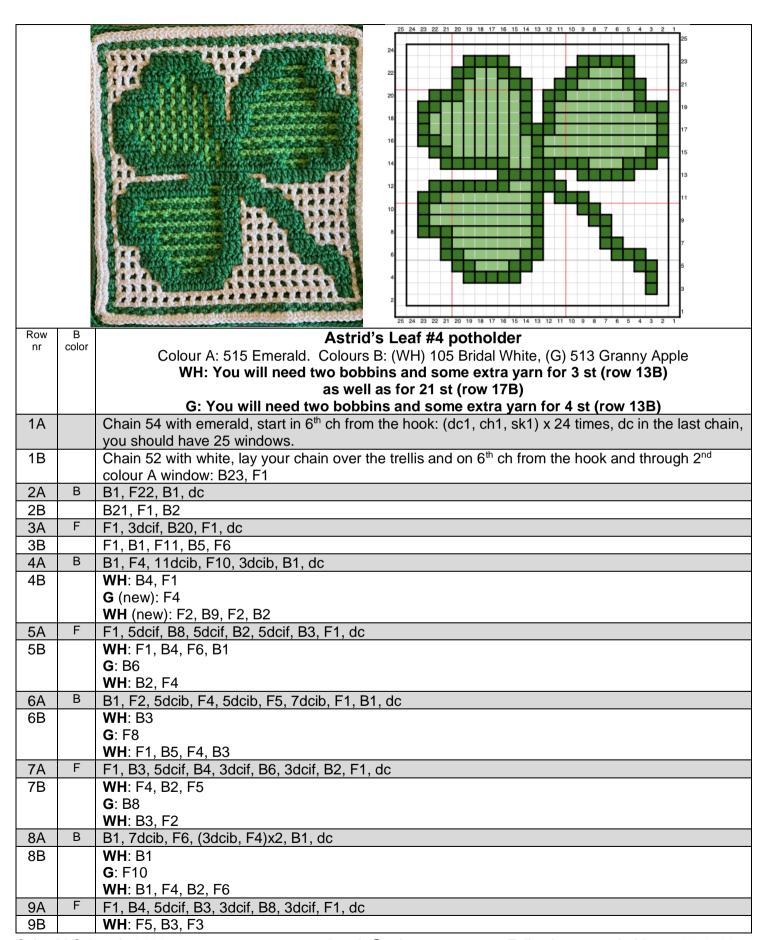
OD.		WILL EA
8B		WH: F1
		G : F1, B1, F1, B9, F5, B3
_	_	WH : F1, B2
9A	F	F1, 3dcif, B6, 3dcif, F1, B2, F1, B1, F1, B3, F1, 5dcif, dc
9B		WH : F1
		G : B3, F5, B2, F5, B1, F4, B1
		WH : B1, F1
10A	В	3dcib, F1, (B1, F2)x3, 5dcib, F4, B1, F1, 3dcib, B1, dc
10B		G : F1, B10, F3, B1, F4, B2
.02		WH : F1, B2
11A	F	F1, 3dcif, B5, F1, B1, 5dcif, B1, F1, (B2, F1)x2, B1, 3dcif, dc
11B	•	WH : F1
ПБ		
		G : B1, F6, B6, F8
400	D	WH: B1, F1
12A	В	3dcib, F1, (B1, F2)x2, 7dcib, F8, 3dcib, B1, dc
12B		G : F1, B7, F4, B7, F2
		WH : F1, B2
13A	F	F1, 5dcif, F1, B8, 5dcif, B1, F1, B2, F1, B1, 3dcif, dc
13B		WH : F1, B1
		G : B1, F1, B4, F3, B4, F7
		WH : B1, F1
14A	В	3dcib, F1, B1, F2, B1, F1, 3dcib, F2, B1, F2, B1, F4, 3dcib, F1, B1, dc
14B		G : F1, B2, F1, B3, F2, B3, F3, B5
		WH : F1, B3
15A	F	F1, B1, 3dcif, B10, 5dcif, F1, B1, F1, B2, 3dcif, dc
15B		WH : F2
		G : B4, F8, B3, F4, B1
		WH : B1, F1
16A	В	5dcib, F1, B1, F2, 3dcib, B1, F7, B1, F1, 5dcib, F1, B1, dc
16B		WH : F1
100		G : F1, B4, F2, B1, F8, B2
		WH : F2, B3
471	F	
17A	Г	F1, B2, 3dcif, B10, 5dcif, B1, F1, B1, 3dcif, F1, dc
17B		WH : F3
		G : B1, F11, B4, F1, B1
	1	WH : B1, F2
18A	В	B1, 5dcib, F1, 5dcib, B1, F10, 3dcib, F2, B1, dc
18B		WH : B1, F1
		G : F5, B1, F3, B4, F4
		WH : F1, B4
19A	F	F1, B2, 5dcif, B2, F1, B3, F1, B4, 9dcif, B1, F1, dc
19B		WH : F3, B1
		G : B2, F2, B4, F4, B1
		WH : B4, F3
20A	В	B1, F3, 7dcib, F9, 5dcib, F3, B1, dc
20B		WH : B3, F3
		G : F3, B6, F2
		WH : F2, B5
21A	F	F1, B4, 7dcif, B5, 7dcif, 5dcif, B2, F1, dc
21B		WH : F5, B2 (cut)
		G: B7 (cut)
001	7	WH : B3, F1, B3, F3
22A	В	B1, F1, 5dcib, F3, 17dcib, F6, B1, dc

