Archena Skirt

designed by
Doris Chan

Technique used: Crochet

YARN
Naturally Caron.com Spa
(75% Microdenier Acrylic/25% Bamboo;
#0008 Misty Taupe (A), 6 (9, 9, 9) oz
#0001 Rose Bisque (B), 3 oz
#0004 Green Sheen (C), 3 oz
#0002 Coral Lipstick (D), 3 oz
#0003 Soft Sunshine (E), 3 oz
#0007 Naturally (F), 3 oz
#0005 Ocean Spray (G), 3 oz
#0006 Berry Frappe (H), 3 oz

Size US I/9 (5.5 mm) crochet hook, or size to obtain gauge (for squares and flounce)
Size US H/8 (5 mm) crochet hook or size to obtain gauge (for waistband and drawstring)

Yarn needle

SIZES
XS (S, M, L)

FINISHED MEASUREMENTS
Waist/hip 34 (38, 42, 46)”; length 25”

GAUGES
Using size US I/9 (5.5 mm) crochet hook: Small Square = 2”; Large Square= 4”/10 cm
Using size US I/9 (5.5 mm) crochet hook: 3 repeats and 4 rows of cluster stitch pattern = 4”/10 cm
Using size US H/8 (5 mm) crochet hook: 17 sc = 4”/10 cm

STITCHES USED
Chain (ch)
Double crochet (dc)
Half double crochet (hdc)
Single crochet (sc)
Slip stitch (slip st)

2-double crochet cluster (2-dc CL): Yarn over, insert hook in next stitch, yarn over and pull loop through, yarn over and pull through 2 loops on hook; yarn over, insert hook in same st, yarn over and pull loop through, yarn over and pull through 2 loops on hook; yarn over and pull through all loops on hook.

3-double crochet cluster (3-dc CL): Yarn over, insert hook in next stitch, yarn over and pull loop through, yarn over and pull through 2 loops on hook; * yarn over, insert hook in same st, yarn over and pull loop through, yarn over and pull through 2 loops on hook; repeat from * once more, yarn over and pull through all loops on hook.

NOTES
The Skirt is very stretchy. Choose the size closest to but not greater than your full hip measurement. Make the first strip of squares for that size, join into a tube and try it on. If there is enough room and stretch to slip easily on and off your hips, proceed. If it is too snug, undo the last squares and add the section for the next size, or remove a section if too loose.
You may alter the length by adding or omitting rounds of lace flounce. At this loose gauge, the fabric will grow in length; keep in mind that what your body does not take up in width will become added length.

HELPFUL
Using a combination of small and large squares, the body of the Skirt is joined as you go, with eight colors of NaturallyCaron.com Spa chosen as you go. You may plan the color spread or go more random for a free-spirited effect. A deep lace flounce and string-tied waistband are added later.

BASIC GRANNY SQUARES

Small Square
With larger hook, using color A, ch 4.
Rnd 1: Slip st in first ch to form a ring, ch 3 (counts as dc), 2 dc in ring, [ch 3, 3 dc in ring] 3 times, ch 3, slip st in top of beginning ch-3; fasten off—12 dc, 4 ch sps.
Rnd 2: With second color, join with slip st in any corner ch-3 sp, ch 3, 2 dc in same sp, *ch 1, [3 dc, ch 3, 3 dc] in next corner ch-3 sp*; repeat from * to * 2 more times, ch 1, 3 dc in same ch-sp as beginning ch-3, ch 3, slip st in top of beginning ch-3; fasten off—24 dc, 4 ch sps.

Large Square
With larger hook, using color A, ch 4.
Rnd 1: Repeat Rnd 1 of Small Square.
Rnd 2: With second color, join with slip st in any corner ch-3 sp, ch 3, 2 dc in same sp, *ch 1, [3 dc, ch 3, 3 dc] for corner in next ch-3 sp*; repeat from * to * 2 more times, ch 1, 3 dc in same ch-sp as beg, ch 1, hdc in top of beginning ch-3 (ch 1 and hdc counts as ch-3 sp), do not fasten off—24 dc, 4 ch sps.
Rnd 3: Continuing with second color, ch 3, 2 dc in beginning ch-3 sp, *ch 1, 3 dc in next ch-1 sp, ch 1, [3 dc, ch 3, 3 dc] in next corner ch-3 sp*; repeat from * to * 2 more times, ch 1, 3 dc in next ch-1 sp, ch 1, 3 dc in same sp as beginning ch-3, ch 3, slip st in top of beginning ch-3; fasten off—36 dc, 4 ch sps.
Rnd 4: With third color, join with slip st in any corner ch-3 sp, ch 3, 2 dc in same sp, *[ch 1, 3 dc in next ch-1 sp] 2 times, ch 1, [3 dc, ch 3, 3 dc] in next corner ch-3 sp*; repeat from * to * 2 more times, [ch 1, 3 dc in next ch-1 sp] 2 times, ch 1, 3 dc in same sp as beginning ch-3, ch 3, slip st in top of beginning ch-3; fasten off—48 dc, 4 ch sps.

