



# The Coronation Keepsake Blanket



The Sirdar Coronation Keepsake Blanket Crochet Along was designed by Anita Gibney and took place from 8th March to 12th April 2023.

This Blanket was made by:

I was honoured and delighted to be asked by Sirdar to design a blanket to commemorate the Coronation of King Charles III.

When approaching the design, I thought it was important to recognise that, before becoming King, Charles has already had a long life of service, achievements and interests. The central panel of the blanket represents elements of his life.

The design is as much about texture as it is about colour. The central panel is intended to look like a watercolour painting, so I wanted it to look free in the way a watercolour painting does. I positioned the stitches to give a 3d effect of waves and rolling clouds. Mixed stitches represent grass and bushes and hopefully an overall effect of brush strokes.

The gold leaves stand out and twist in the way real leaves would on a vine. This is all balanced by the very structured jewel band and final border which gives a crisp edge. It's the wildness of nature, so important to our King, combined with the formality of the occasion.



See more of my designs at:

website: [madebyanita.co.uk](http://madebyanita.co.uk)  
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I began designing the blanket in October 2022. I made many sketches and test pieces of all the elements I wanted to include and then worked to bring them together into a pattern that would be enjoyable for crocheters of all abilities.

Here is some more information about what each section represents.



### The Tudor Rose

At the heart of the blanket, we have the Tudor rose. This is the symbol of British Monarchy and is recognised worldwide as the national flower of England. The Daffodil of Wales, Shamrock of Northern Ireland and Thistle of Scotland also appear in the pattern.



### Charles' Military Career

I wanted to acknowledge Charles' military service. He served in both the Royal Air Force and Royal Navy and spent most of his military career at sea. This is represented by the blue band of sea and sky. Also, as King, Charles becomes Commander in Chief of the British Military.



### Charles The Conservationist

Charles has been an active campaigner for climate change for over 5 decades. He first warned us about the problem of plastics in the ocean in 1971 and is passionate about protecting marine ecosystems. He has championed organic food production on his Duchy of Cornwall estate and is a keen organic gardener on his personal estate at Highgrove.



### Charles the Artist

Charles is a keen watercolour painter, first taking up his brush over 50 years ago. He is now one of the United Kingdom's most successful living artists. His favourite subjects to paint are the countryside and the sea. I chose shades of green and blue to replicate the soft effect of watercolour painting.



### Royal Regalia

The outer panels of the blanket are inspired by the Coronation regalia. The trailing leaf border represents the embroidery used to decorate coronation robes. In this section, there are mini bobbles to represent ermine around the base of the crown and little granny squares to represent jewels.