22B		WH : B1, F3, B4, F8, B8
23A	F	F1, B19, 5dcif, F1, dc
23B		WH : F20, B2, F2
24A	В	B1, F22, B1, dc
24B		WH: F23, B1 (chain 1 but do not cut off colour B. The chain 1 is the first sc of border B)
25A	Χ	B24, dc (do not cut off colour A, continue with border A).



12A	В	B1, 9dcib, F1, 3dcib, F2, 17dcib, F3, B1, dc
12B		B1, F4, B2, F2, B1, F9, B5
13A	F	F1, B5, 15dcif, 3dcif, B2, 9dcif, F1, dc
13B		F6, B9, F3, B5, F1
14A	В	11dib, F3, 5dcib, F11, B1, dc
14B		F5, B3, F4, B12
15A	F	F1, B10, 3dcif, B1, 3dcif, B3, 9dcif, dc
15B		F5, B7, F1, B3, F3, B4, F1
16A	В	9dcib F2, 7dcib, F1, 13dcib, F4, B1, dc
16B		F4, B2, F4, B2, F7, B5
17A	F	F1, B3, 13dcif, B2, 9dcif, B2, 7dcif, dc
17B		F3, B7, F3, B5, F2, B3, F1
18A	В	7dcib, F1, 11dcib, F2, 15dcib, F2, B1, dc
18B		F3, B2, F5, B3, F8, B3
19A	F	F1, B1, 15dcif, B3, 11dcif, B2, 3dcif, F1, dc
19B		F2, B7, F4, B5, F3, B1, F2
20A	В	B1, F4, 9dcib, F5, 13dcib, F1, B1, dc
20B		B5, F4, B6, F7, B2
21A	F	F1, 13dcif, B6, 9dcif, B4, F1, dc
21B		B7, F7, B4, F6
22A	В	B1, F5, 5dcib, F9, 11dcib, dc
22B		B6, F2, B10, F5, B1
23A	F	F1, B15, 3dcif, B5, F1, dc
23B		F16, B1, F7
24A	В	B1, F22, B1, dc
24B		F23, B1 (chain 1 but do not cut off colour B. The chain 1 is the first sc of border B)
25A	Χ	B24, dc (do not cut off colour A, continue with border A).





		G : B10
		WH : B1, F2
10A	В	B1, 3dcib, F8, 3dcib, F2, 5dcib, F5, B1, dc
10B		WH: B1
		G : F10
44.	_	WH : F1, B1, F4, B7
11A	F	F1, B6, 7dcif, 3dcif, B7, 5dcif, F1, dc
11B		WH : F7, B4
		G : B9
400	В	WH: B2, F2
12A	Б	B1, F1, 15dcib, F1, 7dcib, F8, B1, dc
12B		WH: (carry G w/bottom) B2, F6 G: F3
		WH : F3, B1, F5, B4
13A	F	
13B	'	F1, B2, 11dcif, B1, 11dcif, B7, F1, dc WH: F1, B2
136		G (new, 4st): B4 (cut)
		WH (new, 3st): B3 (cut)
		G : B4
		WH : B6, F4
14A	В	B1, F2, 13dcib, B1, 11dcib, F2, 7dcib, B1, dc
		to ch3 already at the end of the rows to keep the white rim! (as explained in potholder #2)
14B		WH : B2, F1
		G : F6, B2, F10
		WH : F2, B1
15A	F	5dcif, B8, 3dcif, F6, 5dcif, B1, F1, dc
15B		G : B12, F7, B1
		WH : B2, F2
16A	В	B1, 5dcib, B7, 3dcib, F9, 3dcib, dc
16B		WH : B1
		G : F2, B7, F12
		WH : F1, B1
17A	F	3dcif, B8, 7dcif, F7, 3dcif, F1, dc
17B		G : B10
		WH (new, 21st): B2
		G (new): B1, F8
400		WH: B1, F2
18A	В	B1, 3dcib, B7, 3dcib, 3dcib, F8, 3dcib, dc
18B		WH : B1
		G : F2, B7 WH : F1, B1
		Wh . F1, B1 G : F10
		WH : F1, B1
19A	F	7dcif, B6, 3dcif, 3dcif, F6, 5dcif, F1, dc
19B		WH : B2
.55		G : B8
		WH : B1, F1
		G : B1, F5, B2
		WH : B2, F2
20A	В	B1, F1, 7dcib, B4, 3dcib, 5dcib, F5, 3dcib, F1, B1, dc
20B		WH : B2, F2
		G : F1, B4, F1
		WH : F1, B1, F1
		G : F7
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		WH : F1, B3
21A	F	F1, B1, 5dcif, B3, 5dcif, B1, 5dcif, F3, 3dcif, B3, F1, dc
21B		WH : F2, B1
		G : B5
		WH : B2, F2, B1
		G : B2, F2, B1
		WH : B1, F5
22A	В	B1, F3, 5dcib, B1, 5dcib, F3, 5dcib, F2, 3dcib, F2, B1, dc
22B		WH : B4, F1 (cut)
		G : F3 (cut)
		WH : F2, B4, F1 (cut)
		G : F4 (cut)
		WH : F1, B4
23A	F	F1, B2, 11dcif, B5, 9dcif, B4, F1, dc
23B		WH : F3, B5, F6, B4, F6
24A	В	B1, F22, B1, dc
24B		WH: F23, B1 (chain 1 but do not cut off colour B. The chain 1 is the first sc of border B)
25A	X	B24, dc (do not cut off colour A, continue with border A).



