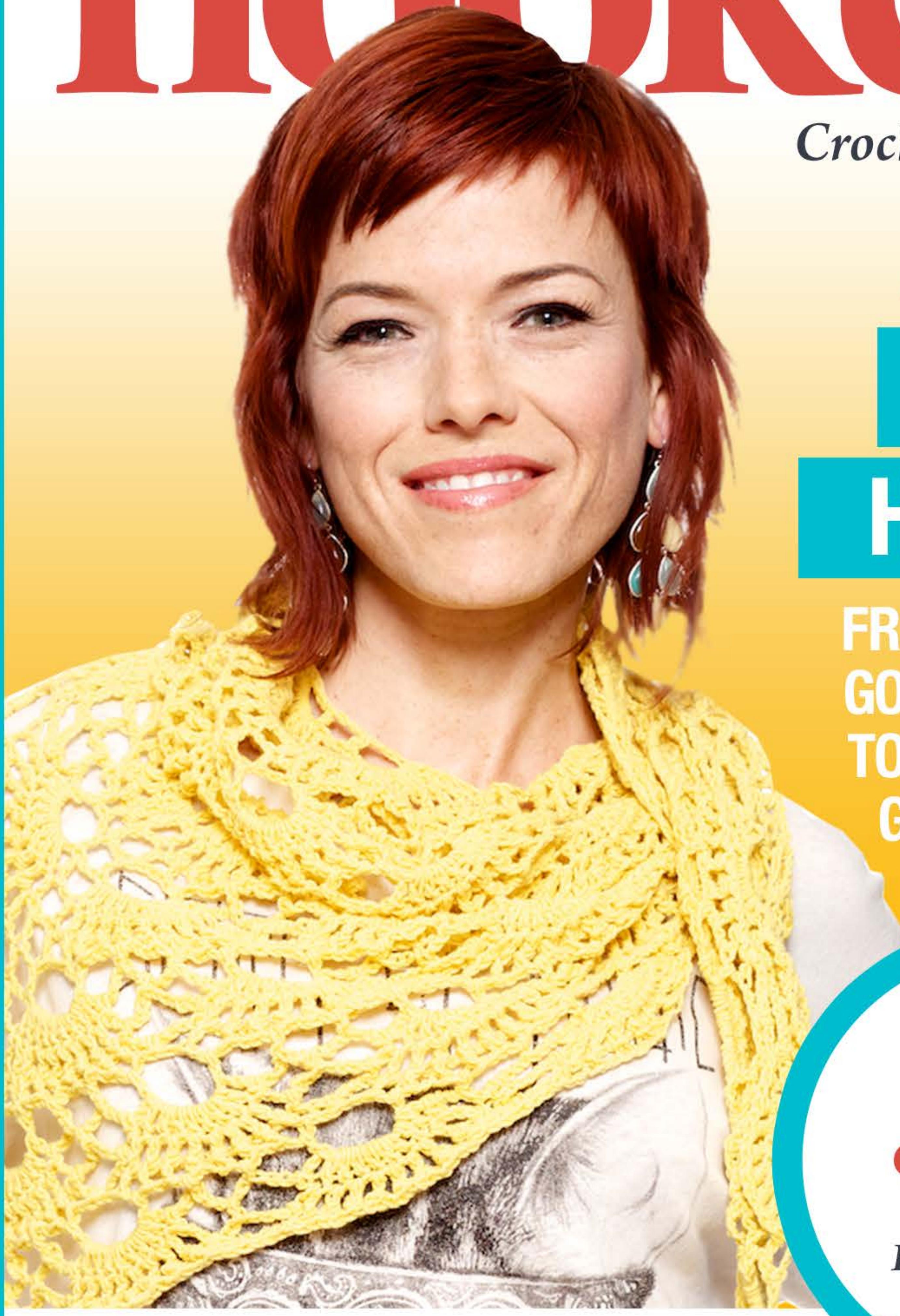


HAPPILY hooked

Crochet Magazine
002



Exclusive Interview

VICKIE
HOWELL

FROM HOW SHE
GOT HER START
TO WHAT SHE'S
GOT PLANNED
NEXT!

17
**Gorgeous
Patterns**
*From Beginner
to Expert!*

Interviews, Articles & More!



HOW TO USE THIS APP



Navigation Instructions:

1. **Tap** screen anywhere to activate top & bottom navigation menus.
2. Bottom menu: **Swipe horizontally** then **tap** desired article.
2. Multi-screen articles: **Swipe screen vertically** to advance.



Editor's Welcome

Well, here we are ... Issue 2!

With the 1st issue of Happily Hooked Magazine under our belt, I'm happy to admit that we've already learned quite a bit, figured out how to improve some areas of our operations, we've brought on a couple new and talented people onto our team to help us out, and yes, we've even made a handful of mistakes and ran into some glitches (which I suppose is to be expected), but we'll chalk those little pesky things up as "learning lessons" and move on!

Since our personal commitment to you is to not only share the best patterns, interviews and information from around our little crazy crochet community, but to also try and out-do ourselves each month, I'm extremely proud to say that I think we've done just that with issue 2 ... but you can be the judge =)

This month, we're kicking off a few new article series that we're extremely excited about, ranging from a couple of 'crochet-preneur' articles to help you build and grow your crochet business, to a new series that focuses on the SAHM side of our crochet community to an interview from our friend Kathryn Vercillo which focuses on the healing side of crochet. And as if that wasn't enough, you'll also hear from our cover story Vickie Howell in my 1-on-1 exclusive interview with her, along with a Guinness Book of World Records setting crocheter that I interviewed as well!

There's also product and book reviews, quick tips, Design Wars updates from our friend Salena Baca, a bunch of amazing patterns and projects, and all kinds of other goodies as well!

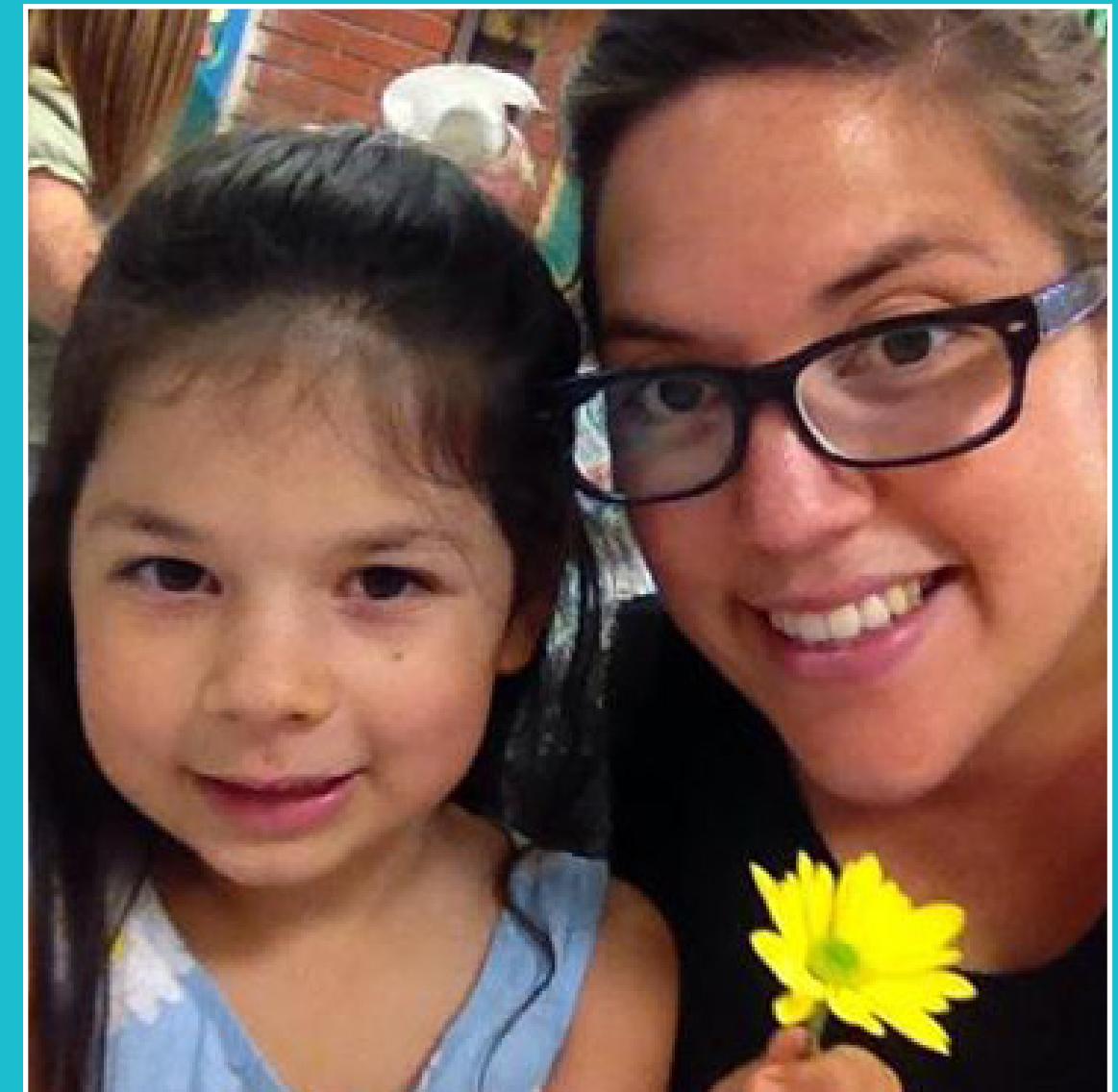
I hope you enjoy reading this issue, as much as we did creating it for you!

And if you personally have some great patterns, advice, tips or resources to share with our readers, then by all means, let us know! After all, this magazine is for YOU, so we want to hear from you.

Thanks again for reading Happily Hooked Magazine, and Happy Crocheting =)

Alison

HAPPILY
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Crochet Magazine



Stay Connected

Alison Lütz

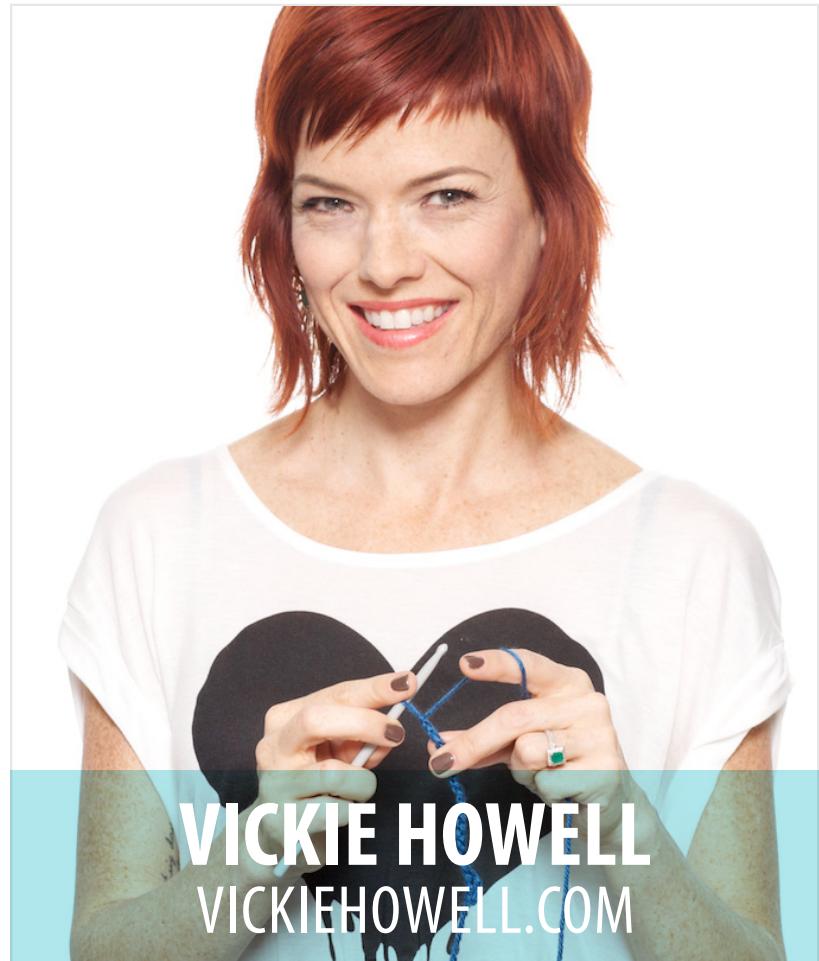
Co-Founder & Editor

Happily Hooked Magazine

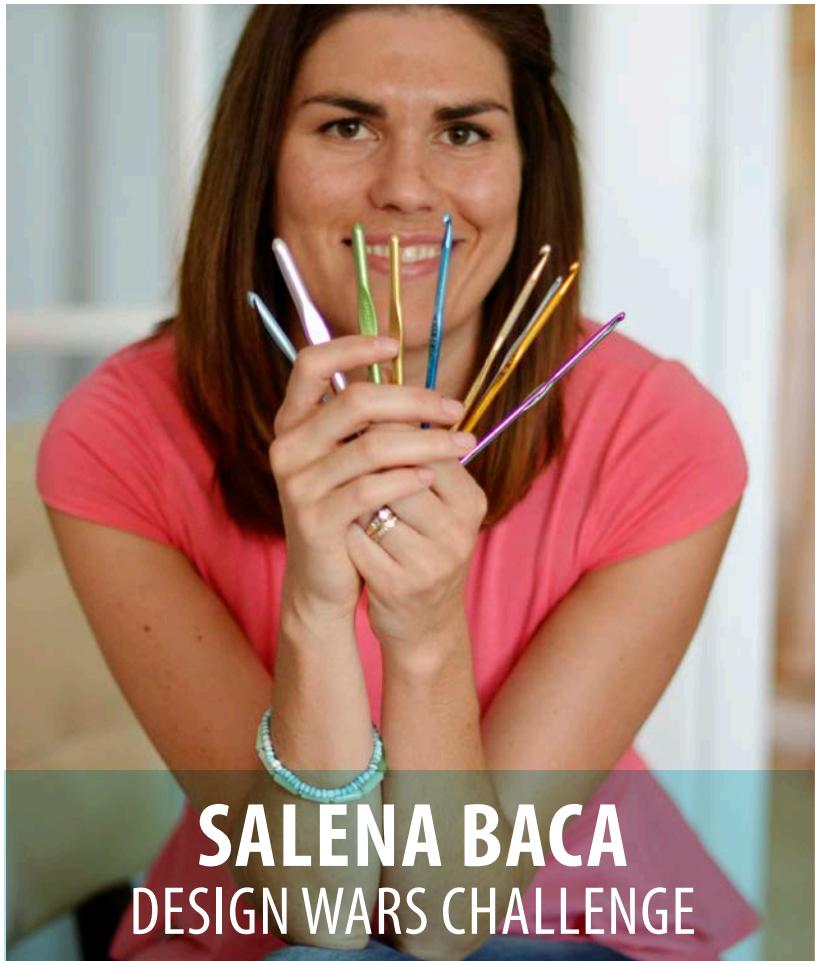


CONTRIBUTORS

Special thanks to these talented designers and crocheters – we couldn't do it without you =)



VICKIE HOWELL
VICKIEHOWELL.COM



SELENA BACA
DESIGN WARS CHALLENGE



KATHRYN VERCILLO
CROCHET SAVED MY LIFE



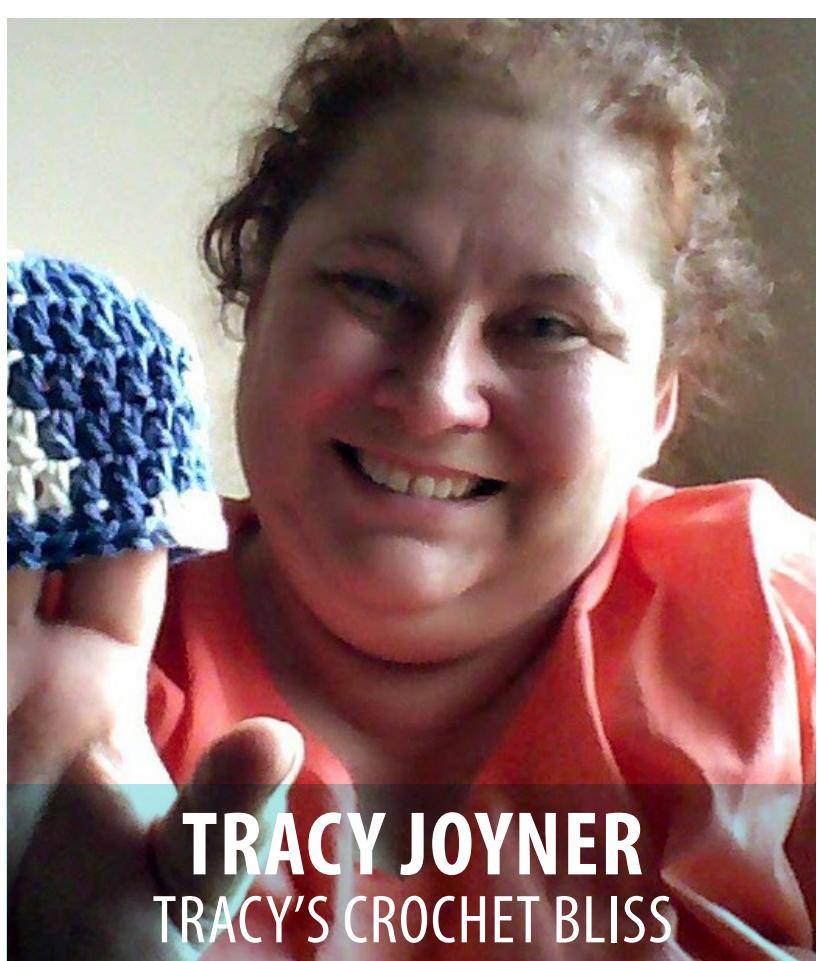
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CRE8TION CROCHET



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KATY BOUTHILLETTE
KATY CROCHET



