

## Black Cat Stitch

This is a stitch for working on top-down items such as garments. Worked in black it would be great for Halloween, but any colour could be used for the cats.

Suggested yarn: black and white yarn with any weight, though it is best to use a yarn with some cotton content for good stitch definition.

Note: this pattern is written for a flat piece, but it can easily be worked in the round without turning.



### Chain a multiple of 5+6 stitches.

Row 1: Htr in every stitch (right side). Turn piece.

Row 2: (wrong side) dc in every stitch. Turn piece.

Row 3: (right side) join black yarn, ch3, spike dc into 3<sup>rd</sup> stitch of row1, 2dc into next st of row2, spike dc into next st (4<sup>th</sup> stitch) of row 1. [Ch3, skip 3 sts, spike dc into next st of row 1, 2dc into next st of row 2, spike dc into next st of row 1] repeat until last 3 sts, ch2, dc into last st.

Row 4: (right side) pick up white yarn. Ch1, dc into first 3 sts of row 2 working over chsps of row 3. Then [skip black sts of row 3, (2dc, dc, 2dc) into next 3 sts of row 2] until end of row, working only 1dc in final st. Turn piece.

Row 5: (wrong side) Pick up black yarn. Standing treble or ch3 as first st then [ch2, 3tr into space above unworked black stitches in row 3] repeat until last 3 stitches, ch1, tr into last st.

Row 6: (wrong side) Pick up white yarn. Htr into first 3 sts, [skip 3 black trs of row 3, (htr x3, 2htr) into next 4 sts of row 4] repeat until end of row, working only htr1 in final stitch. Turn piece.

Row 7: (right side) Pick up black yarn. Ch2, spike dc into 2<sup>nd</sup> dc of row 2 (the st next to cat's body). Then work dc x 3 into the 3 unworked tr sts from row 5. [Ch2, skip 2 sts, spike dc into row 2, dc x 3 into unworked sts of row 5] until last 3 sts. Ch2, dc into last st.

Row 8: (right side) Pick up white yarn. Dc into first 3 sts. [Ch2, skip 3 dcs of row 7, dc x 3 into next 3 sts of row 6] until end of row. Turn piece.

Row 9: Htr in every st.