The extra information on the technique

The Trellis foundation:

A trellis is the first series of dc stitches (with ch1 space in between), and the spaces are called "windows", which are usually squared. The foundation consists of two colours, basically the trellis in colour A, and the required foundation for colour B.

The way to approach the colour B foundation is always specified for each work. How you work this colour B foundation will result in what kind of pattern you have. Sometimes you just lay the chain of colour B on top of the colour A trellis and work from the back of from the front, other times you have to weave the chain of colour B through the windows of the colour A trellis to have a different effect.

At the end of this information you have a guide on three of the different ways to start a project.

The two colours:

The colour A is the colour of both edges of your work. Rows of colour A always start with a ch3 and end in a dc. The colour B is always one window shorter than the A colour, and therefore it is always "framed" within colour A.

Working the rows:

Every row is worked twice. First the colour A, and then the colour B. Therefore, the pattern has for example row 5A and 5B. Please note that all colour A stitches will be made on colour A, and the same for colour B. Never in interlocking crochet do you make one colour stitch on another colour stitch.

Rows are worked back and forth, so you will have the front side and the back side facing you alternatively. At the beginning of each row follow the pattern on where the colour B should "hang", whether to the front or to the back of your work.

The stitches:

Interlocking filet uses very simple stitches. The whole concept is 1dc - 1ch - skip 1. However, the key is how that dc is made, either from the front (dcif) or from the back (dcib) of the work. It is this that will bring colours front or send them to the back creating the pattern.

Double crochet in back (also called back stitch)

Working with colour A, and when your colour A mesh is IN FRONT, yarn over, place the hook behind the colour B mesh, and putting the hook through the colour B mesh window, insert the hook from front to back into the top 2 loops of the colour A dc of the previous row. Pull the 2 loops of colour A through the colour B mesh window and to the BACK of the work, and finish the double crochet (yarn over and pull through 2, yarn over and pull through last 2 loops)

Working with colour A, and when your colour A mesh is BEHIND, it is a pretty straight forward dc.

Double crochet in front (also called front stitch)

Working with colour A, and when your colour A mesh is BEHIND, yarn over, place the hook in front of the colour B mesh and putting the hook through the colour B mesh window, insert the hook from front to back into the top 2 loops of the colour A dc of the previous row. Pull the 2 loops of colour A through the colour B mesh window and to the FRONT of the work, and finish the double crochet (yarn over and pull through 2, yarn over and pull through last 2 loops)

Working with colour A, and when your colour A mesh is IN FRONT, it is a straightforward dc.

The trellis photo guide: how to start the project

The trellis is the name (one of the names) for the start of a project. It consists of one row of A colour, to which a row of B colour is added. There are many different variations, the difference may lie in how many dc's are made on a row in the back or front, or how many windows you skip if one is requested to weave the B chain through the A trellis. I will focus here on the way to start this specific blanket.

The blanket is started by laying B chain on A trellis without weaving, most stitches in back, last in front (I used a smaller example here to make it easier):

a challer example here to make it eaciery.		
1A		Chain 44, start in 6 th ch from the hook: (dc1, ch1, sk1) x 19 times, dc in the last chain, you should have 20 windows.
1B		Chain 42, lay your chain over the trellis and starting in the second A window through the 6 th chain from the hook: B18, F1



You first make a chain with the A colour



In the 6th chain from the hook, make a dc and chain 1.



3. Skip a chain and make another dc and chain 1. Repeat this throughout the chain...



...until you reach your first chain with your last dc. You should count that you have the 20 windows needed.



5. With colour B, make the chain as requested.



Yarn over, and send your hook through the 2nd A window from back to front to "fetch" the B chain through the 6th chain from hook...



...and once you have the 6th chain in your hook, you "pull it back" gently to finish your dc...



8. ...and you have now made a "B1" or dcib (dc in the back).



Continue making dcib throughout...



10. ... until you have one stitch left.



11.
The last stitch is in the front, so yarn over, and through the FRONT of your work, catch the last chain and make your last dc.



12. And you made it! Ready for next row.

(Rows start with chain 3, I have the habit of making those 3 chains at the end of the previous row)

END OF DOCUMENT