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YARN OBSESSION



SUSIE HEWER
EXTREME KNITTING REDHEAD



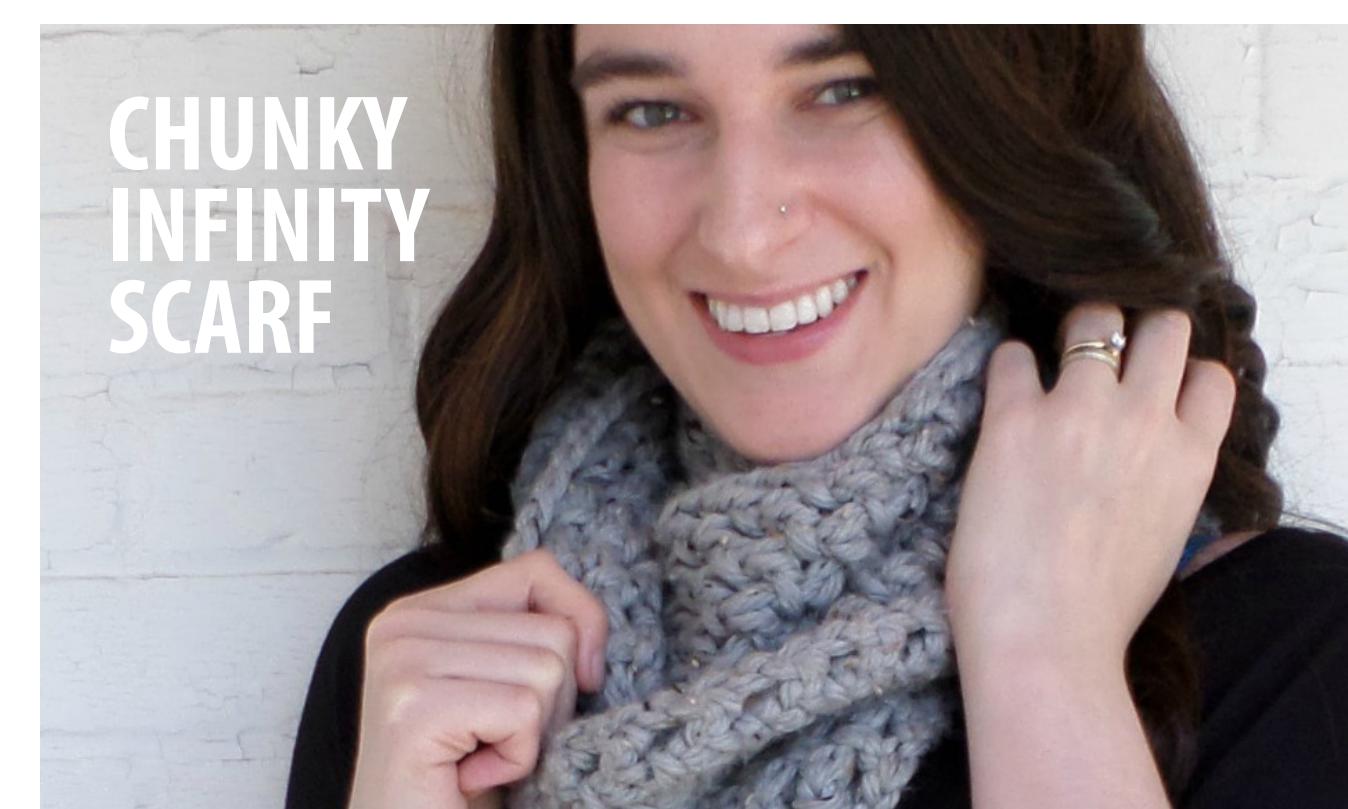
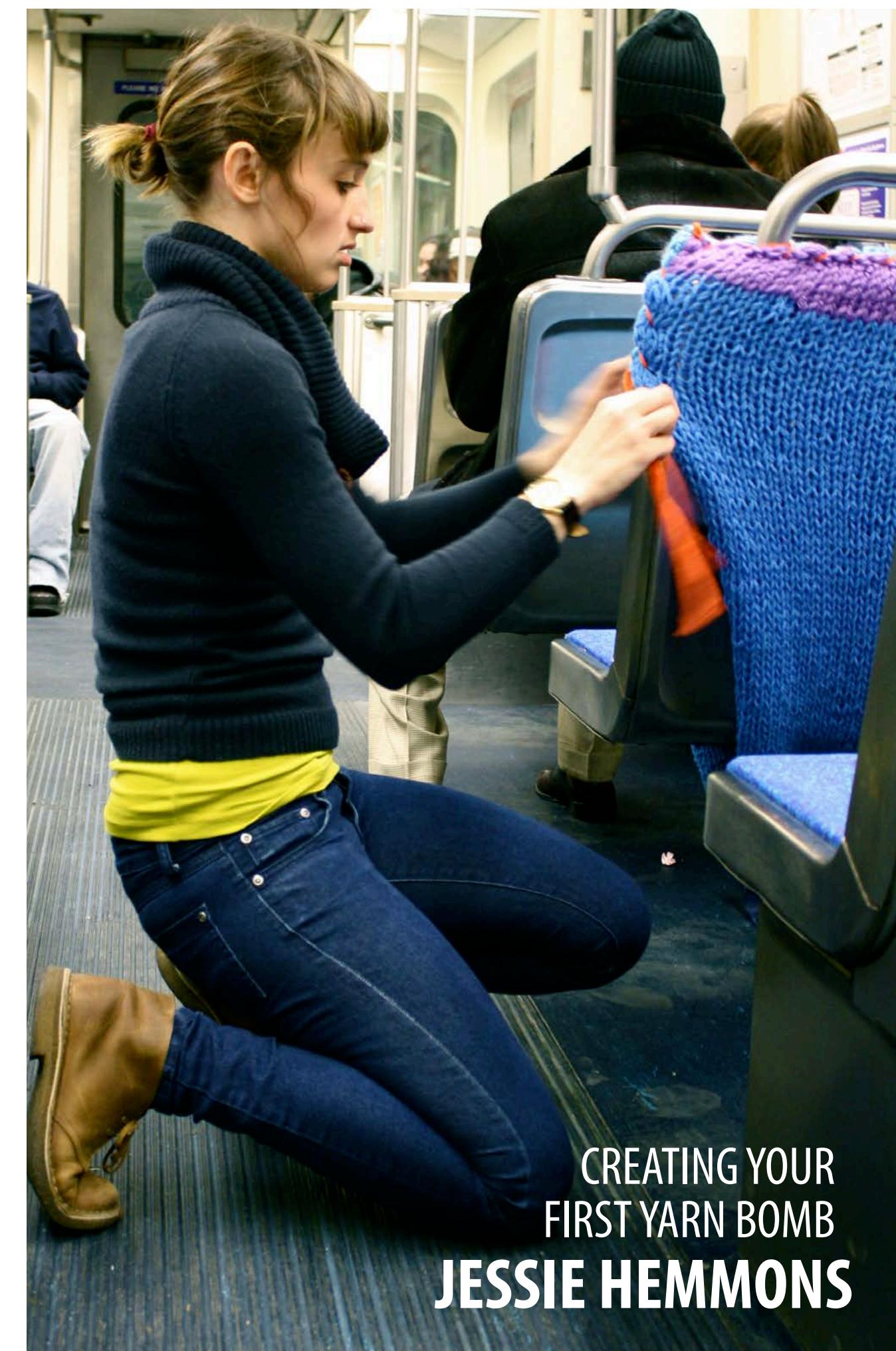
MARIE SEGARES
UNDERGROUND CRAFTER

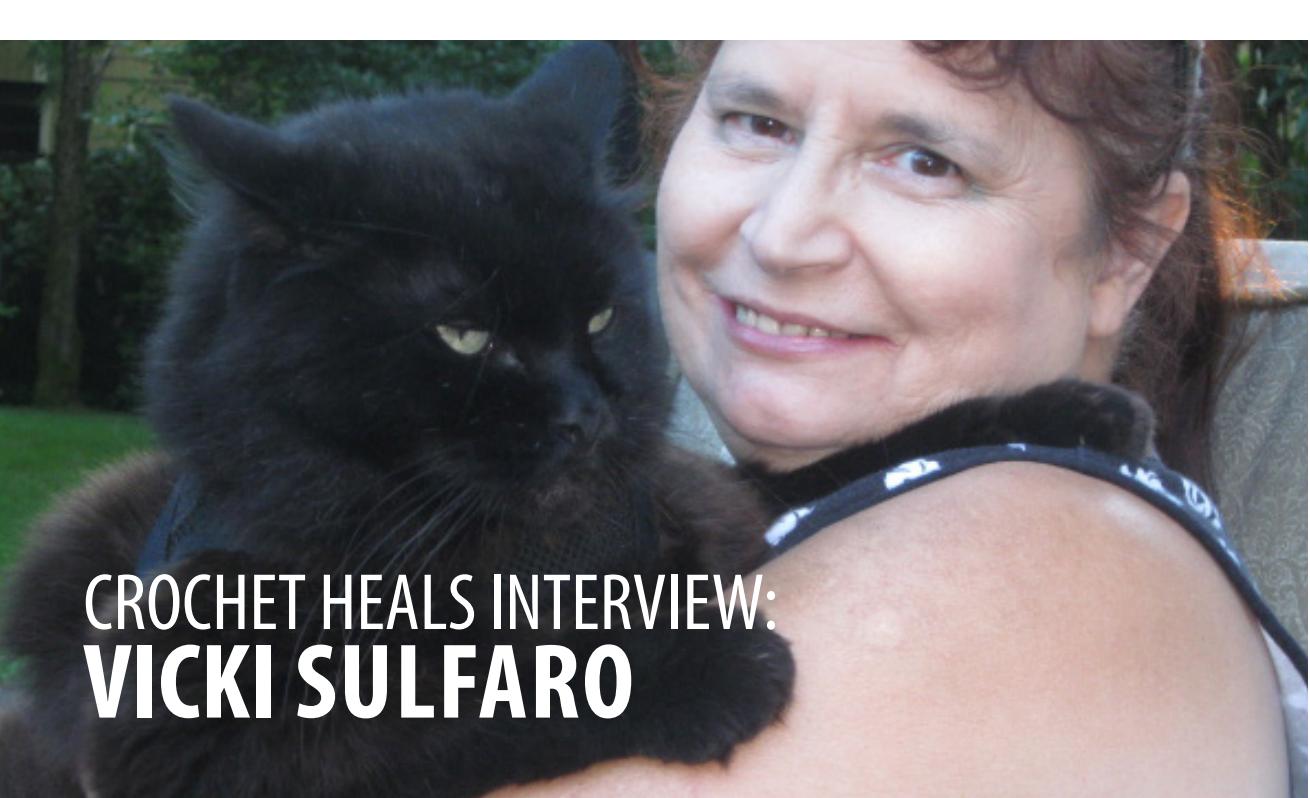
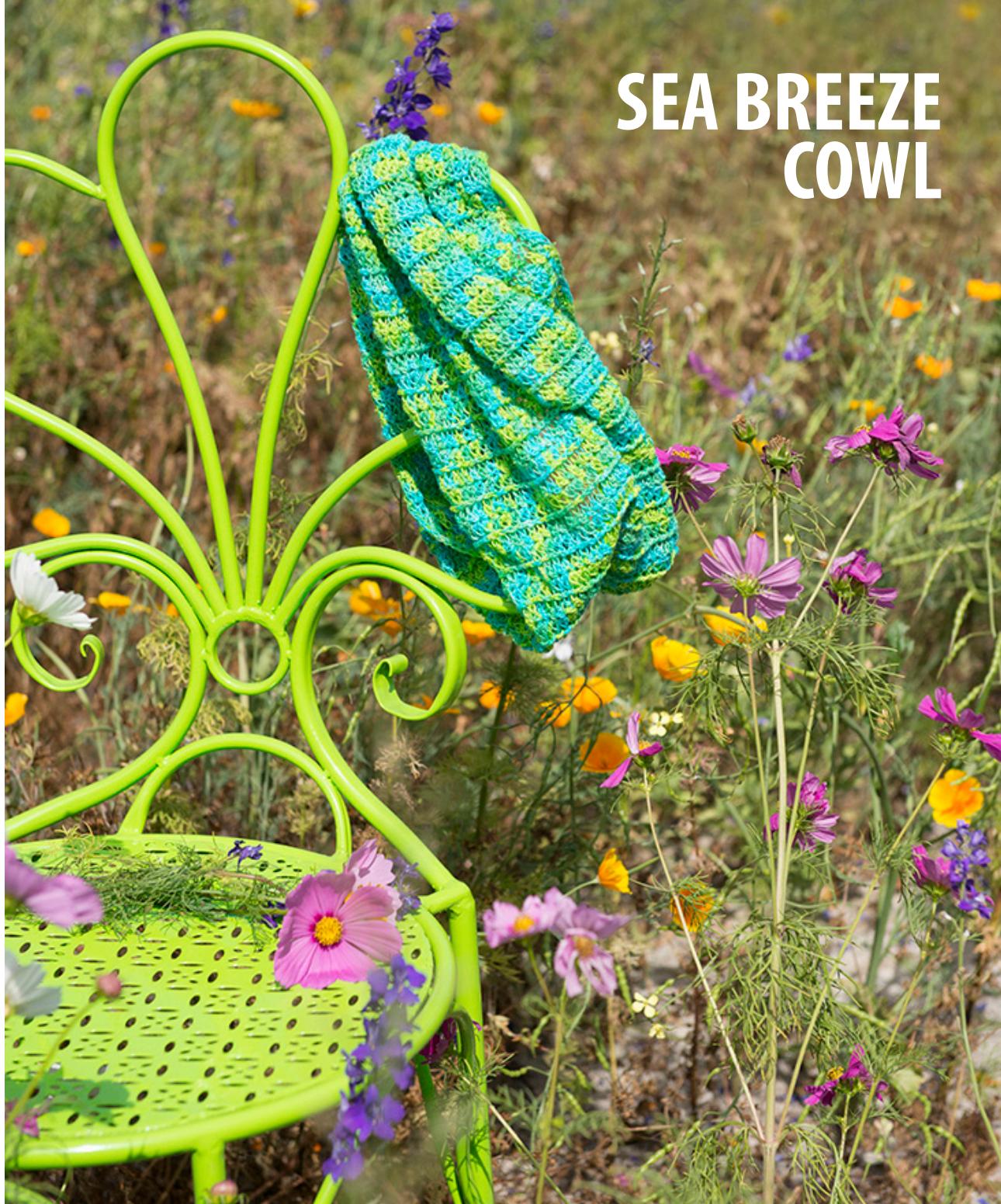
If you'd like to become a Happily Hooked contributor, email and let us know =)



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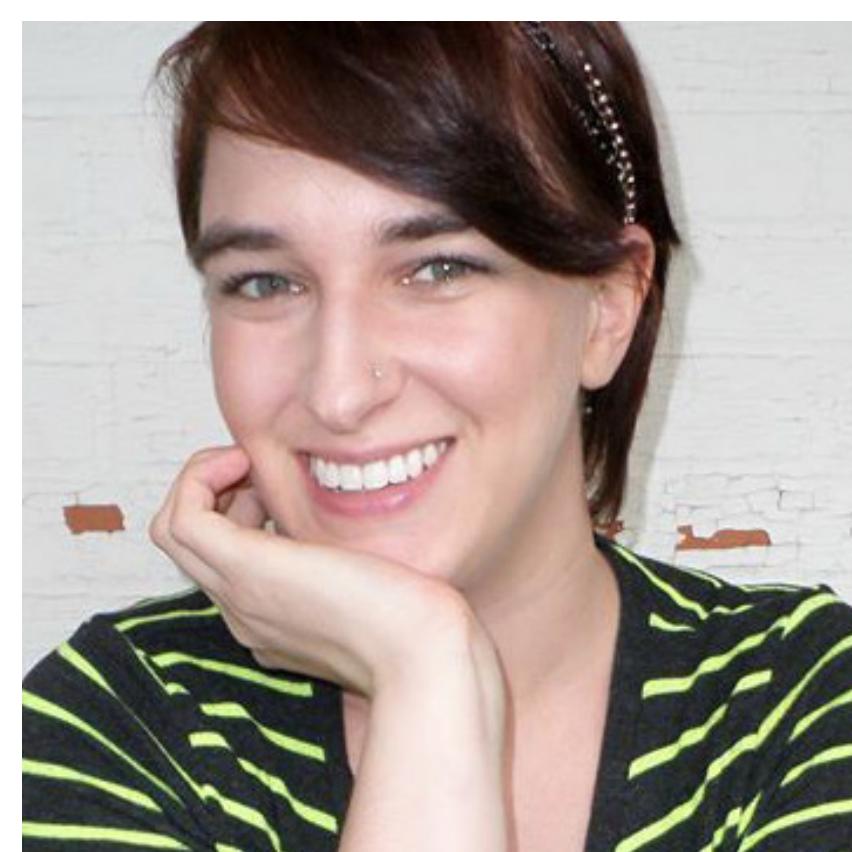
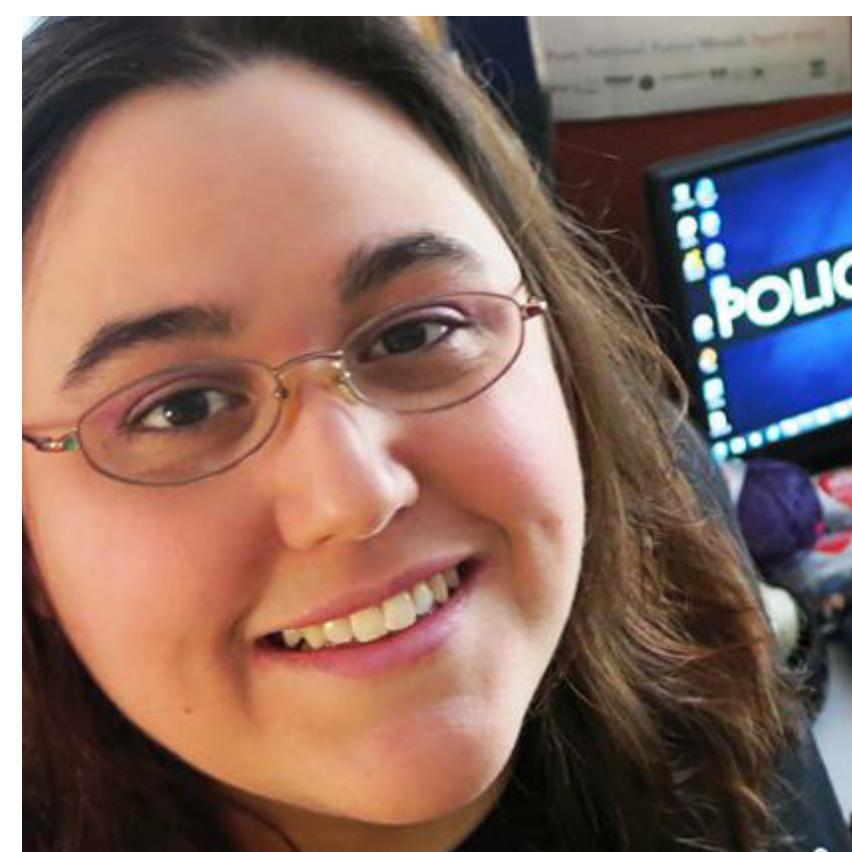
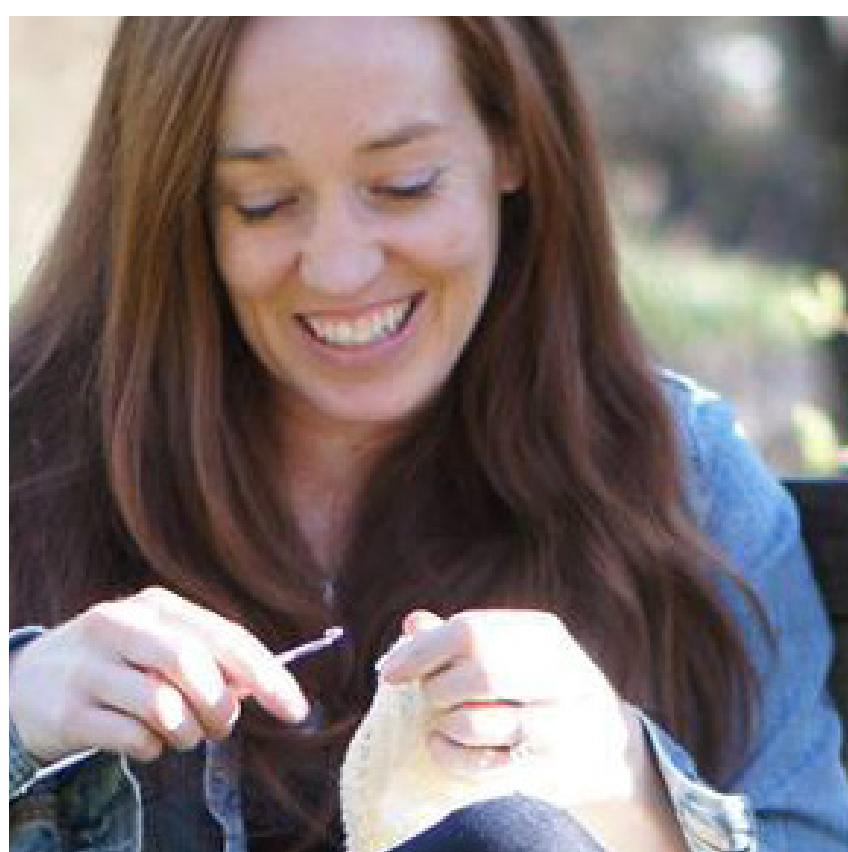
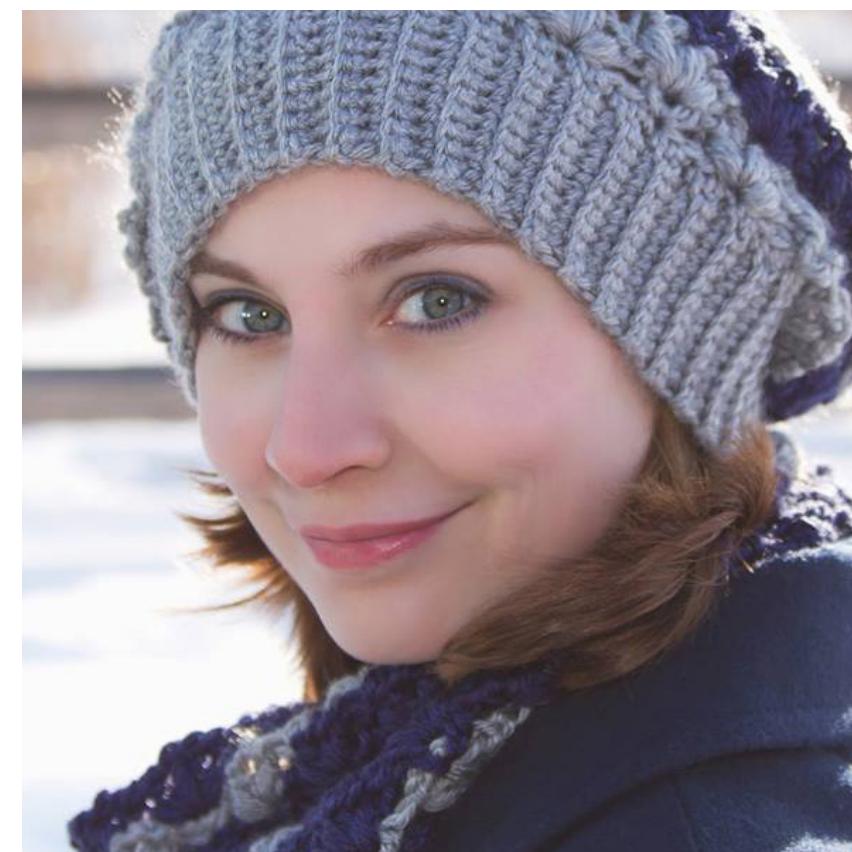
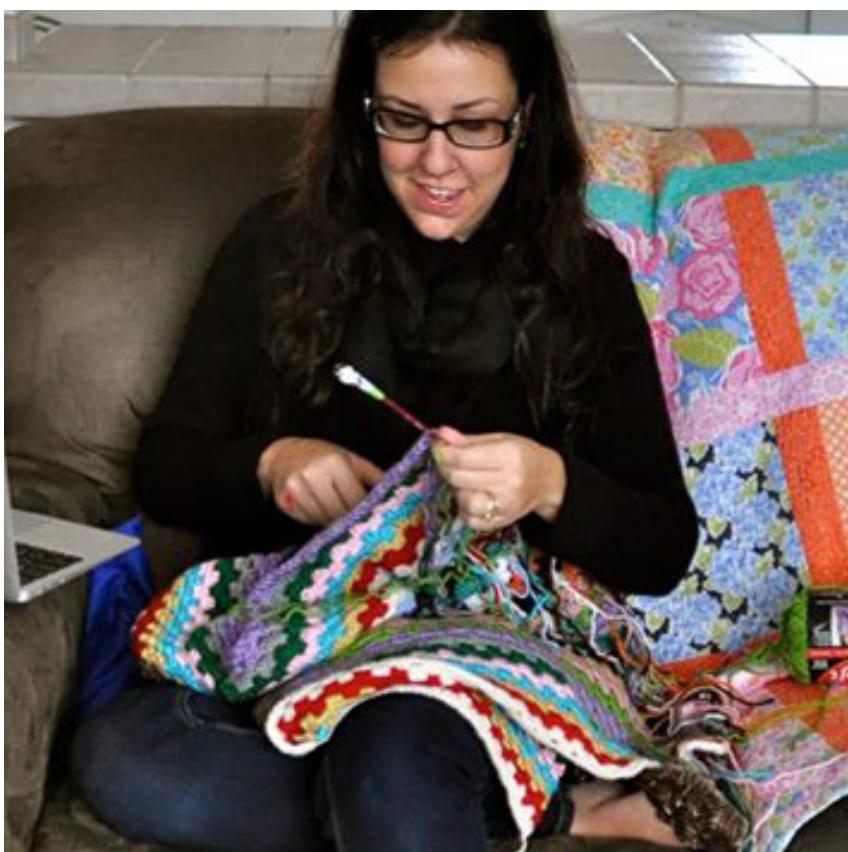
ISSUE TWO CONTENTS