SKIRT BODY
Joining Squares
Add each New Square to the Skirt Body as you work the ch-sps of the last round.
When joining at a corner, make 3 dc in corner ch-3 sp of working square; to join, [ch 1, slip st in corresponding ch-sp of previous square, ch 1], continue with 3 dc in same sp of working square to complete corner.
When joining along a side, make 3 dc in next ch-1 sp of working square; to join, [slip st in corresponding ch-sp of previous square], continue with 3 dc in next ch-sp of working square.
At a place where there is already a join, make the slip st of the new join into the slip st of the previous join.
When attaching a Small Square to a Large Square, you will need to join a Small Square corner ch-3 sp to the side of a Large Square in a ch-1 sp.
There are 71 [78, 88, 98] Small and Large Squares that make up the Skirt Body (see assembly diagrams). This is joined into a tube for Size XS. For Sizes S, M and L, work the additional sections for your size, choosing colors as desired. Make and join Squares 1-17 (plus additional sections for your size) into a long strip according to the assembly diagram, joining the edges of the assembled first strip into a tube. Continue in same way with the remaining three strips. Weave ends as you go.

**FLOUNCE**
Using larger hook and color A, with RS facing, at lower edge of Skirt Body, join with slip st in ch-1 sp of any small square.

**Rnd 1:** Ch 3, dc in same sp, *ch 2, across the next joined corner make [dc in next ch-3 corner sp, dc in slip st of join, dc in next ch-3 corner sp], [ch 2, 3 dc in next ch-1 sp] to next corner*, repeat from * to * around Skirt as required, ending with ch 2, dc in same sp as beg, slip st in top of beginning ch.

**Rnd 2:** Ch 2, 2-dc CL in same st, *[3-dc CL, ch 3, 3-dc CL] in middle dc of next 3-dc group*; repeat from * to * around, ending last repeat with 3-dc CL in same st as beginning, ch 1, hdc in top of beginning cluster.

**Rnd 3:** Ch 3, dc in beginning sp, *[ch 2, 3 dc in next ch-3 sp] around, ending last repeat with dc in same sp as beginning, slip st in top of beginning ch.

**Rnd 4-8:** Repeat Rnds 2-3 two more times or to desired length, then work Rnd 2 once more; fasten off. Weave ends.

**WAISTBAND**
Using smaller hook and A, RS facing, at upper edge of Skirt Body, join with a slip st in ch-1 sp of any small square.

**Rnd 1:** Ch 1, sc in same sp, ch 1, sc in middle dc of next 3-dc group, ch 1; *across the next joined corner work [sc in next ch-3 sp, ch 1, skip join, sc in next ch-3 sp, ch 1], [sc in middle dc of next 3-dc group, ch 1, sc in next ch-1 sp, ch 1] across to next corner*, repeat from * to * around, ending last repeat with sc in beginning sc.

**Rnd 2:** Ch 2, 2-dc CL in beginning sp, *[ch 1, dc in next ch-1 sp, ch 1, 3-dc CL in next ch-1 sp] around; (this requires an even number of ch-1 sps. If you get to the end and find you have an extra sp, then 2-dc CL across the last 2 ch-1 sp); end with a sc in top of beginning cluster.

**Rnd 3:** Ch 1, sc in beginning sp, 2 sc in each ch-1 sp around, ending with sc in same sp as beginning, slip st in beginning sc; fasten off. Block skirt if needed.

**DRAWSTRING**
Using smaller hook and color A, ch 2, sc in second ch from hook, *[ch 1; without turning, insert hook from top to bottom through front lp of sc just made AND under one forward strand of the sc stem, make sc]; repeat between [ ] for length needed, (approximately your waist measurement plus 24") ; fasten off. Weave in ends; tie a knot close to each end of Drawstring.

Thread Drawstring through ch sps of Rnd 2 on Waistband, going in front of each dc and behind each cluster.