These crochet squares, each with its own colourful set of wheels, could be used to make a blanket, a cushion or, as I have done, a bag. They can be made with any weight of yarn with the hook size of your choice. I wanted quite a sturdy fabric for my bag so I used Sirdar Special DK (295m / 100g) and a 3.5mm hook. My squares were about 9cm / 3½”². I used Cream for the background, Meadow to outline the squares and Pomegranate, Fondant, Aster, Cloud Blue, Saffron and Violet for the wheels.

This pattern uses British crochet terms:  
tr = US dc  
htr = US hdc,  
dc = US sc

First make the Wheels

The big wheels are made up of four different sized wheels, each worked in a different colour
First Wheel

Work 4ch and join with a ss to make a ring.

**Round 1:** 2ch, 7 htr into ring, join with ss to top of 2ch (8 sts).
**Round 2:** 2ch, htr in same place, (2htr in next st) 7 times, join with ss to top of 2ch (16 sts).
**Round 3:** (1ch, ss in front loop of next st) 16 times, join to start of round and fasten off.

Second Wheel

The first round with this and all subsequent new colours will be worked into the back loop of the sts used for the last round and the half stitch next to it. These two loops can be seen as a ‘v’ on the back of the last wheel. You will have to improvise a bit when you get to the end of the previous round where the stitches aren’t so clear.

So … join the new colour into one of the ‘v’s shown above.

**Round 1:** 2ch, htr in same place, htr in next st, (2htr in next st, htr) 7 times, join with ss to top of 2ch (24 sts).
**Round 2:** (1ch, ss in front loop of next st) 24 times, join to start of round and fasten off.
Third Wheel

Join the new colour as before.

**Round 1:** 2ch, htr in same place, 2htr, (2htr in next st, 2htr) 7 times, join with ss to top of 2ch (32 sts).

**Round 2:** (1ch, ss in front loop of next st) 32 times, join to start of round and fasten off.

Fourth Wheel

Join the new colour as before.

**Round 1:** 2ch, htr in same place, 3htr, (2htr in next st, 3htr) 7 times, join with ss to top of 2ch (40 sts).

**Round 2:** (1ch, ss in front loop of next st) 40 times, join to start of round and fasten off.

That’s the wheel finished. You might like to add a small bead or button to the centre and then …

make lots more.
When you’ve finished playing with the wheels and taking lots of photos (I spent a long time doing this), it’s time to make them into squares.

**Turning the Wheels into Squares**

Join the background colour to the back of the wheel as before.

**Round 1:**  2ch, htr, tr, 3tr in next st, tr, 2htr, 3dc, (2htr, tr, 3tr in next st, tr, 2htr, 3dc) three times, join with ss to top of 2ch.

**Round 2:**  2ch, 3htr, (2htr, 1ch, 2htr) in next st, *11htr, (2htr, 1ch, 2htr) in next st, repeat from * three times, 7htr, join with ss to top of 2ch and fasten off.

Now change to your edging colour for the last round.

**Round 3:**  Join to any st from the last round, 1ch and then work dc all round the square, working dc, 1ch, dc into the corner stitches. There should be 15 dc between corners.
**Joining the Squares**

Holding the squares with the wrong sides together, join them by working dc through both edges.

That round of edging means that the back is as pretty as the front.

**Making the Bag**

I made 24 Wheels within Wheels squares for my bag and joined them to make panels for the front and back.

**The Sides and Base**

These are worked in one piece. First of all, using your edging colour, work half trebles (US hdc) down one side of the front of the bag, along the bottom and up the other side. Work into the front loops of the edging stitches only, don’t increase at the bottom corners and work into the top of joining ridges when you get to them. This will mimic the raised join.

Now join the background colour to the back loop of the second stitch of the last round, 1ch and then work dc all round, working the last dc into the stitch before the last of the previous round.
This little space at the tops of the sides will be filled with an edging round later.

**Next row:** 2ch, htr in every stitch, working the last htr into the turning chain, turn.

Work four more rows like this (5 htr rows in all) and fasten off.

Now, using the edging colour, work 6dc along the top of one side, (dc, 1ch, dc) into the corner and then dc in every stitch to the top of the other side where you work another (dc, 1ch, dc) into the corner and 6dc along the top.

The finished piece should look like this.

You can work more rows to make a deeper bag if you choose.

Now the back of the bag can be crocheted to the sides and base in the same way as the squares were joined together.

**The Top**

This is worked in the round, using the edging colour. First work a round of htr into the front loops of the edging stitches. Fasten off the yarn and rejoin it to one of the back loops of the same stitches and work a round of dc.

**Next round:** 2ch, htr all round, join with ss to top of 2ch.

Work three more rounds like this (four in all) – or as many as you like.
Finish the top with a round in a variation of crab stitch (dc worked backwards, from left to right). Work 1ch, miss 1 st, 1dc all the way round. This gives a nice corded edge that isn’t too stiff.

The Handles

With a foundation of 100ch I worked single rows in dc, changing colour for each row. After the seventh row I worked back down that row using the same crab stitch edging I used for the top of the bag. Then I worked one more row of dc along the other side of my starting chain and, again, finished this with the crab stitch edging.

I stitched a strip of material to the back of each handle before sewing them inside the bag; this was to strengthen them and stop them stretching. Finally, I used the same material to line the bag.

My patterns are for personal use only and should not be used to knit items for sale.
Abbreviations

ch   chain
ss   slip stitch
st / sts  stitch / stitches
htr  half treble (US half double crochet)
dc   double crochet (US single crochet)
tr   treble (US double crochet)

Somehow, these remind me of jam tarts.

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