*"I love you more than crochet ...
but please don't make me prove it."*



DESIGN WARS



Design Wars is a mix of new perspective and options in yarn, and is thoughtfully balanced with originality in crochet design and style! We feel this mix is best represented with a hearty group of new recruits, and we join them together with our alumni challengers! This round we are pleased to present Crystal Bucholz, Tara Murray, Alessandra Hayden, Sarah Lora, Charissa Ragsdale, Theresa Grant, and Lisa van Klaveren! Welcome back alumni challengers!

The Design Wars family has added four brand new challengers, and I'm very proud to represent them! These ladies are not strangers to the crochet scene, and most are very strong influences in our crochet communities! Please join me in welcoming our newest recruits: Vita Apala, Tricia Dodge, Viktoria Gogolak, and Tanya Naser!

Our DW7 challengers will be using a fantastic line from **Red Heart Yarns called Unforgettable!** This boutique line is a roving yarn with luxuriously soft texture in a vibrant array of colors! The best part? This line is available at a great price!

Follow our fun as we introduce these 11 challengers with a video in our next newsletter! We can't wait for you to hear from every single one of them personally! In the mean time, enjoy a free pattern from each, chat with them on facebook, and stop by **our fanpage** for inspiration, giveaways, celebrity interviews, and an Unforgettable Challenge!

See the patterns that these Design Wars challengers are sharing with you on the following pages.

Enjoy!



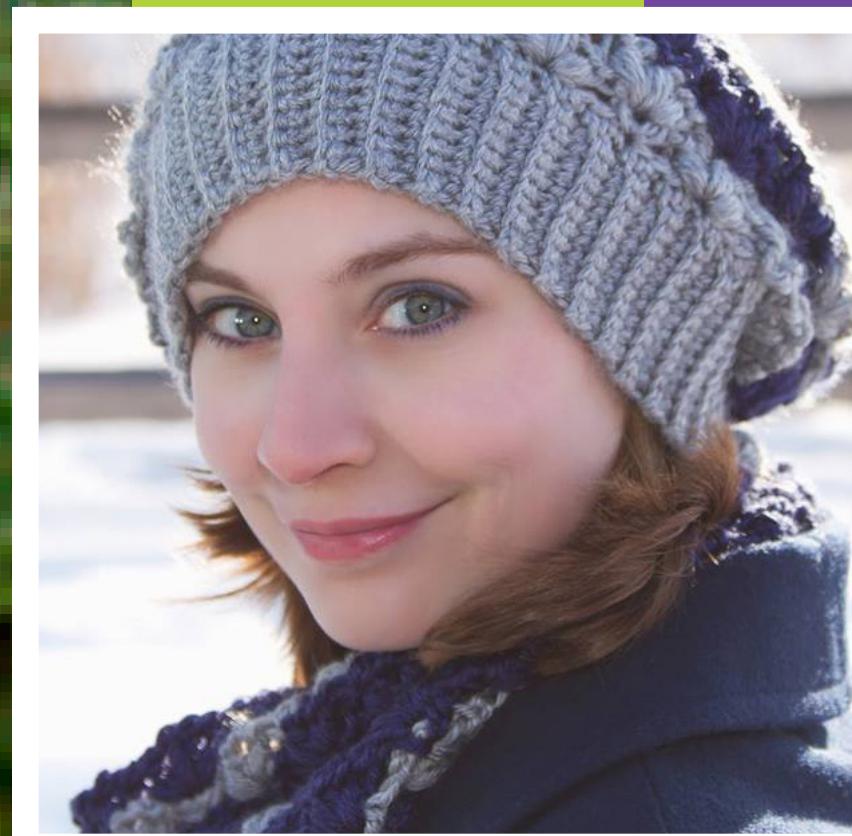
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with Design Wars & Salena Baca



*Thick & Thin
Photo Blanket*
Crystal Bucholz



*Tap here for your
Free Pattern:*



**Easy Stool
Covers**
Tara Murray



*Tap here for your
Free Pattern:*



**Cuppa Joe
Java Jacket**
Theresa Grant



*Tap here for your
Free Pattern:*



*Tap here for your
Free Pattern:*



Kindle Cover
Vita Apala



*Tap here for your
Free Pattern:*



Basic Beret
Crochetrend
Viktoria Gogolak



*Tap here for your
Free Pattern:*



4 Washcloths
Sarah Lora



*Tap here for your
Free Pattern:*



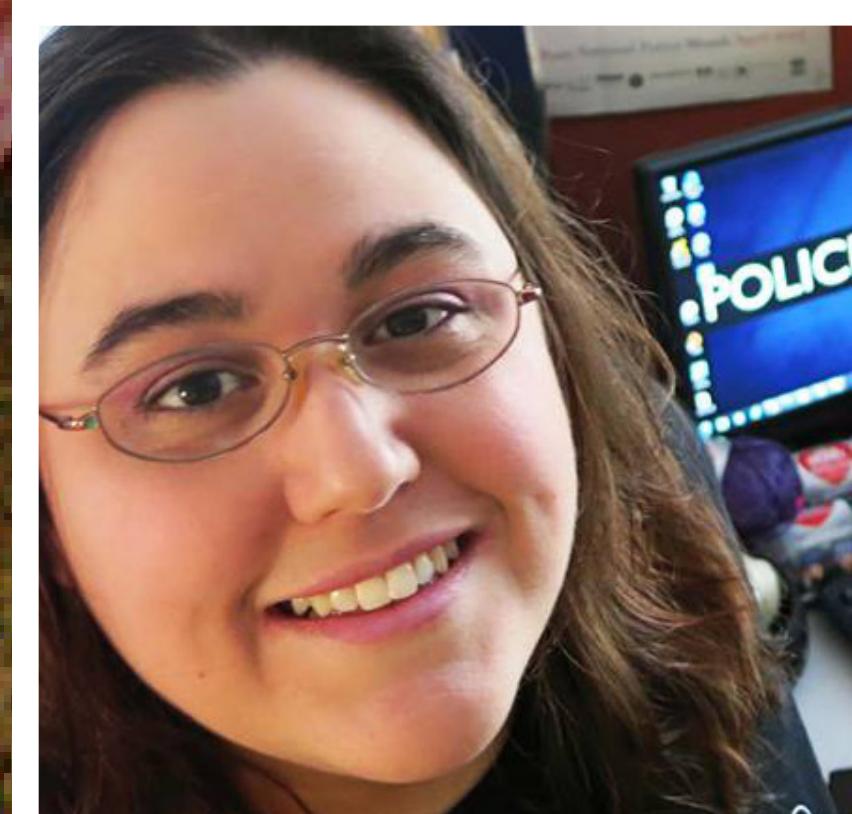
**Just Ducky
Lovey**
Lisa van Klaveren



*Tap here for your
Free Pattern:*



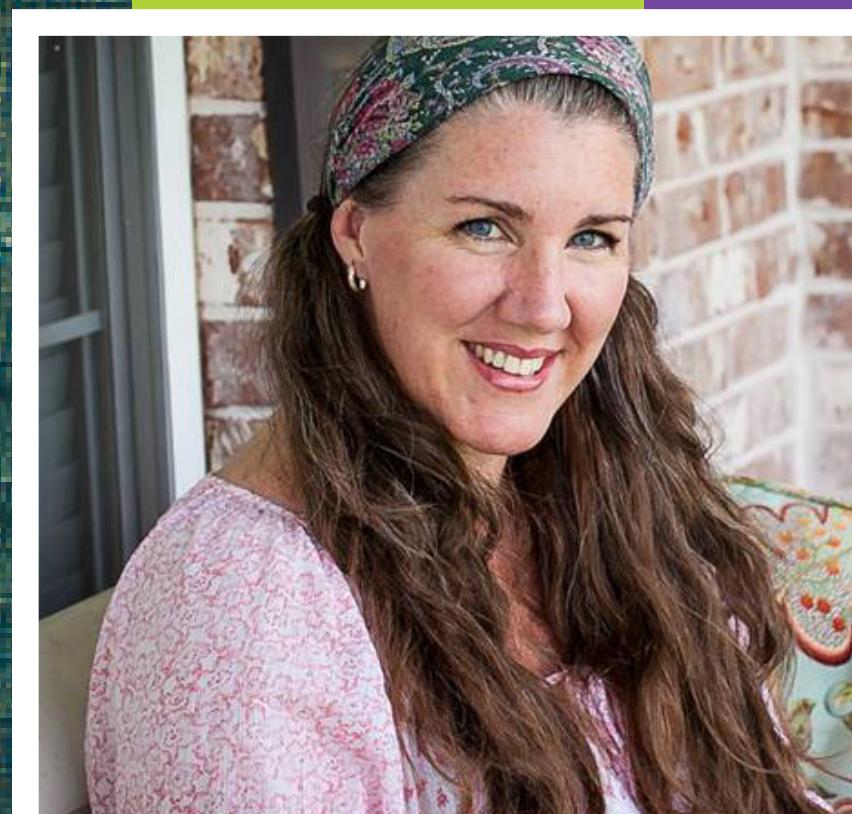
**Baby's Best
Bumpy Blanket**
Tanya Naser



*Tap here for your
Free Pattern:*



Granny Love
Charissa Ragsdale



*Tap here for your
Free Pattern:*

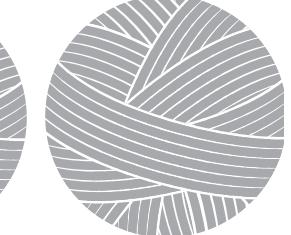
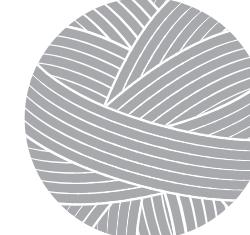


Chunky Infinity Scarf



Pattern designed by
Tricia Dodge of Cuddlepie Crochet

Let's Get Started!



Materials:

2 skeins Lion Brand Hometown USA M / 9mm hook
 N (10mm) hook or P (11.5mm)
 Tapestry Needle to weave in ends

Gauge:

With N hook - 5 dc and 5 ch 1 sp = 4 inches
 With P hook – 4 dc and 4 ch 1 sp = 4 inches

Notes:

A P hook will give you a looser drape, while the N will have a tighter "fabric". The pictured scarf is worked with a P, although I have made a ton with N, and those who have received them adore them.

With N hook:

Chain 120 and join to 1st chain, making certain not to twist your chain.

Rnd 1: Ch 3, *sk next ch, dc in next, ch 1* around and join to the 2nd ch of beginning ch 3.

Rnd 2-8: Sl st in next ch 1 sp, ch 3, *sk next dc, dc in next ch 1 sp, ch 1* around and join to the 2nd ch of beginning ch 3.

Cut yarn and weave in ends!

With P Hook:

Chain 100 and join to 1st chain, making certain not to twist your chain.

Rnd 1: Ch 3, *sk next ch, dc in next, ch 1* around and join to the 2nd ch of beginning ch 3.

Rnd 2-8: Sl st in next ch 1 sp, ch 3, *sk next dc, dc in next ch 1 sp, ch 1* around and join to the 2nd ch of beginning ch 3.

Cut yarn and weave in ends!

This is easily adjustable to make a longer, shorter, thicker or thinner scarf! Just make sure your beginning chain is an even number.

Tricia Dodge is a stay at home momma who loves to crochet (and knit) and just play with yarn yummies!

Her mom taught her to crochet when she was 12 years old, but she didn't pick it up again until she was pregnant with her first son. Now she stays busy taking care of her four boys, but her brain is always thinking of what to design next. Her style is trendy yet simple. Even her patterns that look hard are much simpler than they appear. She loves pops of color and the softness of superwash merino. In her spare time, she adores reading, and drinking tea!



Cuddledope 
crochet

Stay Connected With Tricia





CROCHET HEALS!
INTERVIEW WITH:
**VICKI
SULFARO**

CROCHET HEALS!

INTERVIEW WITH:
**VICKI
SULFARO**



Vicki Sulfaro never goes a day without pain since the day more than a decade ago when a car accident left her with spinal injuries. Nevertheless, she maintains an upbeat attitude about her situation and uses crochet as a healing tool to cope with the difficulties of chronic pain mostly by crocheting to give back to others and find purpose in her new world. In this interview she shares more about her experience. You can also learn more about her from her blog [A Crochet Queen's Haven](#).

QUESTION #1

How did you first learn to crochet?

I have crocheted since I was 7 years old when my 3rd grade teacher Mrs. Olsen taught me one month during recess and I have never looked back. I feel so blessed that she cared enough to spend her free time teaching my fellow students and me this priceless gift.

QUESTION #2

What can you tell us about your accident and the chronic pain that you've lived with as a result of that bad day?

My daughter and I were in the car, sitting at a red light, waiting to turn left. We were rear ended by a kid who went to her school at the time. He was going about fifty miles per hour and we were completely stopped so there was a lot of damage. I sustained spinal injuries, which ultimately resulted in me having two spinal fusions. This is why I live in severe pain all of the time, even so many years later and despite ongoing physical therapy.

didn't. I was given a second chance. I cannot see being all whiny and feeling sorry for myself all of the time. It would be easy to do that, and of course I have my bad days but mostly I am grateful. I crochet because it helps me relax and not think about the negative things.

QUESTION #4

Did you begin to crochet right away after the accident? What was the first thing that you made when you started crafting again?

After the accident, I was so afraid I would not be able to crochet because of the damage to my neck from the whiplash. I was terrified. I started physical therapy and regained a lot of function. I was so thankful after physical therapy that I made my therapist a beautiful baby dress and bonnet for the baby she was carrying.

QUESTION #3

That sounds so terrible. How did you get through those first weeks after the accident?

I look at life this way – I could have died that day. As bad as the accident was, I probably should have. But I

QUESTION #5

CROCHET HEALS!

INTERVIEW WITH:
**VICKI
SULFARO**



What has been the biggest healing benefit of crochet since your accident?

When I crochet I don't think about how my body is now broken; I think about how I can create something beautiful and useful with my hook and either yarn or thread. I design crochet patterns because I find it helps me channel my energy away from the pain and into healing. In other words crochet lets me be me.

QUESTION #6

What else can you share with us about how crochet has healed you?

One of the most important things about crochet for me is that I am able to take something simple such as a skein of yarn and turn it into something that is not only beautiful but also useful. Crochet has turned my life around. Where once I could run marathons, ski, hike etc., I can't do any of that anymore ... but crochet takes me places where I

feel useful and helpful. Sometimes I get so down I just want to scream "why?!" Instead, I pick up a hook and a skein of yarn and create, and it gives me a sense of purpose, of being, of feeling that I am not just a helpless person but one who CAN and does give back to the world.

QUESTION #7

You also give back to the world through your crochet by crocheting for others, right?

Yes! Crochet lets me help others again, give back instead of just taking. I crochet for hours every day and about 90% of what I make is for others. One of the favorites of my charities is that I crochet hats for people who have gone through brain trauma and surgery. Many charities focus on chemo caps (and I've made those as well) but there aren't many that focus on crochet for brain injuries. I have a friend who runs a nationwide organization that collects and distributes hats to those in need so I try and make

at least 3 a month for her.

I have also crocheted for a number of other causes and situations. When the Lakewood 4 were murdered I asked my fellow crocheters to help and we made afghans for each of the families. When a local deputy was shot and killed and another was wounded we made two afghans for them, calling them comfortghans because we hoped they would bring comfort in the wake of these tragedies.

QUESTION #8

And you teach others to crochet as well? Do you have any stories to share about that?

After one of my surgeries I spent the recovery time crocheting in my hospital bed. I made friends with an elderly woman who was also there recovering. She watched me crochet a baby bikini for my daughter and was just fascinated with it, so I offered to show her

CROCHET HEALS!

INTERVIEW WITH:
**VICKI
SULFARO**



how to crochet. We sat together in recovery, crocheting. She was so grateful that I had shown her how to do more than the basic chain and single crochet stitches that she'd learned before that she gave me a gift of really beautiful lavender yarn as a thank you. I used it to make a dress for my daughter. I am so glad I helped that dear lady learn some new stitches. I will always remember her.

I know that without my love of crafting, and especially crochet, I have no idea where I would be right

now. I'm so lucky that my teacher gave me this gift so many years ago and I'm happy to help teach the craft to anyone else who wants to learn.

This article is by Kathryn Vercillo who blogs at CrochetConcupiscence.com. Kathryn first interviewed Vicki, along with two dozen other women, as research for her book 'Crochet Saved My Life'. Kathryn is continuing to interview people on this topic. If you are interested in sharing your story, contact her by tapping the buttons below.

Kathryn Vercillo is a San Francisco based freelance writer, blogger and crafter. She has her own blog about crochet, Crochet Concupiscence that has quickly become one of the most popular crochet-only craft blog on the web. Crochet Concupiscence was a 2011 runner-up for a Flamie award for Best Crochet Blog and was voted one of the top 5 2012 craft blogs in Inside Crochet Magazine. Kathryn's online articles about crochet have also been published around the web on top sites that include Crochetvolution, Crochet Liberation Front, SF Indie Fashion and Handmadeology.

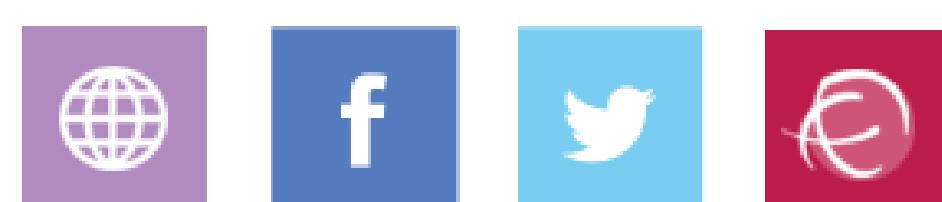
Kathryn's most recent book, Crochet Saved My Life, is a non-fiction account of her experience using crochet to heal through depression.

To check out the Happily Hooked review of that book, see the following page!



