Eat your supper!

By Tibisay



"Eat your supper!" is what my English nanny Anita used to tell me all the time. I was a little girl lacking appetite at the time, even though YOU wouldn't guess it today. Anita would think up any sort of funny game to make me eat, but sometimes she would just

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lose her patience and blurt out: "Eat your Supper!" So this expression has remained with our family up until now, as now I'm the one shouting it to my children.

"Eat your supper!" is the pattern for an American-style dining set incuding a placemat and a coaster. The thick and rich stitch used gives it a weaven mat look and the crochet crab (reverse single crochet) stitch edge finishing makes it more solid.

Final measurements:

50 cm width and 30 cm height for the placemat.

10 sq cm for the coaster.

Yarn & nedles:

Striscia by Borgo de' Pazzi (100% recycled cotton: 75 m per 50g skein), colour Str05 (emerald green): 4 skeins.

5.5 mm needles.

Please adjust needle size if necessary to obtain the specified gauge.

No. 4 crochet hook.

Tapestry needle

Gauge:

16 st 24 rows = 10cm square in stockinette stitch after blocking.

20 st 48 rows = 10cm square in pattern stitch after blocking.

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Abbreviations:

k: knit(wise)

rep : repeat

st : stitch(es)

p: purl(wise)

Placemat:

Cast on 100 st.

Row 1 (wrong side of work): p to end of row.

Row 2 (right side of work): k1, [k2, with yarn in FRONT slip 2 st to right needle without working them] rep to 3 st from end of row, k3.

Row 3: k1, [with yarn in BACK slip 2 st to right needle without working them, p2] rep to 1 st from end of row, k1.

Rep rows 2 and 3 until piece measures about 30 cm.

Bind off all st, leaving the last st unbound.

Do not cut yarn!

Put size 4 crochet hook into last unbound st and work one round (all 4 sides of the placemat) in crochet crab stitch, being careful to work 3 st for each corner of the placemat.

Cut yarn and block gently.

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Coaster:

Cast on 20 st.

Row 1 (wrong side of work): p to end of row.

Row 2 (right side of work): k1, [k2, with yarn in FRONT slip 2 st to right needle without working them] rep to 3 st from end of row, k3.

Row 3: k1, [with yarn in BACK slip 2 st to right needle without working them, p2] rep to 1 st from end of row, k1.

Rep rows 2 and 3 until piece measures about 10 cm.

Bind off all st, leaving the last st unbound.

Do not cut yarn!

Put size 4 crochet hook into last unbound st and work one round (all 4 sides of the coaster) in crochet crab stitch, being careful to work 3 st for each corner of the coaster.

Weave in ends, block gently and... bon apetit!!!

For this quick and nice project I used the yarn Striscia of the Borgo dè Pazzi line - Florence.

This is a recycled cotton yarn (and I love this!), quite bulky in weight. The peculiarity of this yarn is that the 12 central plies or recycled cotton are wrapped by a contrasting colour thread, creating a very unique effect.

I used colour Str05, which has an emerald green base surrounded by a black and tobacco thread, a very trendy colour for next summer.

Even though on the label the suggested needle size for this yarn is 6 mm or even 8 mm, I decided to work it with 5.5 mm nnedles to

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obtain a more compact fabric, suitable for the heavy work this placemat will have to endure.

In fact, thanks to the stitch I used I got a very solid, but also decorative and intriguing fabric.

Another feature of this yarn that I found particularly pleasant is that the contrasting colour thread isn't wrapped regularly around the main colour yarn, giving to your work some delighful contrasting colour zones. I believe this will give a great effect even worked on a simple stockinette stitch.

In other words, this is a very convincing yarn. Apart for this dining set, I would use it for a casual spring sweater (following the label direction for needle size though!)... or on some kind of fabric stitch for a Chanel-style jacket. In short, this yarn is very versatile and could be used for many different projects!

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