Snap Tray

Crochet a pretty tray.
It lays flat for storing or washing and easily snaps into a tray.
It could also double as a coaster or place mat or a party favor cup.
It doesn't get much easier than this.
All you need to do is make a square or a triangle.
I used the single crochet stitch with different edgings.
It's great for keys, coins, candy, hooks … whatever…
Enjoy!

Pattern Notes:

I have included step by step instructions for a couple trays.
But this is more like a guideline, than a pattern.
You can make it any size you want.
It can be made larger or smaller….
> Just by increasing or decreasing the beginning number of chains.
I think you could use just about any type of yarn or thread or hook.
I used cotton because it is soft and easy to wash.
I used a smaller hook than required for the yarn to make it a bit tighter and snug.
Different types of stitches or motifs could also be used.
The edging could be a different color.
Appliques could be added on the inside bottom or on the outer sides.
The patterns below are just suggestions.
They are very easy, but you could also make elaborate ones, if you so desired.
If you use the **back-ridge-bump** on the first row:
> The two free loops of each stitch make it easier to single crochet around for an edging,
> And no big gaps.

Materials:

4 mm / F hook
Lily Sugar and Cream Cotton worsted weight **Various colors**
4 Snaps (I used size 1/0)
        OR No Snag Velcro
Sewing Needle to sew snaps
Sewing thread
        (Same color as yarn or snaps)
        (**OR** Invisible Thread)

Gauge is not crucial.
Gauge: 4 sc and 4 Rnds = ~ 1" Not crucial.

Size: measured flat:
        Purple Large Square =6 ¼
        Orange Medium Rectangle = 5 x 8
        Red Square = 5 ¼

Purple Variegated Square:

Row 1: Ch 25, Sc in **back-ridge-bump** of the 2nd ch and across. (24)
Rows 2-24: Ch 1, Turn. Sc across. (24)
Edging Row 25: Ch 1, Turn.
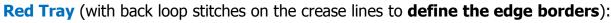Sc completely around with 3 sc's in each corner. FO.

Orange Variegated Rectangle:

Row 1: Ch 21, Sc in **back-ridge-bump** of the 2nd ch and across. (20)

Rows 2-31: Ch 1, Turn. Sc across. (24)

Edging Row 32: DO NOT TURN. Reverse-Sc around.

> *Ch 1, insert hook in last sc made (to the right).*
> *YO, pull up a loop, YO and pull through both loops.*
> *Work from Left to Right single crocheting completely.* FO.

Red Tray (with back loop stitches on the crease lines to **define the edge borders**):

Row 1: Ch 12, Sc in **back-ridge-bump** of the 2nd ch and across. (11)

Rows 2-12: Ch 1, Turn. Sc across. (24)

Row 13: Ch 1, Turn. 3 Sc in first st (corner),

> *Sc in next 9 sts, 3 Sc in next st.
> Turn work 90 degrees and work 11 Sc down the side. *
> 3 Sc in next corner.
> Repeat from * to * once and join with a ss to the 1st st.

Row 14: Work this row in **BLO**.

> Ch 1, Sc around with 3 Sc's in each corner st. Join.

Rows 15- 16: Ch 1.

> Continue to Sc around with 3 Sc's in each corner st. Join.

Edging Row 17: Ch 1, Sc in same st.

> (Ch 3, Sk 1 st, Sc in next st) around to the last st.
> Ch 3, ss in same as first sc. FO and weave in.

Finish:

Fold a corner point.

Measure and mark where you want to place the snap.

I put mine about 1½ inches (3.8 cm) from each side on the row below the edging row.

Sew each segment of the snap equal distance on both sides from the corner point.

After snapping all four corners closed…

> You can press and squeeze the bottom edges to help it hold its shape.

If you prefer, you can sew or permanent-glue no-snag Velcro.

Black and Orange Tray (Basic idea):

The Black and Orange party favor was stitched closed at the corners.

It does not unsnap or fold flat, but was fast to make.

For this one, I used Caron Simply Soft Yarn.

I employed a *Tunisian Simple Stitch* for the bottom.

     Any number of stitches you decide.

     I used 10 stitches for this one.

     I then used *Single Crochet* around the side edges.

     I added an orange trim edge *(Sc, Ch 2 in each st).*

And I joined the corners in the 5th stitch from the center corner sc on each side.

Insert the hook in the 5th stitch **after** the corner stitch, and then inserting it into the 5th stitch **before** the corner stitch (previously stitched with edging), YO and pull through both stitches, YO and pull through both loops to complete the Sc.

Note: The 5th stitch worked well for the height of the sides of this one.

You can use any stitch that you decide best for the corner.

Have fun and enjoy!