**Crochet
Concupiscence**

Stay Connected With Kathryn





Crochet Concupiscence

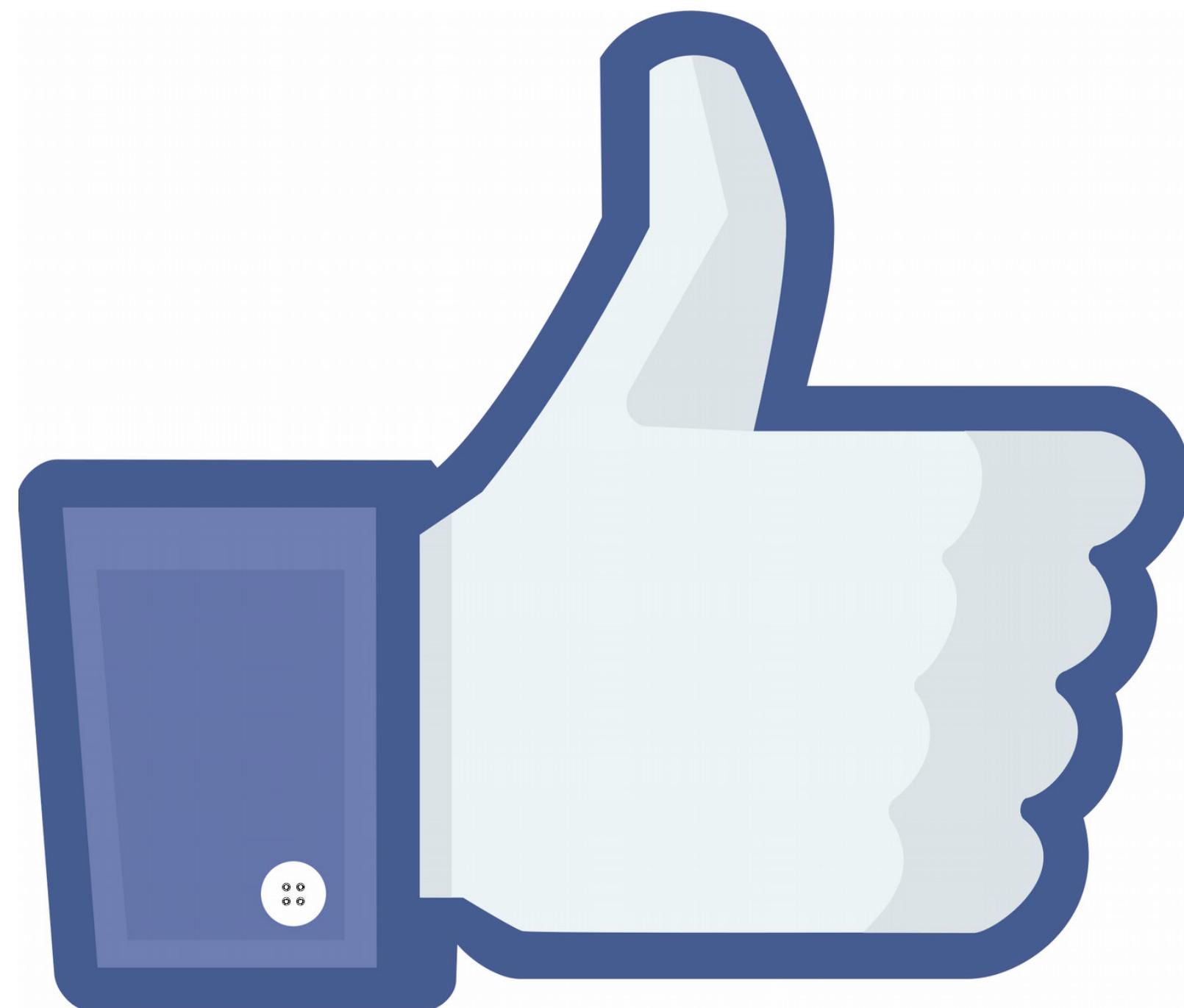
*Crochet Concupiscence is an online hub dedicated to the craft of crochet, and all of the news that surrounds it. From crochet art, fashion and design, to the healing benefits of this artform, we invite you to check out our community and meet some other like-minded crocheters and designers. **See you there!***



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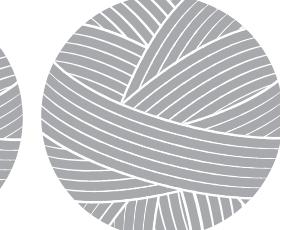




Sea Breeze Cowl

Pattern designed by
Lorene Eppolite of Cre8tion Crochet

Let's Get Started!



The yarn used for this project is Silk Cloud in Mermaid at the Sea. I absolutely love the colors in this yarn. It reminded me so much of a perfect summer day at the beach so I was inspired to create something can be worn in the summer. This cowl is super lightweight and breathable. It will add the perfect accent to that cute summer outfit that needs just a little bit more.

Materials

Darn Good Yarn's Anamika Silk Yarn in Mermaid at the Sea- (2) 50g Skeins

4.0mm (G) crochet hook

Small needle to weave in ends

Finished Size

12" by 12"

Gauge

5 pattern repeats (1 shell and 1fpdc) and 16 rows = 4" x 4"

Special Stitches

fhdc- foundation half double crochet

Chain 3(counts as 1st fdc). Yarn over and insert hook in 3rd chain from hook. Yarn over and pull through the st (3 loops on hook), yarn over and pull through 1 loop (this slip stitch is an important step but easy to forget). Yarn over and pull through all three loops on hook. That will complete one fhdc. To make your next fhdc *yarn over and insert the hook into the 1st sl st of the previous fhdc. Yarn over and pull up loop (3 loops on hook), yarn over and pull through 1 loop (this slip stitch is an important step but easy to forget). Yarn over and pull through all three loops on hook. Repeat till desired length.

hdc2tog - half double crochet two together

insert hook in first st. Yarn over and pull through st (two loops on hook). Insert hook into 2nd st. Yarn over and pull through st (three loops on hook). Yarn over and pull through all three loops on hook.

Notes

You may find it hard to sl st into the top of the ch3 to join each round, if this is the case then you can sl st into the space between the 1st and 2nd posts instead. Then you will sl st into the 2nd st as written in pattern.

Pattern

Round 1: Fhdc 116 (alternately you can chain 118 and 1hdc in the 3rd chain from hook and every ch across)

Round 2: Join chain together with sl st. Be sure that this does not twist. (you can twist it if you choose to make a mobius cowl instead)



Creation
CROCHET

Round 3: 1hdc in every st around. Join round with sl st <116>

Round 4: [Ch3. 1dc. Ch1. 2dc] in the same st. Skip 3sts. *[2dc. Ch1. 2dc] in next st. Skip 3sts. Repeat from * around. Sl st into top of ch3 to join round. (29 shells)



Round 5: Sl st into next st. Sl st into Ch1 space. [Ch3. 1dc. Ch1. 2dc] in the same st. Skip 3sts. *[2dc. Ch1. 2dc] in next st. 1dc in the space between shells. Repeat from * around. Sl st into top of ch3 to join round. (29 shells and 29dc)

Round 6: Sl st into next st. Sl st into the Ch1 space. [Ch3. 1dc. Ch1. 2dc] in the same st. Skip 3sts. *[2dc. Ch1. 2dc] in next st. 1fpdc in the dc between shells. Repeat from * around. Sl st into top of ch3 to join round. (29 shells and 29fpdc)

Rounds 7-45: Repeat line 6. (nearly 12" tall)

Round 46: Ch 2. 1hdc in each of the next 2sts. hdc2tog using the sp before the fpdc and the sp after the fpdc (insert hook in sp before the fpdc, yo and pull through space. Insert hook in the space after the fpdc, yo and pull through sp (three loops on hook). Yo and pull through all three loops on the hook). *1hdc in each of the next 3sts. hdc2tog using the sp before the fpdc and the sp after the fpdc. Repeat from * around. Sl st into the top of the ch2 to join round <116>



Round 47: Ch 2. 1hdc in every st around. Sl st into the top of the ch2 to join round.

Round 48: Ch1. 1sc in every st around. Fasten off and weave in ends.

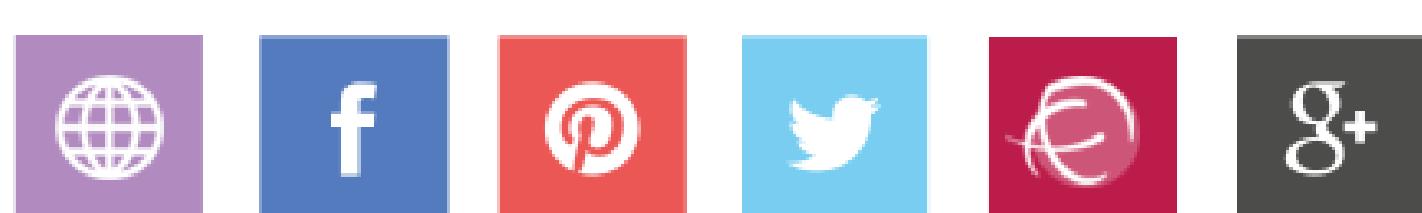


Lorene Eppolite is the editor of Cre8tionCrochet.com. In 2012 she started publishing free crochet patterns on her blog. She is a member of The Crochet Guild of America and has been featured by AllFreeCrochet, Crochet Savvy Online Magazine and The Crochet Crowd. Lorene is the official crochet designer for Darn Good Yarns. She also designs patterns for Red Heart Yarns. Lorene's mission is to help other crafters find success with their business', whether this be by providing fantastic free crochet patterns or business advice.



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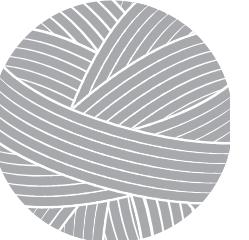
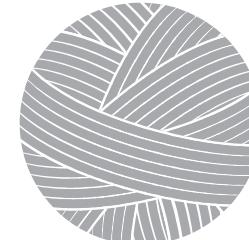
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A photograph of a woman with short brown hair and glasses, wearing a large, textured blue cowl. She is looking down and slightly to the side. The background is dark.

Peacock Cowl

Pattern designed by Sedruola Maruska of Yarn Obsession

Let's Get Started!



Materials

Size N Crochet hook
2 balls Thick n Quick yarn

Stitches

SC = Single Crochet

TR = Triple Crochet

SL ST = Slip Stitch

Pattern

Chain 62

Join in circle with sl st, being careful not to twist

Row 1: 1 SC in next st, *skip 4 ch, 9 TR in next ch, skip 4 ch, 1 SC in next ch, repeat from * to end

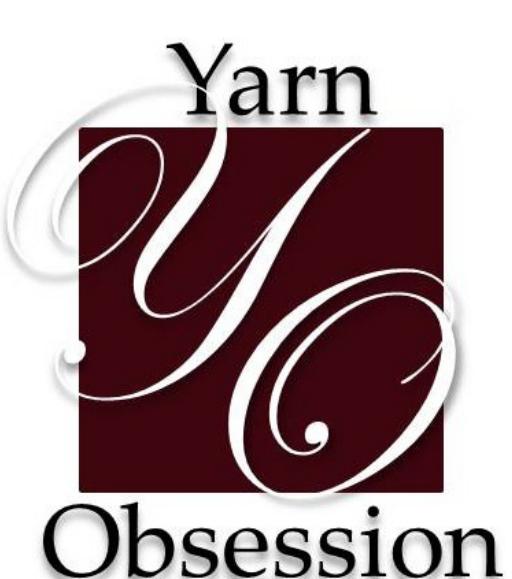
Row 2: ch 4, 1 TR in same st as ch 4, *ch 3, skip 4 TR, 1 SC in next TR (the center TR of 9), ch 3, skip 4 TR, 2 TR in next sc, repeat from *, ending sc in top of starting ch

Row 3: *skip ch 3, 9 TR in next sc, skip ch 3, 1 SC in st between 2 TR, repeat from *, ending 1 SC in beg sc

***Repeat rows 2 and 3 4 times, end final row with sl st in starting sc, bind off and wear.*

***Repeats can be done as many times as desired until desired length is reached.*

Sedruola Maruska is a multi-talented, personable, mompreneur, crochet designer, writer and online marketing expert who has combined all her talents into a consulting and mentoring business for crochet hobbyists and professionals. For over 20 years Sedruola helped top-level executives stay at the top of their game by creating partnership situations where her excellent communication, listening and organizational skills ensured the completion of numerous simultaneous tasks. Now, as a crochet designer and marketing professional she brings those same skills to her business as well as her clients' businesses, building and maintaining "win-win" partnerships that allow them to grow to their full potential. From website development, to crochet design, pricing and learning the elemental principles of listening have helped uncover creative solutions. When she isn't engaging with clients and customers online she's playing "hide-and-go-seek", dreaming of yarn and connecting with the core of her motivation, her family.



Stay Connected With Sedruola

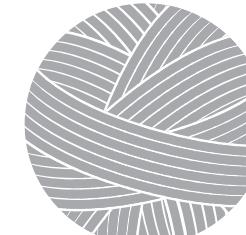




Ally Market Bag

Pattern designed by Pam of Dajczak Sincerely Pam

Let's Get Started!



Introducing the Ally Market Bag! This bag is designed to compliment the popular Ally Hat and Ally Scarf patterns. This project is perfect to use as a WIP bag, Market Tote, or even a clever Gift Bag. You will find plenty of uses for this quick and fun pattern.

Materials:

Yarn: Worsted Weight #4 Yarn.

I used Bernat Premium approximately 300 yards.

Hook: K (6.5mm) hook.

Gauge & Sizing:

Gauge: 12sc = 4" *Please note that gauge is not essential to the success of this project.*

Size: 12" width x 15.5" length

Pattern Key:

- . ch: chain
- . st(s): stitch(es)
- . slst: slip stitch
- . sk: skip
- . sc: single crochet
- . hdc: half double crochet

Notes:

Please read over the photo tutorial on Page 4 before beginning with the pattern repeats as stitch placement is crucial to the success of the pattern. In the increase rounds, always place your first hdc in the same as your ch stitch. When asked to join, always do so with a slst to the first stitch in that round, not the chain.

Pattern Instructions:

1: Start with a magic circle, ch1, 8hdc in circle, join.(8)

2: Ch1, 2hdc in each st around, join. (16)

3: Ch1, *1hdc in the next st, 2hdc in next st. Repeat from *, join. (24)

4: Ch1, *1hdc in the next 2 sts, 2hdc in next st. Repeat from *, join. (32)

5: Ch1, *1hdc in the next 3 sts, 2hdc in next st. Repeat from *, join. (40)

6: Ch1, *1hdc in the next 4 sts, 2hdc in next st. Repeat from *, join. (48)

7: Ch1, *1hdc in the next 5 sts, 2hdc in next st. Repeat from *, join. (56)

8: Ch1, *1hdc in the next 6 sts, 2hdc in next st. Repeat from *, join. (64)

9: Ch1, *1hdc in the next 7 sts, 2hdc in next st. Repeat from *, join. (72)

10: Ch1, *1hdc in the next 8 sts, 2hdc in next st. Repeat from *, join. (80)

11: Ch1, sc in same st and next 2 sts, ch5, *sk3sts, 1sc in the next 5 sts, ch5. Repeat from *, sc in last 2 sts, join. (50sc)

****Please note, in rounds 12-17, you must work your ch sts so they are nice and tight****

12: Ch1, sc in first 2 sts, ch3, sc in the middle of ch5 space, ch3, sk next st, *sc in next 3, sk1st, ch3, sc in the middle of ch5 space, ch3, sk next st, repeat from * across, sc in last st, join. (40)

13: Ch1, sc in same st, sk1st, ch3, sc in ch3 sp (see photo tutorial), sc in next st, sc in ch3 sp, ch3, sk1st, *sc in next, sk1st, ch3, sc in ch3 sp, sc in next st, sc in ch3 sp, ch3, sk1st repeat from * around, join. (50)

14: Ch5, sc in next ch3 sp (see photo tutorial), sc in next 3 sts, sc in next ch3 sp, *ch5, sk1st, sc in next ch3 sp, sc in next 3 sts, sc in next ch3 sp, repeat from * around, ch2, slst to 3rd ch in starting ch5 (counts as a ch5 sp), join. (40)

15: Ch1, sc in join, ch3, sk1st, sc next 3sts, sk1st, ch3, *sc in middle of next ch5 sp, ch3, sk1st, sc next 3sts, sk1st, ch3, repeat from * around, join. (40)

16: Ch1, sc in same st, sc in ch3 sp (see photo tutorial), ch3, sk1st, sc in next, sk1st, ch3, *sc in next ch3 sp, sc in next, sc in next ch3 sp, ch3, sk1st, sc in next, sk1st, ch3, repeat from * across, sc in last ch3 sp, join. (50)

17: Ch1, sc in same st, sc in next, sc in ch3 sp (see photo tutorial), ch5, sk1st, *sc in ch3 sp, sc in next 3, sc in next ch3 sp, ch5, sk1st, repeat from * around, sc in last ch3 sp, sc in last st, join. (50)

Repeat rounds 12-17 until you are 1/2" from your desired length. Use the chart on page 1 as a reference. Make sure you DO NOT end on a repeat of round 14 or 17. Once you have completed the repeats, move on to Strap Instructions.

Strap Instructions:

1: 1sc in each sc, 2sc in each ch3 space around, join. (80sc)

2: Ch1, hdc around, join. (80hdc)

3: Ch1, hdc first 12, ch75, sk15sts, hdc in next 25, ch75, sk15sts, hdc in last 13, join. (80hdc)

4: Ch1, hdc in each hdc and ch space around, join. (230hdc)

5-6: Ch1, hdc in each st around, join. (230hdc)

Fasten off and weave in ends.

The first photo shows a ch3 space on either side of a single crochet. The arrows point to where you will place your sts in the next round. On the next round (shown in blue yarn) you will place your sc in the ch3 sp as close as you can to the previous row's sc then 1sc in the existing sc, and then 1sc in the ch3 sp as close as you can to the sc you just made.



The second photo shows two more rounds completed in different color yarns to help show where the stitches have been placed. See how the diamond pattern is now forming.



Pam Dajczak, owner and designer of Sincerely Pam, is best known for her use of texture and sense of humor in her designs. She is a self-taught Crocheter of 2 years having entered the design world in April 2013. What began as a simple hobby has blossomed into passion for all things fiber. In one year she has already published 40 patterns ranging from gotta-have Collections to animal-inspired cowls and pillows.

Pam has most recently become a proud member of the Design Wars community competing in Design Wars 6 and the first ever Design Wars (mini) Challenge.

Although she is relatively new to the design scene, Pam has most certainly made her mark on the community and is quickly establishing herself as one to watch.



Stay Connected With Pam





Creative Crochet Pattern Designs



MARKET BAG

VIDEO TUTORIAL

CLARE
SULLIVAN

Let's Get Started!



INTERNET CONNECTION REQUIRED

Clare Sullivan of BobWilson123

Clare is the voice behind the bobwilson123 YouTube crochet channel, and has been teaching for 5 years and loves every minute of it.

She creates all her own patterns and has also been given the opportunity to demonstrate other designer's written patterns. Clare adds a list of video tutorials and written patterns each week to her channel and somehow balances her very busy work schedule consisting of filming, editing, writing patterns, testing patterns and networking. And in her down time she loves to design new patterns because it allows her to really do what she loves – relax and crochet!



Stay Connected With Clare





SAHM CROCHETERS

INTERVIEW SERIES WITH:
**KATY
BOUTHILLETTE**

SAHM CROCHETERS

INTERVIEW SERIES WITH:
KATY BOUTHILLETTE



We all started to crochet for various reasons. Many of us crochet just because its fun, but what about if it is more then that? There are a handful of crocheters out there who are "famous." We know their designs, we follow their blogs and they have thousands of Facebook "Fans." But what about the stay at home mom crocheters? The ones who sell items to make ends meet, or to buy the items that are hard to obtain such as the coolest toy for your kids or the sneakers they *have* to have, or the mom who makes hats for her kids to stay warm in the winter? I know there are so many of us "unknown" crocheters out there, and this is our story.

Hi, I'm Katy

I'm Katy Bouthillette, a stay at home mom of 2 boys (ages 5 and 13 months), and I started crocheting 4 years ago. Since then I've started a Facebook page called "Katy Crochet" with a modest 107 followers, and I have sold my word

to family and friends to pay for various items that were not in our family budget.

Why I started to crochet

I started to crochet when I saw all of the amazing patterns that were out there. I wanted to make the cute hats I was seeing on Facebook for my then 2 year old son. A lot of my friends were crocheting and I wanted a challenge while my husband was gone for three days at a time to give me something to do.

The first thing I ever crocheted

I crocheted a hideous pumpkin hat. It was to small, it was wavy, it was uneven and just ugly, but it was my first project that I completed and I was so proud.

The first item I sold

At the time when I started to crochet, the beard hats were popular. I made my first beard hat and sold it to a friend for \$10.

What crochet has done for me financially

I sell my hats for \$20 each, and that is mostly what I sell at this time. With just my husband working and two kids to raise even selling two hats is groceries, or diapers or formula that is money we didn't have to take out of our budget. I have been able to buy my son a new backpack for school, pay for field trips, and put gas in my car. While it is not consistent I try to advertise my hats more when I know I need money. I wanted to have money for a vacation we were going on, so I shared on my Facebook page that I have new hats to sell and I was able to sell enough hats to have spending money on our vacation.

SAHM CROCHETERS

INTERVIEW SERIES WITH:
**KATY
BOUTHILLETTE**



My advice for other SAHMs who want to make money with their crochet projects

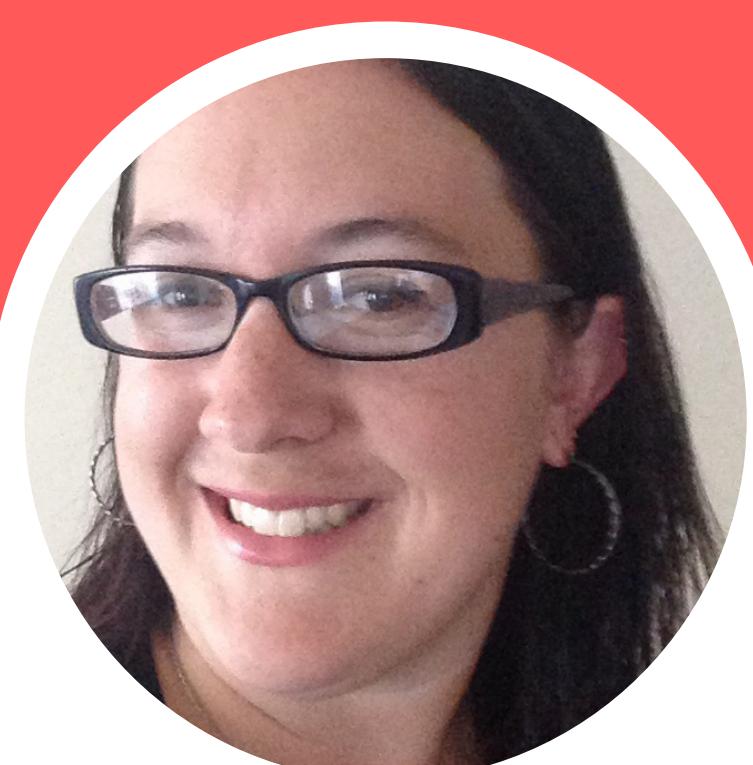
Make sure to spread the word through any means necessary, Facebook, twitter or word of mouth. Always wear what you sell if you can. Always wear a hat you make, or a scarf, or any piece that you are proud of, when people ask you where you got it, tell them you made it and can make them one too.

In the next issue...

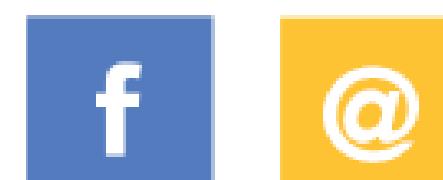
My name is Katy Boutillette and this is MY story. But I'm not alone out there as one of the lesser-known crocheters out there who crochet to make ends meet, to put food on the table, or to have a little extra spending money on vacation. And each month I'll be bringing you a new story of another lesser-known SAHM crocheter out there to inspire you and share with you. If you'd like me to interview you for an upcoming issue, email me by tapping the email icon below. I

look forward to hearing from you. Until the next issue, keep on crocheting!

Katy Boutillette started crocheting four years ago when her youngest son was two. Katy currently resides in South Carolina and is a stay at home mom to her two boys ages 6 years and 14 months. She is a military wife who has a husband in the Air Force. When she is not crocheting Katy enjoys cooking and being outside with her boys.



Stay Connected With Katy





Crochet, Alzheimers & Setting Guinness World Records

Alison Lütz Interviews Susie Hewer



Crochet, Alzheimers & Setting Guinness World Records

Alison Lütz Interviews Susie Hewer



Alzheimers... Just typing the word fills me with emotion. The disease is diagnosed every 67 seconds (according to alz.org) in the U.S. alone, and women make up two thirds of those diagnosed. It's a disease that overtakes the individual and devastates their loved ones. I know first hand the pain that comes with watching your loved one fade away and succumb to the disease; I lost my precious Nana to Alzheimer's eighteen years ago.

When I came across an article on Susie Hewer, I immediately empathized and was inspired by her story. She has joined her passion for running and crochet/knitting in order to raise funds for Alzheimers research and honor her mother's memory. Here is an excerpt from Susie's Blog that explains her story and how she got started:

"I enjoy many crafts including knitting and crochet but I also love running and I use it to raise money for Alzheimer's Research UK in memory of my mum. So far I've raised over £30,000 towards research into this devastating disease. I ran my first marathon in 2005 at the age of 48. In 2007 I celebrated my 50th birthday by running a series of 5 marathons and 2 ultras of 35 and 52.4 miles. I wanted to do something special at the London marathon to get publicity for ARUK - a friend remarked that I should "act

my age and stay at home with my knitting!" So I took my knitting with me and became the first person to set the Guinness World Record for "The longest Scarf Knitted Whilst Running a Marathon"! I have now run 35 marathons (4 whilst knitting, 2 whilst crocheting to set the GWR for "Longest crochet chain whilst running a marathon"). I've also knit whilst riding on the back of a tandem in the Isle of Wight Randonnee and on World Knit in Public Day."

Susie was kind enough to answer a few questions for Happily Hooked and provide us with ways we as a community can come together to fight this devastating disease. Susie learned to crochet from her mum at the age of 5. She's been running marathons, 34 to date, for the past 9 years in memory of her mum and to raise money for Alzheimer's Research UK. She's always trying to think of ways to draw attention to the need to invest more money into dementia research and so she likes to do something a bit different at the London marathon to get publicity for ARUK (Alzheimers Research United Kingdom).

Susie explains how the stitches and chains of crochet are all linked together in the way that our brain cells are inter-connected. When part of a link is broken in crochet there are still other links keeping the integrity of the structure.

In dementia it's exactly the same - in a healthy brain, thoughts can flow freely between the brain cells as they are all linked together. As the disease starts to take over, the brain is still able to function even though some links between the brain cells are broken. However, as more and more links are broken the brain becomes unable to cope and not only does this affect a person's ability to think it also affects all their bodily functions.

To see how she used a crocheted snowflake motif to demonstrate the disease's progression please see her Christmas tree by visiting [this link](#).

Susie is in the midst of her current fundraising campaign and you can contribute to her cause by visiting [this link](#).

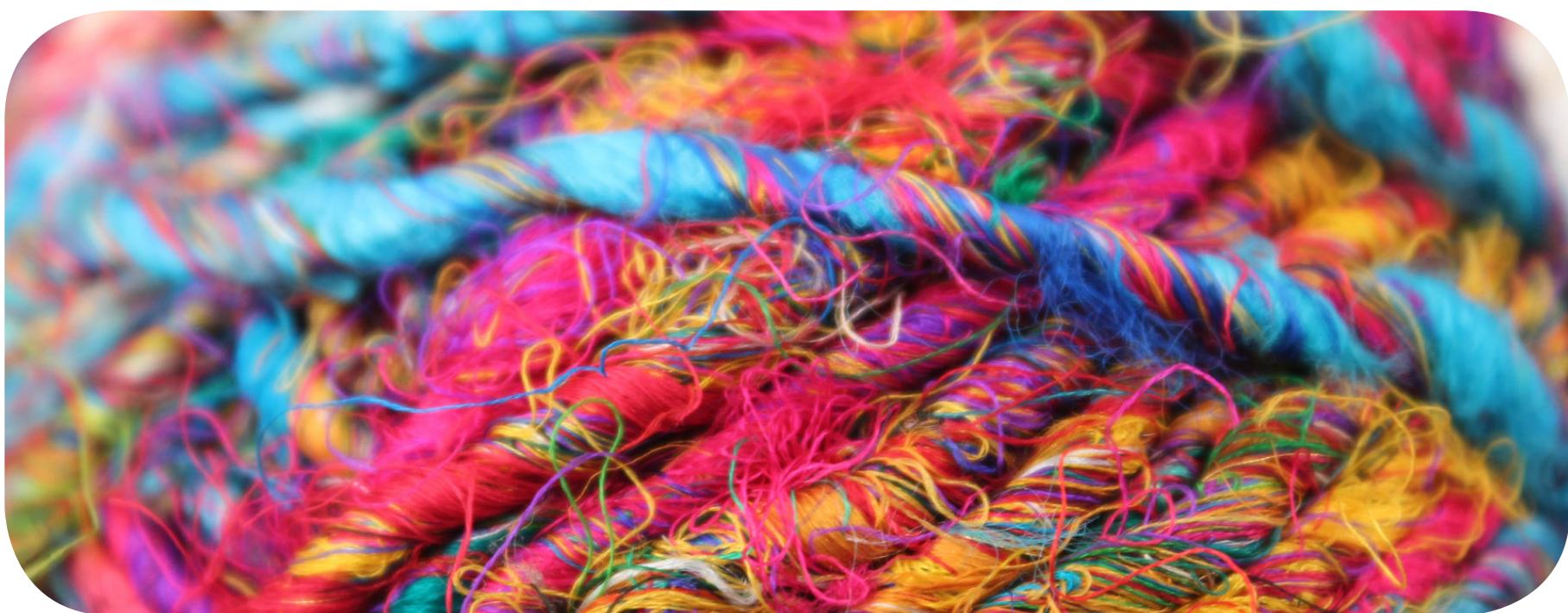
To find out how you can help support the Alzheimer's cause in the US please visit [this link](#).

Crocheting helps ward off dementia and Alzheimers so we "hookers" are already ahead of the game. Whether running a marathon and crocheting is your way of contributing or holding a crochet fundraiser that would benefit your local Alzheimer charity, please find a way to contribute to this very worthy cause.



darn good
yarn





Hi! I'm Nicole and I started Darn Good Yarn back in 2008. I didn't want to just bring you yarn... I wanted to bring you purpose and connection in your crafting exploration.

I want to help you bring your projects to life using amazingly sourced items that help. My mission is focused on employing women in India, saving thousands of pounds of waste by turning it into yarn and helping innovate small businesses in the United States and worldwide. Just in India we have provided jobs to over 300 women and counting. We give them jobs so they don't have to rely on charity... and when you buy at Darn Good Yarn you're supporting those efforts! Amazing!

Darn Good Yarn gives poverty-stricken women living in the countryside a stable job, rather than having to live off the 3-4 month period of farming in their areas. They were used to having very little opportunity available to them and which forced them to beg on the side of the street and save every bit of money they received. These women are now employed all year long due to Darn Good Yarn. They learn the skill of crafting and having a creative mindset. These women are paid on a daily basis and are able to manage their medical expenses and their children's academics with ease. They are then able become self-reliant without worry and can perform as equals in today's society (this is important because these women deal with caste and severe gender discrimination). Darn Good Yarn does not only provide these women with the opportunity to survive, but to thrive.



Darn Good Yarn has saved tens of thousands of pounds of waste each year. The recycled silk is taken from waste fibers collected from sari manufacturing factories. It is then individually hand spun, dyed and sometimes sewn (for our ribbon) by the women in India and Nepal. This is a very tedious job to ensure the quality of our yarn.

Along with employing less fortunate women in India and Nepal, Darn Good Yarn employs and mentors college students and passionate crafters. They also aid many United States and national small businesses with innovation ideas and techniques. Darn Good Yarn has assisted with mentoring and coaching small business owners on how to start a successful business, how to keep up with today's ever-growing social media and how to keep the business afloat once it is launched.

Most of all, Darn Good Yarn is focused on creating positive impacts in today's world.

So, come and join me on my quest to create super awesome projects while changing the world a little bit..one exotic, beautiful texture and color at a time!

Xoxo – Nicole Snow

darn good
yarn

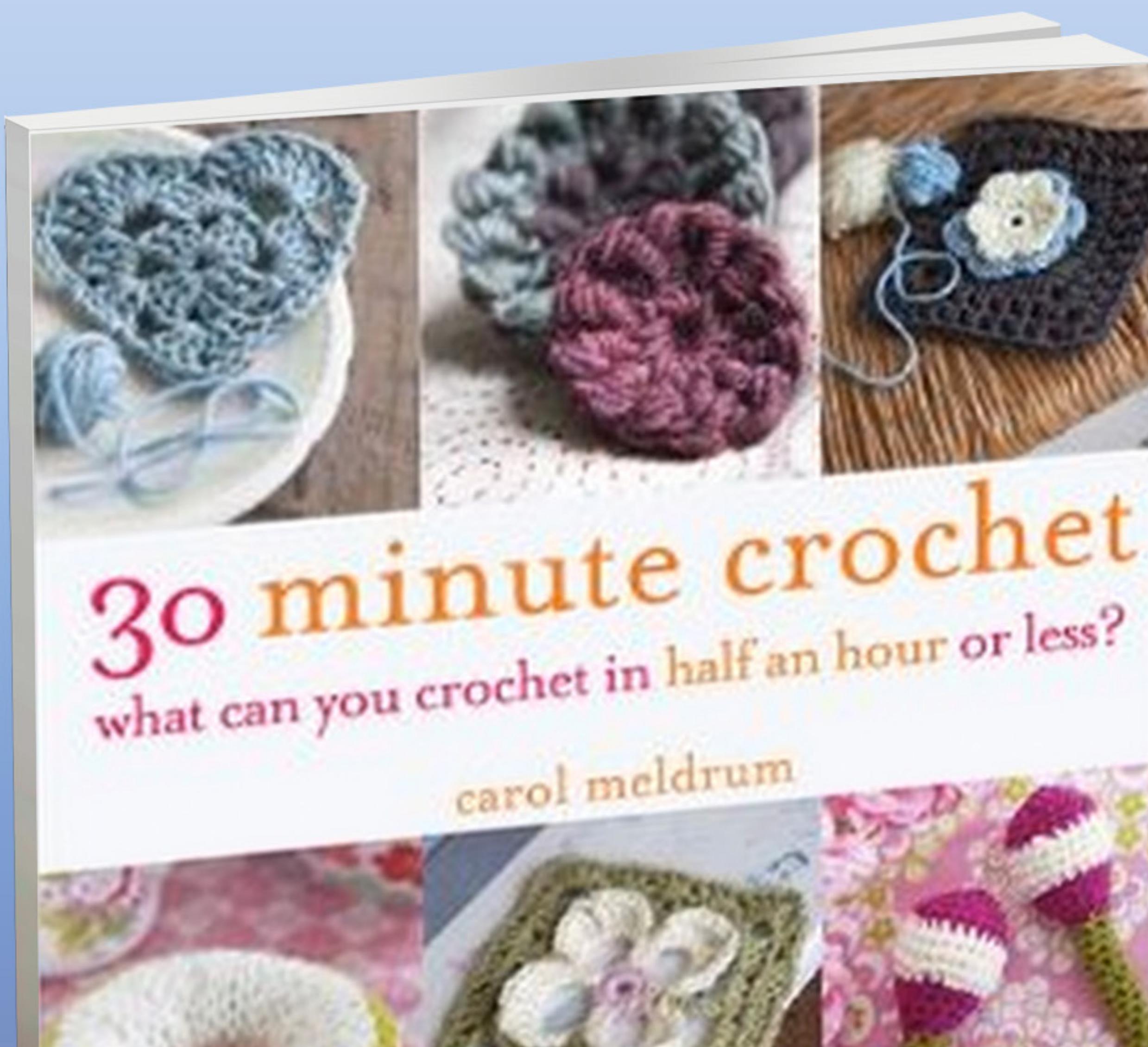
tap to visit
WEBSITE



BOOK REVIEW

With two kids (and another one due any day now) I really enjoy this book filled with quick little gems. In the evenings when my husband and I are winding down, I like to crochet to relax, and sometimes the idea of working on an afghan can be a bit daunting. This book is perfect for quick little projects that are great on their own, or that can be used as accents in larger projects. I appreciate the variety of choices and the tips and tricks that come with each pattern. If you are a beginner, there are some great explanations included as well as illustrated diagrams. In *30-minute crochet* you can find quick and easy gifts that can be personalized and (bonus!) use up your lonely little balls of yarn =)

Alison Lütz
Co-Founder & Editor
Happily Hooked Magazine



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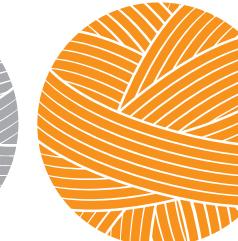
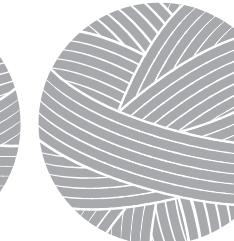
a creative being

the crochet blog for creative & colourful people

Vintage Fan Ripple Afghan

Pattern designed by
Wink of A Creative Being

Let's Get Started!



Materials

yarn (I used Softfun cotton/acrylic yarn by Scheepjeswol)
 a matching crochet hook (I used a 4mm hook)
 a darning needle to sew in the ends
 a pair of scissors

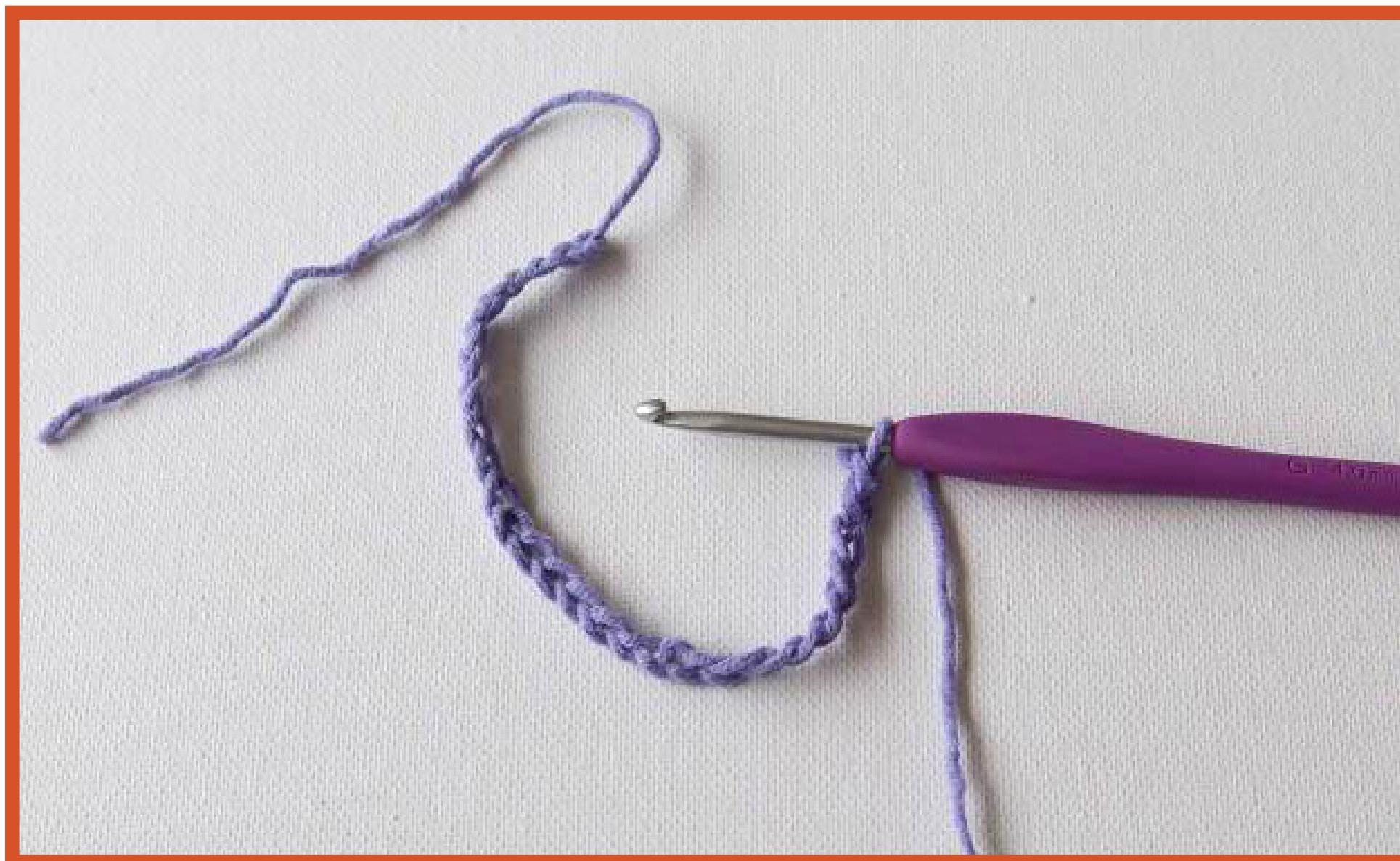
For this blanket, which measures about 1.40 x 1.40m, I used 14 balls of Softfun (two of every colour used, in colour ways 2496, 2531, 2466, 2449, 2451, 2519 and 2514).

Special Stitches:

triple treble (trtr). This sounds complicated, but it isn't! To make a triple treble: Yarn over 4 times, insert your hook into the next stitch. Yarn over, and pull up a loop. *Yarn over, and pull through two loops.* Repeat till you've worked through all loops. This is a very long stitch, and you might need a little practice to make your triple trebles nice and even. This is totally okay! :)

Pattern Instructions:

1. Make a chain, the number of chains being a multiple of 9, plus 1 for turning. In this example I chained 28 (3 x 9, plus 1).



2. Work *4sc, 3sc in same stitch, 4sc* around. Chain 1, and turn. You'll end up with a really funky looking chain, but don't worry, it will start to make sense soon!



3. Work *sk 1 st, 4sc, 3sc in same stitch, 4sc, sk 1 st* around. Remember to work all stitches into the back loops only. Chain 1, and turn. You can see the ripple starting to take shape now!



4. Repeat step 3. Chain 1, and turn.

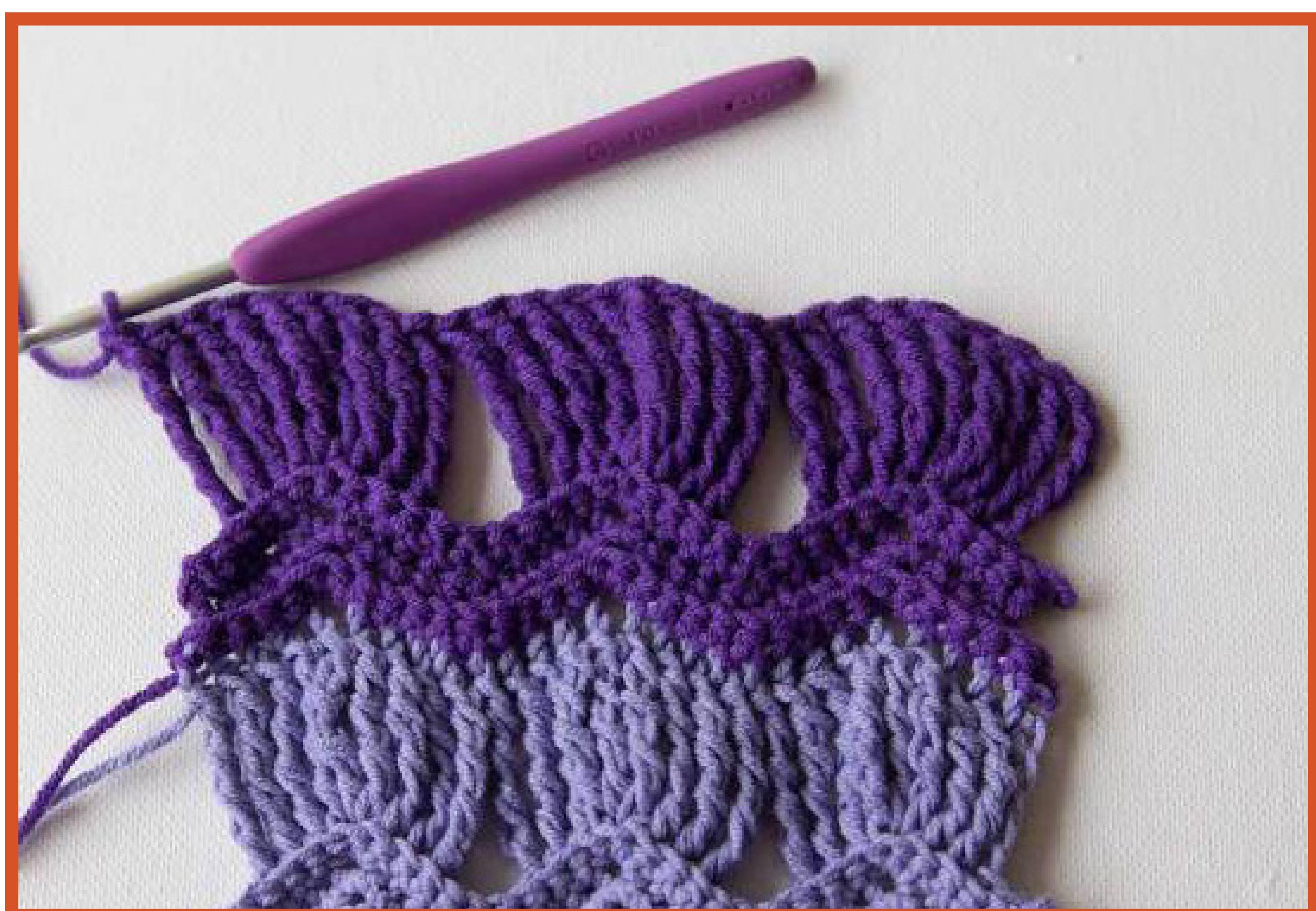


5. Slip stitch into the next 3 stitches (back loop only). Chain 6; this counts as the first triple treble. Work 2 more trtr, 3 trtr in same stitch, 3 trtr. Skip 2 stitches. Repeat *sk 2 st, 3trtr, 3trtr in same stitch, 3trtr, sk 2 st* around. Remember to work all stitches into the back loops only.



6. You can now change colour. To repeat the pattern, begin at step 2 and continue till step 5.





7. Continue repeating the pattern till you feel your project is big enough.



8. To give the last row a finished look, don't change colour but repeat rows 2 until 4 in the same colour. Then fasten off.



9. Sew in the ends using your darning needle.

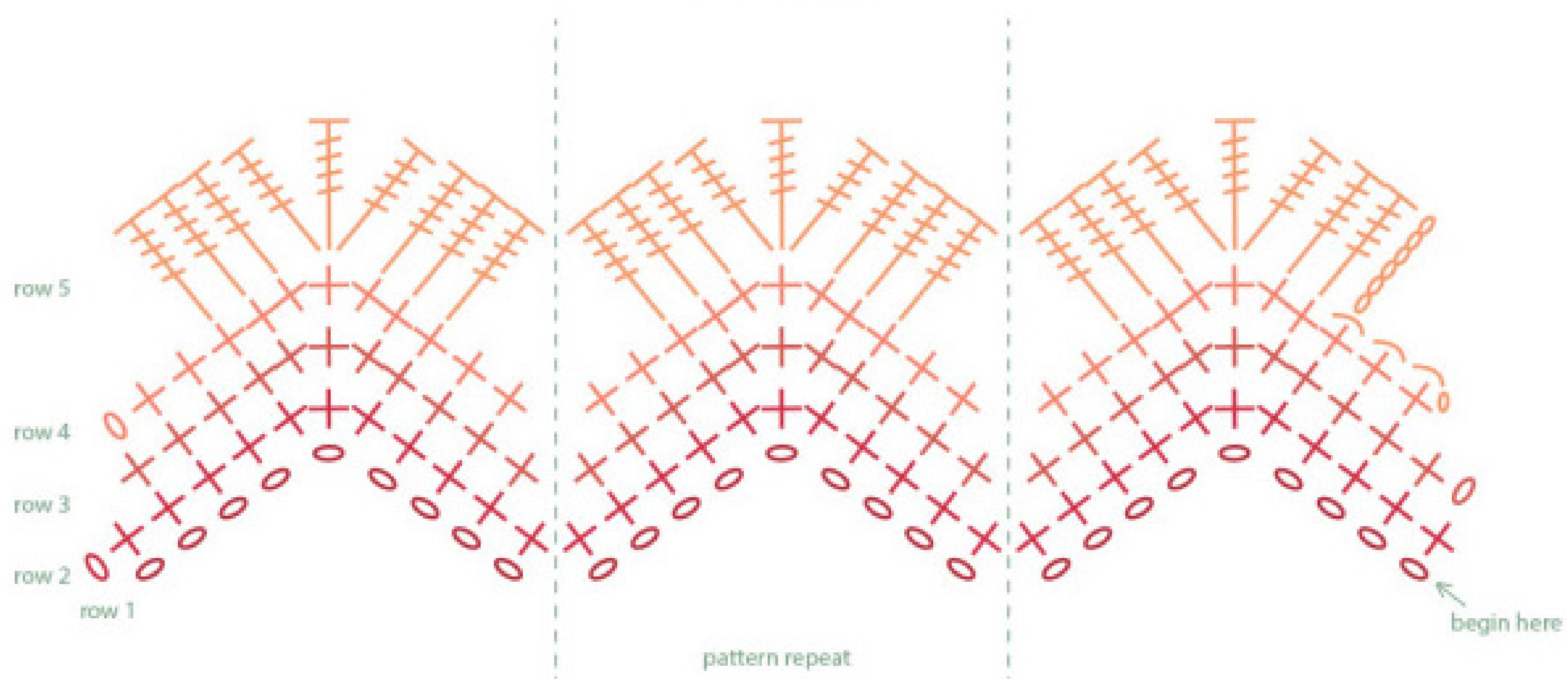


And that's it! :) If you prefer charts over written patterns, see the next page.

Remember that ALL stitches are worked into the back loops only!

Vintage Fan Ripple Pattern

acreativebeing.com



Wink is a 28 year old creative person who loves crochet, coloring her hair pink, reading thrillers and creating beautiful things. She is diagnosed with Asperger's Syndrome, and finds crochet to be a great way to deal with all the issues that come along with it.

Wink also found that crocheting resonates really well with her being a modern hippy :)

Her goal is to spread her crochet love around the web, showing everyone what she has made – And shares a lot of her patterns for free on her website.



a creative being

Stay Connected With Wink





a creative being

the crochet blog for creative & colourful people

www.acreativebeing.com





BOOK REVIEW

This is a wonderful, visually stunning crochet book that is awesome for beginners and can also teach old "hookers" some new tricks. If you are a beginner, there is an extensive chapter on getting started that will teach you proper techniques to set you up for crochet success!

With that being said a few of the patterns might be a bit challenging for a total newbie... but if you are an "advanced beginner" you shouldn't have any problems. The patterns are modern updates on some old classics but with the vibrant fiber choices and beautiful layout, this book would make a great gift for the advanced beginner in your life. It gets five hooks from me!

Alison Lütz
Co-Founder & Editor
Happily Hooked Magazine



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Packed with cute and fun projects to try every month,
created by the **community's leading designers!**

3. Expert Tips

Advice on techniques and skills for beginners and improvers.

Plus, in every issue we'll bring you fun features, community announcements, exclusive interviews from other designers, and tons of other cool crochet resources and goodies =)

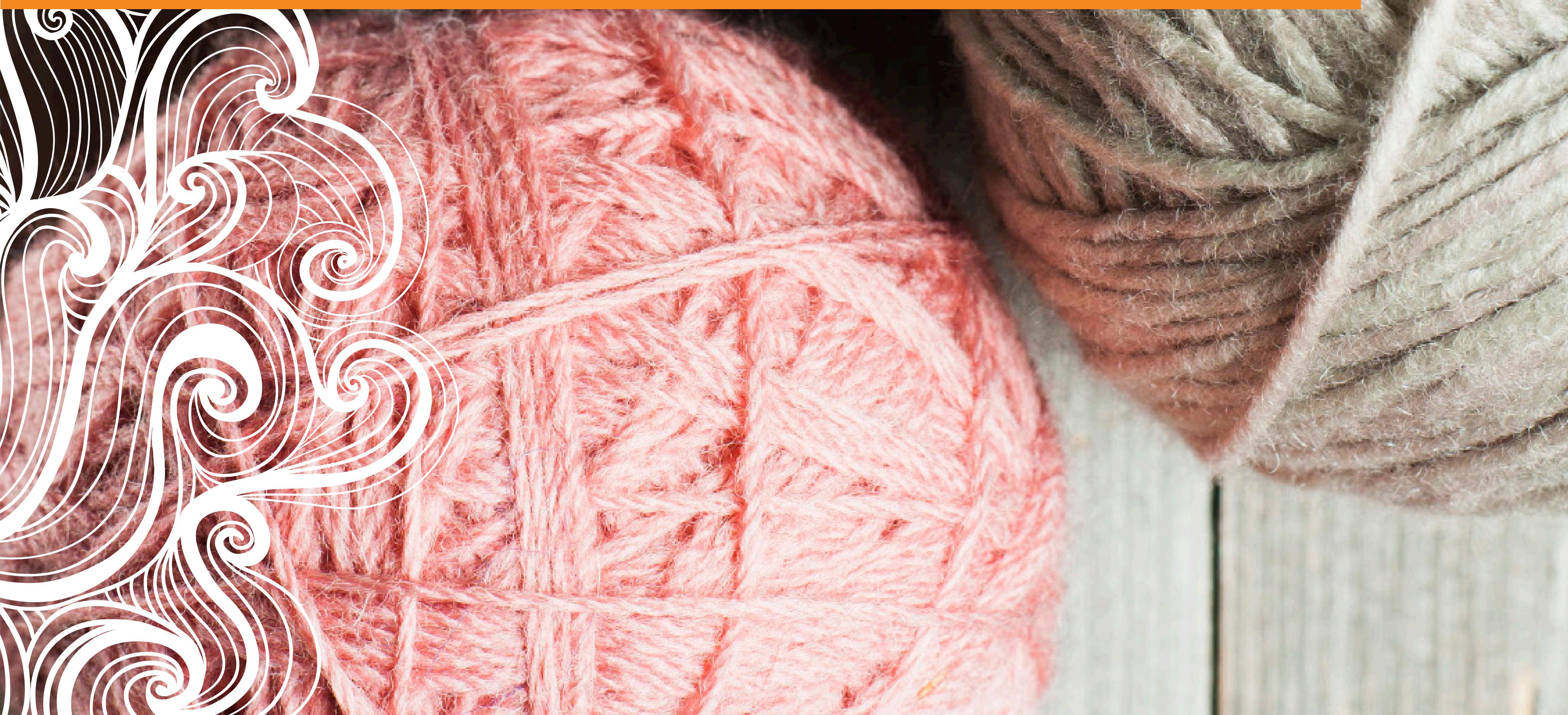
Never Miss Another Issue!

"I really liked this first issue! The patterns look cute with a modern freshness. I kept turning the pages to find new info that I didn't already know ... Great content!"

by DotToDot



*I'm not addicted to crochet ...
I can quit after just one more row =)*





Crochet-preneur

Want to take your passion for crochet and turn it into a career?
We'll bring you articles in each issue to help you!

Just like the next two articles... Enjoy!

Deciding What to Sell

(*Selling Your Crochet Series – Article 1*)



The 'Selling Your Crochet' series is designed for anyone who wants to start, or already owns, their own crochet business. Whether you're just starting out or need to improve sales for a business you already have, this is the guide for you. This series will be broken down into many parts and will even contain actions steps for you to follow.

This is the first part of the 'Selling Your Crochet' series. This will be a 6-part series with a new topic being published in each of the next 5 issues!

Before you can decide what to charge for your items, where to sell them or anything else related to your crochet business you must first decide what you want to make and what type crochet business you want to have. There are three different ways you run your business and sell your items.

In order to be successful this question needs to be answered or decided right away. It will save you time and energy as well as money. If you already own a business and are not finding the success you wish to have I would strongly encourage you to start over at square one and follow this guide from the beginning. You must have a strong and solid foundation in order for your business to succeed and grow.

I have broken this step down old school, with a basic outline, to keep the information from becoming overwhelming.

First Step - Decide what you want to sell

1- Ready Made Crochet Items

Pros

- . You dictate what you want to make, in what colors, what sizes, etc
- . You can make your stock on your own time with no deadlines
- . For your comfort level you can make only what you are already familiar with
- . You will need to have a LOT of merchandise in stock in order to serve everyone's needs and make a lot of sales

- . Less incentive to learn new designs and skills. You may grow stagnant
- . You can make the best use of sales on yarn and other supplies to create your stock
- . No need to close shop if you are going out of town for a few days. Just leave a note on your shop stating that you will be shipping out all orders on the date you return

Cons

- . You'll need to follow trends to gauge what is popular
- . You may easily get bored making the same things over and over again
- . You must have GOOD photos in order to sell your work effectively
- . A lot of time must be invested in listing your items
- . You'll need an online store such as Etsy, or your own website

Who this option is good for

- . Someone who has a lot of vision and is very creative
- . Someone who has their fingers on the pulse of what is popular
- . Someone who has a lot of time to crochet- better for someone who will be doing this business full time
- . Someone who doesn't mind repetition
- . Someone who likes to take their time crocheting and grows bored with working on one thing at a time. Someone who likes to bounce from project to project
- . Also good for a novice. As your skills improve so will your stock
- . Someone who has good photography skills or knows a photographer they can barter with

2- Make commissioned items only

Pros

- You will only need to crochet when an order is received
- You will not need to carry stock
- Less thinking involved you don't have to know what people like, they will tell you what they want
- You can constantly make new things and learn new skills, less likely to get bored
- You will not need to have an online store, though it can still be helpful. You can probably get away with having just a facebook page and by word of mouth

Cons

- You will need to observe deadlines
- You'll need to have MANY colors and types of yarn in stock or be willing to do frequent shopping in order to fulfill requests
- You must be very skilled in crochet, or risk having to turn down many requests
- You need to be on someone else's schedule. They will dictate what they want and when they need it by
- You'll need to close your shop when you are on vacation or during busy times in your life when you are unable to fulfill custom orders
- You may be asked to make something you don't know how to make or just plain don't like
- You will need to search out patterns and possibly pay for them if you cannot design them yourself
- You can easily get bored or feel stifled by having to make what other people want

Who is this option good for

- Someone who does not have that much time or will be doing this business part time
- Someone who can follow any pattern or create their own designs
- Someone who feels creativity is not their strongest skill
- Someone who works fast and can get orders out in a timely fashion

3- A Hybrid of Both

Each pro and con for both options needs to be considered

Additional Pros

- You can satisfy both sides of the spectrum
- Only need to make every item you carry in ONE size and ONE color- clients can choose how they want to customize their items

Additional Cons

- Twice the work as doing just one or the other

C- Who is this option good for?

- This is a great option for someone who wants to be able to sell

- them items they create themselves but doesn't want to lose any customers who want custom work
- You must love to crochet, have plenty of time but also enjoy creating custom work

Now that you have read the pros and cons of each side you need to figure out what appeals most to you. If you need help deciding you can ask yourself the following questions.

1. Do I have a lot of time to invest?
2. Would I rather make what I like but risk no one else will want to buy it, than only make what people want?
3. Do I like making the same things over and over again?
4. Am I just starting out with crochet?

If you answered yes to these questions than selling what you want to create may be the way to go for you. If you answered no to any, or even all of them, then ask yourself these questions.

1. Can I dedicate the time to make sure I can complete commis-

sions in a timely fashion?

2. Do I prefer to make something new every time I crochet?
3. Do I only have enough time to do this part time?
4. Can I afford to keep a lot of yarn and supplies in stock, or have the time to take frequent trips to the store?
5. Do I know many different stitches and have many skills with crochet?

If you answered yes to these questions than doing only custom work may be your best bet.

If you answered yes from both sets of questions than you may want to do a hybrid of both.

Additional homework for those who have chosen to sell stock from what they want to make.... Make a list of the items you like to make to get an idea of what direction your shop may take. This step will be important further along in the series.

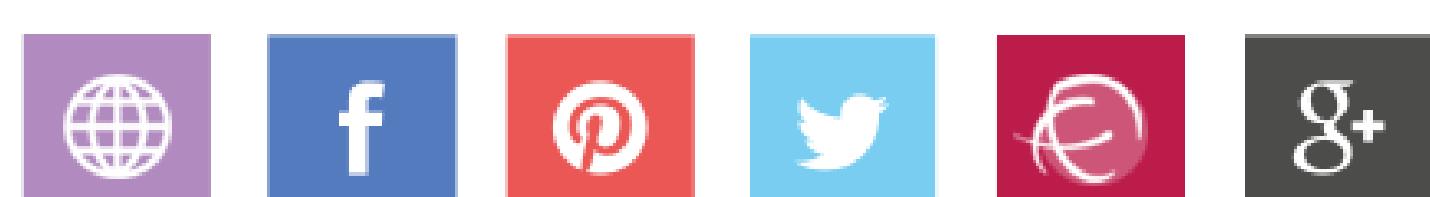
Part 2 of the 'Selling Your Crochet' series, entitled "How to Price Your Crochet", will be posted in next month's issue.



Lorene Eppolite is the editor of Cre8tionCrochet.com. In 2012 she started publishing free crochet patterns on her blog. She is a member of The Crochet Guild of America and has been featured by AllFreeCrochet, Crochet Savvy Online Magazine and The Crochet Crowd. Lorene is the official crochet designer for Darn Good Yarns. She also designs patterns for Red Heart Yarns. Lorene's mission is to help other crafters find success with their business', whether this be by providing fantastic free crochet patterns or business advice.



Stay Connected With Lorene



Want to Sell Your Crochet?

(Generating Revenue Through Crochet Series – Article 1)



When I started selling my work, it was because I was home with my son and was crocheting too much to dispose of myself ... and we needed some extra income. My business model has shifted and changed, but my love for crochet stays the same. 'Generating Revenue Through Crochet' will help you find your unique voice when it comes to playing with yarn and I'd love to be able to help you find it!

This is the first part of the 'Generating Revenue Through Crochet' series. This will be a 12-part series with a new topic being published in each of the next 11 issues!

Recently I've run into a few people who've decided 'I'm going to sell my crochet'! I get excited with them, start asking questions and realize, whoa, not so fast! The excitement of learning to crochet and the realization that others are willing to buy the items you make is amazing. But, not selling as much as expected, or not making enough money to cover costs can bring with it a crushing disappointment. I'm all for selling crochet and doing it well. I think everyone should have at least one piece of crochet and there should be fabulous crochet, for the more discerning customers, available. However, I also know, from experience, that starting with a plan is a much better way to go, than just jumping in.

This part doesn't have to be mun-

dane (I know that's what you were thinking). It can be just as fun as crocheting . . . ok, that's a stretch, but my point is, find the excitement in the process. The internet has opened up so many avenues to sell our items easily. However, as true as that is, there are still basic precepts that guide the way to selling successfully that need to be explored. What we're trying to avoid is getting a few weeks or months down the road and realizing there isn't enough yarn or profit to make the next project. Yikes!

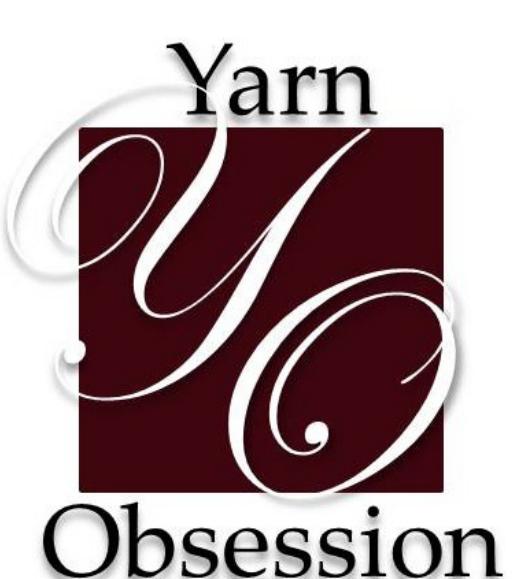
Preparing to sell crochet should be a fun adventure with reward and profit as the goals. Whatever you want to get out of your sales should be considered and expected. There's no reason your crochet business can't continue to be an exciting prospect as long as you

begin with your goals in mind.

Over the next few months let's journey through the steps to selling crochet for profit. Let's explore the areas like who we want to sell to, what we want to sell and how much we want to make. Areas I find that most people fall short. Let's decide to make a plan of action so we can shine in those areas and beyond. Let's sell our crochet for profit and enjoy every minute of it!

In the next issue, I'm going to start holding your hand through this process with the 2nd installment of my series of articles about how to not only sell, but also to profit from crocheting. I'm really looking forward to kicking things off with you with teaching you how to target your audience!

Sedruola Maruska is a multi-talented, personable, mompreneur, crochet designer, writer and online marketing expert who has combined all her talents into a consulting and mentoring business for crochet hobbyists and professionals. For over 20 years Sedruola helped top-level executives stay at the top of their game by creating partnership situations where her excellent communication, listening and organizational skills ensured the completion of numerous simultaneous tasks. Now, as a crochet designer and marketing professional she brings those same skills to her business as well as her clients' businesses, building and maintaining "win-win" partnerships that allow them to grow to their full potential. From website development, to crochet design, pricing and learning the elemental principles of listening have helped uncover creative solutions. When she isn't engaging with clients and customers online she's playing "hide-and-go-seek", dreaming of yarn and connecting with the core of her motivation, her family.



Stay Connected With Sedruola



HAPPILY hooked on butterflies!

Every month we'll bring you a new themed collection of things we're "Hooked" on from around the web.
This month we're inspired by our little fluttering friends of springtime, the butterflies!



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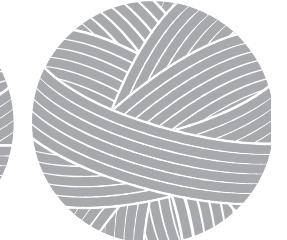
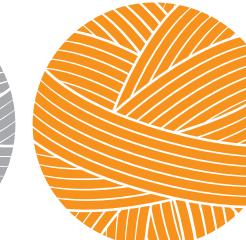
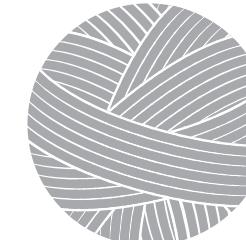
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**FREE
PATTERN**

Bountiful Butterflies

Pattern designed by Marken of The Hat & I

Let's Get Started!





Materials:

- . Medium (worsted) weight cotton yarn was used for the butterflies pictured.
- . Lily Sugar'n Cream (70.9 g / 2.5 oz per skein) in Hot Pink, Strawberry, Watermelon, Mango, Yellow, Hot Green, Mod Green, Blueberry, Grape, and Soft Violet
- . I Love This Cotton (100 g / 3.5 oz per skein) in Turquoise and Brown (butterfly body)

Gauge & Sizing:

Gauge is not critical. Butterfly size will vary with different yarns and hooks used. The butterflies pictured were made with a size H hook and medium/worsted weight yarn. Each butterfly measured nearly 3" across at its widest point.

Pattern Key:

- . st(s) = stitch(es)
- . sl st = slip stitch
- . hdc = half double crochet
- . ch = chain
- . sc = single crochet
- . dc = double crochet

Pattern Instructions:

The butterfly is made using three colors: one for the inner part of wings, one for the outer part of wings, and one for the body.

With H-hook and chosen color for inner part of wings, ch 4, sl st to 1st ch to form a small ring.

Round 1: ch 3, sl st into ring, ch 4, sl st into ring, ch 4, sl st into ring, ch 3, sl st into ring – 2 ch 3 loops & 2 ch 4 loops **[Figure 1]**

Round 2: 6 sc into first ch 3 loop, 8 sc into first ch 4 loop, 8 sc into next ch 4 loop, 6 sc into last ch 3 loop, sl st to first sc, fasten off – 28 sc **[Figure 2]**

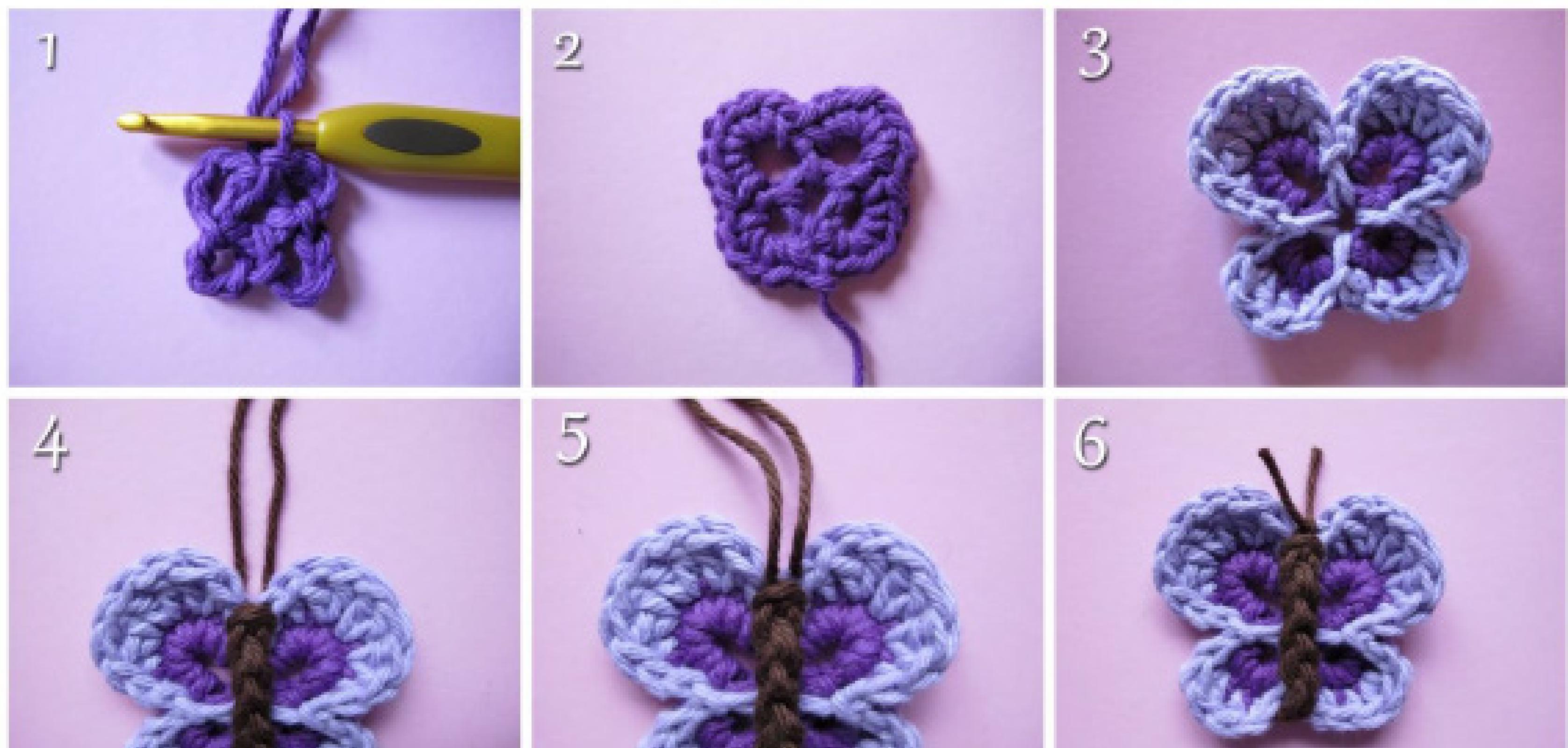
Round 3 (to make this round easier to read, each butterfly wing is listed separately):

- . 1st wing: insert hook into 1st sc from Round 2, and pull up chosen color for outer part of wings, ch 1, 1 sc into next st, 1 hdc into next st, 2 dc into next st, 1 sc into next st, sl st into next st, sl st into center ring (the beginning ch-4 ring),
- . 2nd wing: sl st into next st, 1 sc into next st, 2 dc into each of next 3 sts, 1 hdc into next st, 1 sc into next st, sl st into next st, sl st into center ring,
- . 3rd wing: sl st into next st, 1 sc into next st, 1 hdc into next st, 2 dc into each of next 3 sts, 1 sc into next st, sl st into next st, sl st into center ring,
- . 4th wing: sl st into next st, 1 sc into next st, 2 dc into next st, 1 hdc into next st, 1 sc into next st, sl st into next st, sl st into center ring, sl st to first first ch 1, fasten off and weave in ends. **[Figure 3]**

Butterfly body: The body is worked using 2 strands of yarn held together (go up 1 hook size). Leave a 6" yarn tail at the start, then ch 6. Leaving a 6" yarn tail, fasten off.

Attaching butterfly body to wings: Position butterfly body on top of wings. Using a tapestry needle, or hook, pull the ends from the body through to the back of the butterfly [**Figure 4**].

Do this at both ends of the ch-6 body. For the yarn tails at the bottom/base of the butterfly, knot these ends together at the back of the butterfly then weave in ends. For the yarn tails at the top/head of the butterfly, bring those ends back to the front of the butterfly and knot the yarn tails together, then cut the ends leaving a bit of length for antennae [**Figures 5 & 6**].



The Hat & I



Crochet Patterns by Marken

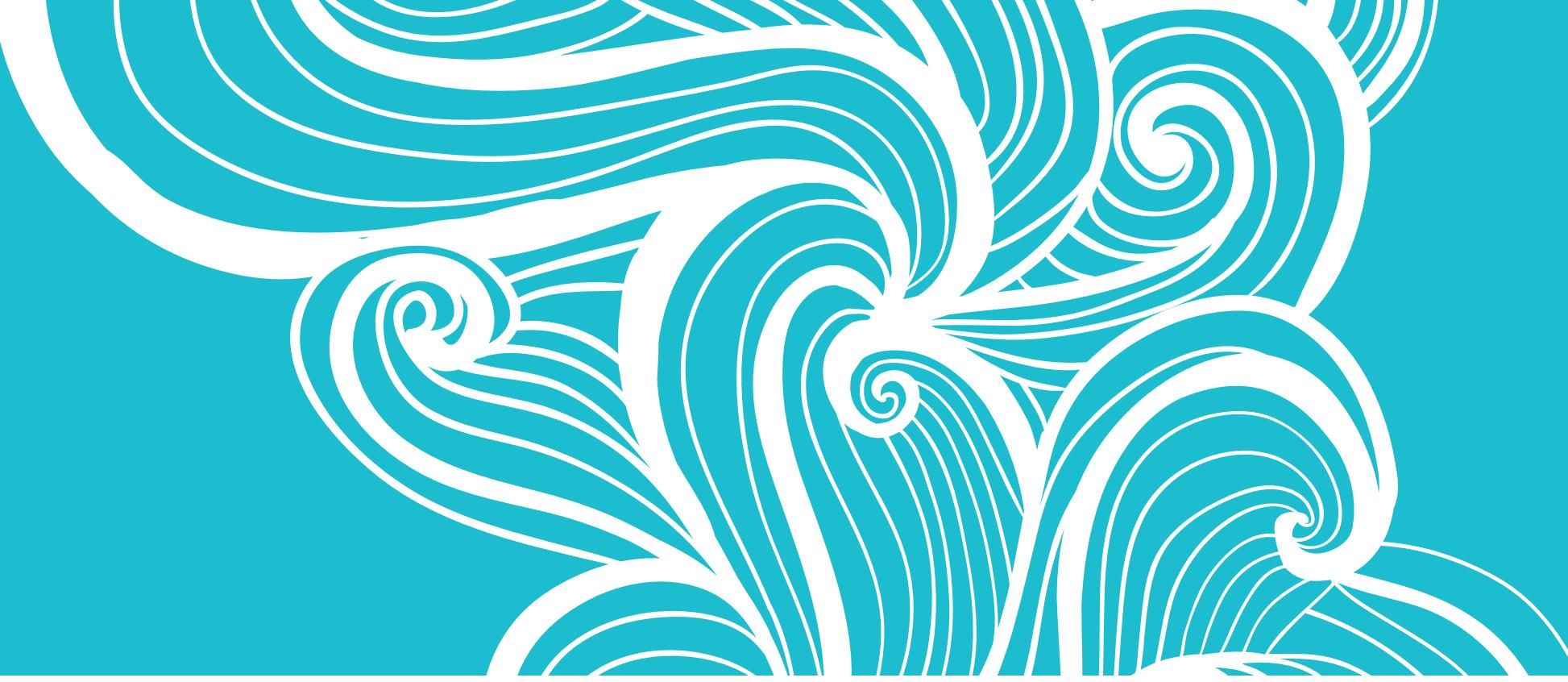
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EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW:
**VICKIE
HOWELL**

EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW:

VICKIE HOWELL



QUESTION #1

How and when did you first learn to crochet?

I must've been about 8 or 9 years old when I started crocheting; learning all of the stitches as I went along making a granny square doll blanket (which I still have). It was the '80s, and my mom (with the patience only a career school teacher could have) guided me through each step while we watched *Bionic Woman* and *M*A*S*H* on the family's RCA 20" tv. It was the quality, crafting time we liked to spend together while the Colorado winter kept us indoors. Little did either of us know at the time, that I was actually taking the first steps down my future career path!

QUESTION #2

Where do you get your inspirations from for your designs?

Everywhere, but I'm particularly inspired by my kids, music, film, graphic design, fashion, art and pop culture.

QUESTION #3

As we're both parents to boys

and girls, I'd be curious as to whether or not you have a preference when it comes to which gender to crochet for, and why?

You know, if we're talking babies/toddlers, I really don't. You can be equally as whimsical with little boys' garments as with little girls'. As they get older, that's less the case. I really love designing crocheted beanies, so in that respect gender isn't always an issue. As far as garments go though, I find that the flourish of crocheted stitches along with both the beauty and kitsch of motifs tend to lend themselves better to projects more female-specific.

QUESTION #4

What are your favorite kinds of projects to crochet?

I've already mentioned beanies, but I also enjoy making home decor items (pillows, valances, throws), wraps, wrist warmers, scarves and childrens' clothing.

QUESTION #5

Any new fun plans or projects in the works?

SNew-ish. I'm now the Host/Co-executive Producer of Interweave's **Knitting Daily TV with Vickie Howell** for PBS, in which we've tried to infuse a lot more crochet than had been done in seasons before I joined the show. I'm also working on a finger knitting book for kids, which will be out in 2015. My main project, though continues to be as the Creativity Spokesperson for **Yarnspiration.com**, which in part involves knit and crochet design for my three yarn lines: **Bernat Sheep(ish)** by Vickie Howell, **Bernat Sheep(ish) Stripes** by Vickie Howell, and **Bernat Cotton-ish** by Vickie Howell, as well as for all Patons, Bernat and Caron Brands.

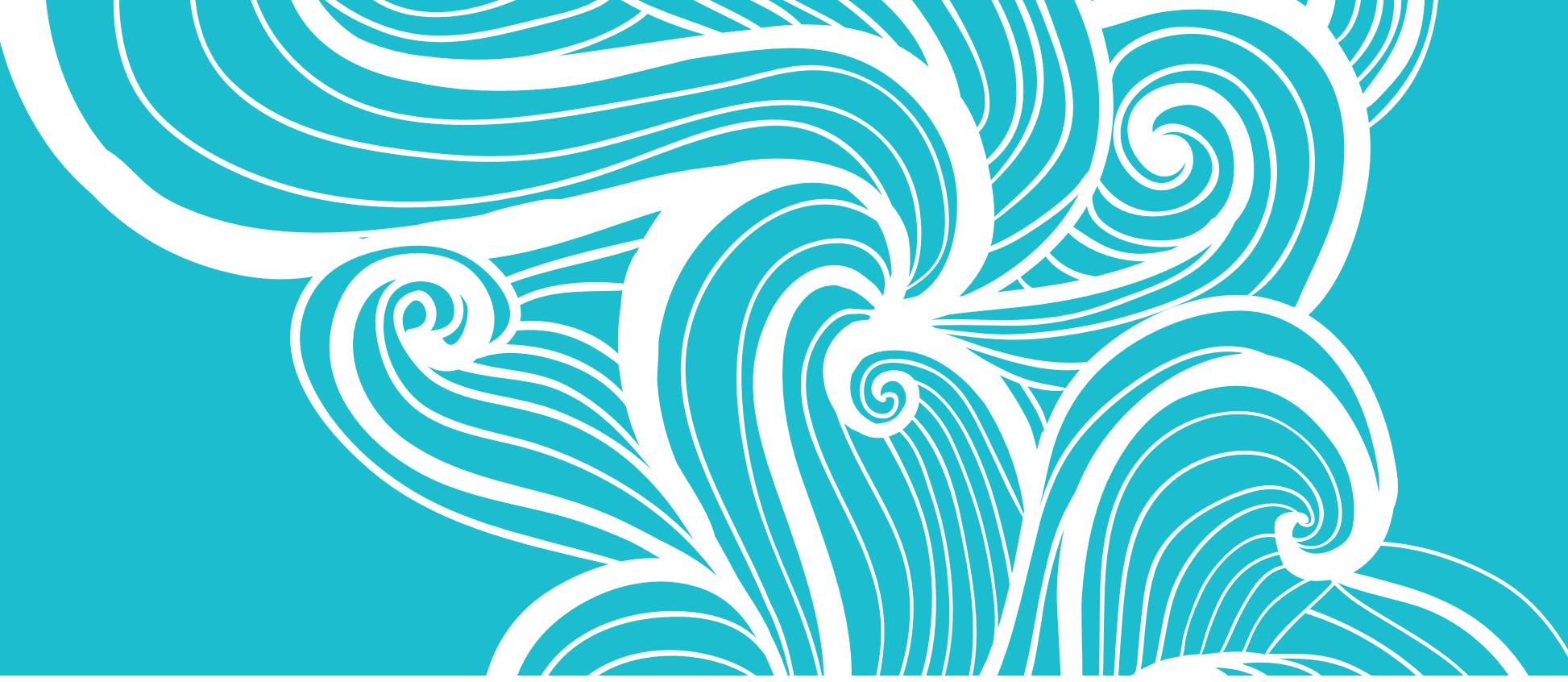
QUESTION #6

How did you make the transition from crochet and crafting as a hobby to that of a thriving super-star career? And how hard was that transition?

My transition was more kismet than anything else. After becoming pregnant with my eldest son, I was laid off from a job at a Los Angeles TV production company. I knew that staying in the entertainment industry would mean not being able to stay home even part time with the baby, so I stopped applying places and we tightened the belt. I started a craft-based web business

EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW:

VICKIE HOWELL



(this was way before the days of blogs and Etsy) to give myself something to feed my creativity (and with the hope of eventually bringing in some money for the family). During that time I also learned to knit, and in search of community started the L.A. Stitch n' Bitch group. Later, the opportunity to move to Austin to raise our by then, two sons came up. We took it; I started an additional crafty website and another Sn'B Group.

One day, while making dinner for the family I got a blind e-mail from a producer -- who'd seen one of my Stitch n' Bitch web banners-- asking if I happened to know of anyone who'd be interested in auditioning for a host position for a new, knitting show aimed at, "young, hip, knitters." Clearly, the stars had aligned. Using the skills I'd learned while working in TV, I pitched myself. It also just so happened that my first, published knitting design (a guitar strap) was up on Knitty.com. The producer liked my look, saw that I at least knew how to knit (at that time, I was by no means an expert), and asked if I'd fly myself out to L.A. to audition (again, this was before web cam interviews). Get this: I'd already had a plane ticket purchased to go out there to meet up with a friend for my birthday celebration. The flight was scheduled for two days after the phone call!

All that to say, when the universe

delivers that type of gift, you run with it. Once I landed the gig, I immediately started pitching books, products, columns, etc. I admit, it didn't always go well --and I've made a lot of mistakes along the way -- but I've never let the dust settle under the weight of opportunity.

QUESTION #7

Many of our readers LOVE to crochet, but aren't real sure how to generate revenue from it, but would love to. What pieces of advice, strategies, or insights can you share that have worked for you to help you turn your passions into profits?

To be honest, I don't know anyone at any level who makes their sole living as an independent designer. If you're looking to design only, then I recommend contacting one of the big brands who may hire, in-house designers. Those jobs are few and far between, but do exist. If the crocheter would like to remain independent however, then they'll need to be willing to have their crocheted eggs in several baskets which could include: designer (pitch designs to magazine editors and yarn companies; teacher (both at yarn shops, retreats, cruises, virtual platforms, and conventions worldwide); author

(pitch either technique or project-based books to publishers [see individual websites for submission guidelines]); product developer (approach craft, notions and yarn companies about co-branding products [this one requires branding time served in the industry]), magazine columnist or paid blogger, garment producer [sell individual pieces via both physical and virtual boutiques], etc. The key is multiple streams of income.

much of an income!

The difference between a business and a hobby is that, with a business, you have to do it regularly... whether or not you feel like it that day. With a business, you can't set a project aside because you're bored. Or skip a looming deadline because you'd rather pop out for a coffee with girlfriends.

If you have the goal of making revenue and have the right mindset (of focusing on quality work, knowing that you will have to make personal sacrifices, keeping an eye on customer service), then you're a huge step ahead. I like to recommend the resources on Ravelry (budding designers group) and Etsy (forums) as well as small business blogs as great things to follow when you're just getting started.

EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW:

VICKIE HOWELL

Vickie Howell is a mother, designer, author, spokesperson, TV host, and DIY Lifestyles expert with a focus on the Needle Arts and creative parenting.

Vickie is most well-known as the Host and Creative Consultant of DIY Network & HGTV's show, *Knitty Gritty*, her best selling craft books, and her accessible, inclusive approach to nurturing the creative community via print, video and social media. She's continued to rally the crafty troops through her work as the International Spokesperson & Creativity Guide for the newly re-branded, Yarnspirations (home of yarn giants, Patons, Bernat, Caron, Lily Sugar n' Cream), and is looking forward to once again, knitting with viewers nationwide as the new host of PBS' *Knitting Daily TV* with Vickie Howell.

Vickie is a board member of the Central & South Texas Chapter of the Epilepsy Foundation and founder of, Purple Stitch Project to benefit children with seizure disorders.

All of Vickie's creative endeavors along with her husband Dave Campbell's movie news site, *Smells Like Screen Spirit*, are housed under their company Craft. Rock.Love Media, LLC.

Stay Connected With Vickie



BONUS QUESTION

Are there any crochet-based charities and organizations that you'd like to mention to our readers that you believe are doing great things in the world?

Sure! I founded an organization called, **Purple Stitch Project** to benefit children with epilepsy. We focus on gifting handmade, purple items to kids with seizure disorders as a way to put a bright spot in their day. Epilepsy can often make kids feel very isolated, so this is just a small way to let them know they are not alone.



knit. crochet. sew. raising epilepsy awareness one stitch at a time

Purple Stitch Project (PSP) is a web-based charitable organization to benefit babies, children and teens with epilepsy. The 1st goal of this initiative is a call to action for people who knit, crochet, or sew to make purple (the epilepsy awareness color) gifts for kids with seizure disorders. These gifts will serve as a reminder that they are not alone — that they have community support. To do this, Purple Stitch Project has teamed up with Craftsy to be able to offer free patterns and project ideas for volunteers to work from.

The 2nd goal of PSP is to raise awareness about epilepsy, the 3rd most prevalent neurological disorder (next to stroke and Alzheimer's). With every purple stitch made and every handmade item worn or carried, perhaps a collective conversation will begin about a disorder that surprisingly little is known about. It's the PSP vision that one day, thousands of people will walk at the Nation Walk for Epilepsy wearing purple scarves and beanies.

Lastly, Purple Stitch Project, Inc is currently in the application process of becoming a 501(3)c charity to achieve its 3rd goal: raising money towards research grants and support programs initiated through the Epilepsy Foundation of America and the Epilepsy Foundation of Central & South Texas (of which PSP founder, Vickie Howell, has a seat on the board.)

Use your knitting, crocheting, or sewing skills to put a smile on a kid with epilepsy's face. Join the Purple Stitch Project initiative today!

Brought to you by:

Vickie Howell

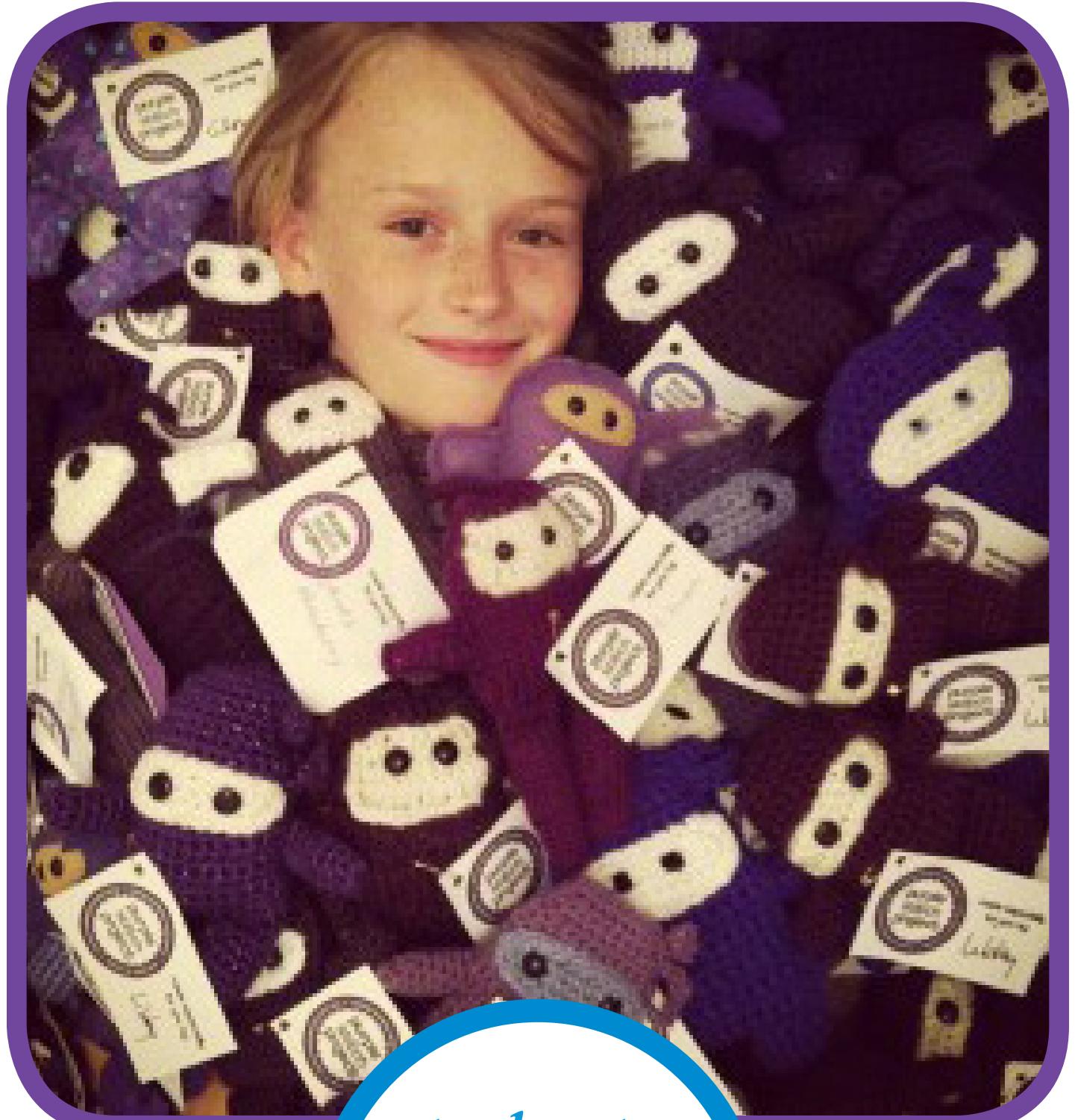


purple stitch project

make it!

donate!

receive!



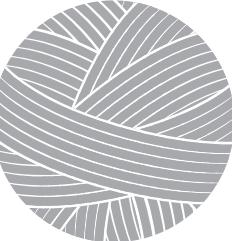
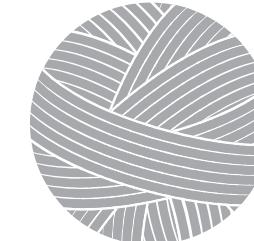
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Chubby Sheep

Pattern designed by
Marie Segares of Underground Crafter

Let's Get Started!



This rotund sheep is fun to play with and simple to make. The round shape and textured bottom allow it to "sit up" without legs. Optional instructions are included to transform the sheep into an ornament or hanging decoration.

Materials:

- . Galler Yarns Flore II yarn (1.75 oz/50 g/100 yds/91 m/75% Kid Mohair, 15% Wool, 10% Nylon) – 1 skein in each of 2 colors. (Each sheep uses approximately 100 yds in Main Color and 35 yds in Color B.)
- . Small amount of brown embroidery floss
- . E-4 (3.5 mm) crochet hook or any size needed to obtain gauge
- . Yarn needle
- . Stitch marker
- . Fiber filling

Gauge & Sizing:

- . Body through Round 12 = 3.75" (9.5 cm). *Exact gauge is not critical for this project but stitches should be small so that fiber filling doesn't show.*
- . Approximately 3.75" tall (9.5 cm) from base of body to top of head.

Stitch Key:

- . CB = Color B
- . ch = chain
- . hdc = half double crochet
- . invdec = invisible decrease (see Special Stitch Patterns)
- . MC = Main Color
- . pop = popcorn (see Special Stitch Patterns)
- . rep = repeat
- . Rnd(s) = Round(s)
- . sc = single crochet
- . sl st = slip stitch
- . st(s) = stitch(es)
- . yo = yarn over
- . * Repeat after asterisk as indicated.

Special Stitch Patterns

- . invdec = invisible decrease = Insert hook in front loop only of each of next two sts. Yo and draw up a loop. Yo and draw through two loops.
- . pop = popcorn = Hdc four times in same st. Remove hook from loop and insert hook from front to back of first hdc in group. Pick up dropped loop and pull through loop on hook.

Notes:

- . The head and body are worked in spirals without joining. Place stitch marker in last stitch of each round and move up at the end of each round.
- . For the ears, ch 2 does not count as hdc.

Pattern Instructions

Head

Beginning at crown, with MC, start with magic adjustable ring.

Rnd 1: Ch 1, 6 sc in ring. Pull the yarn tail tightly to close ring.

Rnd 2: 2 sc in each st. (12 sts)

Rnd 3: Sc in each st.

Rnd 4: *2 sc in next st, sc in next st. Rep from * around. (18 sts)

Rnds 5 & 6: Rep Rnd 3 twice.

Rnd 7: Change to CB in last yo of next sc. Sc in each st to marker.

Rnds 8 - 13: Rep Rnd 3 6 times.

Rnd 14: *Invdec, sc.* Rep from * around. (12 sts) Do not fasten off.

Create eyes.

Thread yarn needle with embroidery floss. Starting with floss inside of the head, stitch 2 eyes in third row of CB, using photos as a guide. Stuff head firmly with fiber filling.

Finish snout.

Rnd 15: *Invdec.* Rep from * around. (6 sts)

Rnd 16: *Invdec.* Rep from * taround. (3 sts). Fasten off with long yarn tail. Using yarn needle, sew yarn tail through remaining sts to close snout. Weave in yarn tail through head before finishing off.

Ears (Make 2)

With CB, ch 3.

Row 1: Turn. 2 hdc in third ch from hook.

Row 2: Turn. Ch 2 (see pattern notes). Hdc in next st. 2 hdc in next st. (3 sts)

Row 3: Turn. Ch 2. Hdc in each of next 2 sts. 2 hdc in next st. (4 sts)

Row 4: Turn. Ch 2. Hdc in each of next 3 sts. 2 hdc in next st. (5 sts)

Row 5: Turn. Ch 2. Hdc in each of next 4 sts. 2 hdc in next st. (6 sts) Do not fasten off. Fold ear in half across Row 5, so that first and last stitch of row are back to back. Join with sl st to top of first hdc.

Row 6: Do not turn. Ch 1. Join edge of ear with sc in each of next 3 sts, working through both layers. Fasten off with a 9" yarn tail.

Join ears to head.

Using yarn needle, join ears to second row of MC (Rnd 5 of head), using photos as a guide. Weave in yarn tail through head before finishing off.

Body

Beginning at bottom of body, with MC, start with magic adjustable ring.

Rnd 1: Ch 1. 6 sc in ring. Pull the yarn tail tightly to close ring.

Rnd 2: 2 sc in each st. (12 sts)

Rnd 3: *Pop in next st, 2 sc in next st. Rep from * around. (18 sts)

Rnd 4: *Sc in each of next two sts, 2 sc in next st. Rep from * around. (24 sts)

Rnd 5: *Pop in next st, sc in each of next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st. Rep from * around. (30 sts)

Rnd 6: Sc in each st.

Rnd 7: *(Sc in next st, pop in next st) twice, sc in next st, 2 sc in next st. Repeat from * around. (35 sts)

Rnd 8: *Sc in next 6 sts, 2 sc in next st. Repeat from * around. (40 sts)

Rnd 9: *(Pop in next st, sc in each of next 2 sts) twice, pop in next st, 2 sc in next st. Rep from * around. (45 sts)

Rnd 10: *2 sc in next st, sc in each of next 8 sts. Rep from * around. (50 sts)
Rnd 11: *(Pop in next st, sc in each of next 2 sts) 3 times, 2 sc in next st. Rep from * around. (55 sts)
Rnd 12: *2 sc in next st, sc in each of next 10 sts. Rep from * around. (60 sts)
Rnd 13: *Pop in next st, sc in each of next 2 sts. Repeat from * around.
Rnd 14: Sc in each st.
Rnds 15 & 16: Repeat Rnds 13 & 14 once.
Rnd 17: *(Pop in next st, sc in each of next 2 sts) 3 times, sc, invdec. Rep from * around. (55 sts)
Rnd 18: *Invdec, sc in each of next 9 sts. Rep from * around. (50 sts)
Rnd 19: *(Pop in next st, sc in each of next 2 sts) twice, pop in next st, sc in next st, invdec. Repeat from * 3 more times. Pop in next st, sc in each of next 7 sts, invdec. (45 sts)
Rnd 20: *Invdec, sc in each of next 7 sts. Rep from * around. (40 sts)
Rnd 21: *(Pop in next st, sc in each of next 2 sts) twice, invdec. Rep from * 3 more times. Sc in each of next 6 sts, invdec. (35 sts)
Rnd 22: *Invdec, sc in each of next 5 sts. Rep from * around. (30 sts)
Rnd 23: *Pop in next st, sc in each of next 4 sts. Rep from * around.
Rnd 24: *Invdec, sc in each of next 3 sts. Rep from * around. (24 sts)
Rnd 25: *Invdec, pop in next st, sc in next st. Rep from * around. (18 sts) Do not fasten off.
Join head to body.
Using yarn needle and a 9" strand of MC, join head to body in flat area with fewer popcorns (Rnds 18-22), using photos as guide. Stuff body firmly. Weave in yarn tail from joining into body.
Finish body.
Rnd 26: *Invdec, sc. Rep from * around. (12 sts)
Rnd 27: *Invdec. pop. Rep from * around. (8 sts). Fasten off with long yarn tail. Using yarn needle, sew yarn tail through remaining sts to close body. Weave in yarn tail through body before finishing off.

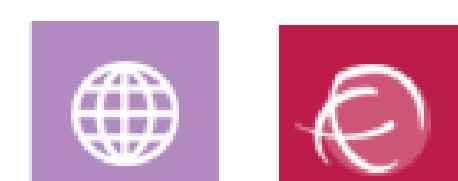
Ornament/decorative hanging loop (optional)

To use Chubby Sheep as an ornament or decorative hanging, join MC with sl st to any st in center top after assembly. Sc in same st. Ch 25. Sc to another nearby st in center top. Fasten off. Weave in yarn tail through body before finishing off.

Marie Segares has been hooked on crochet since she learned from her grandmother when she was 9, and she conquered her fear of knitting in 2010. In addition to designing, Marie teaches both crochet and knitting in the New York City metro area and at regional fiber events. She is a Professional member of the Crochet Guild of America and a Designer/Teacher member of The Knitting Guild Association. Marie's published designs can be found on her Ravelry page, and she blogs about her crafty adventures on her website.



Stay Connected With Marie



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My Life as an **Addict**

by Tricia Dodge of Cuddlepie Crochet



My Life as an Addict

by Tricia Dodge of Cuddlepie Crochet



I'm going to be open here, honest. No judgment. Here it goes...

I never used to be an addict... I never planned it this way. My mom got me into it, of all people, right? It started out as something to do for fun, you know, when you're bored... a hobby of sorts. Purely recreational. Innocent enough.

My gut said to make a blanket for my son on the way. Who cares if it's hearts... he won't... at least not for a few years. I quit once... after I finished that horrendously enormous field of hearts, its hanging tails causing me pain to even look at. That didn't last long though... another boy was on the way.

This "hobby" started taking up my evenings. I'd grab a hook to unwind. My husband started complaining he

wasn't getting enough attention, but I needed some me time. I started getting edgy if I didn't get this "me time". My fingers would itch. My brain would race.

I decided to make a business of it. I was making so much I couldn't use it all myself. Insert cute and witty crochet business name here, we've all done it.

I loved what I made with only a hook, some acrylic and maybe some scissors or the random pom pom maker. It gave me a rush. But that's how it starts. You can always start with the cheap stuff, but it gets to the point where it's not enough. You want wool... hand dyed, hand painted... merino... superwash... unicorn farts... yeah, it's real, you can get it. I love the stuff.

So now I'm hooked. I need to design,

dye yarn, crochet and even knit. I can't help myself. I've never met a person who quit this; so I don't hold out much hope for myself. But hey, it's easy enough, you can learn. Youtube, you can learn anything on there.

You'll be in my shoes one day, if you're not already. It's not that bad of a place to be. I've learned to accept it. Most days are all sunshine and rainbows... we'll just focus on those.

But hey, if it's something you wanted to try (I know, I know, why would you after this, but maybe my life doesn't sound so bad to you) I'll give you the link to a free pattern. Enabler... I know... I've got some great enabler friends too. Design Wars, you'll find some patterns there.

They're just like me...

Tricia Dodge is a stay at home momma who loves to crochet (and knit) and just play with yarn yummies!

Her mom taught her to crochet when she was 12 years old, but she didn't pick it up again until she was pregnant with her first son. Now she stays busy taking care of her four boys, but her brain is always thinking of what to design next. Her style is trendy yet simple. Even her patterns that look hard are much simpler than they appear. She loves pops of color and the softness of superwash merino. In her spare time, she adores reading, and drinking tea!



Cuddlepie
crochet

Stay Connected With Tricia



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Tracy's Crochet Bliss

QUICK TIP:

Weaving in Ends,
Hiding Your Tail

Let's Get Started!

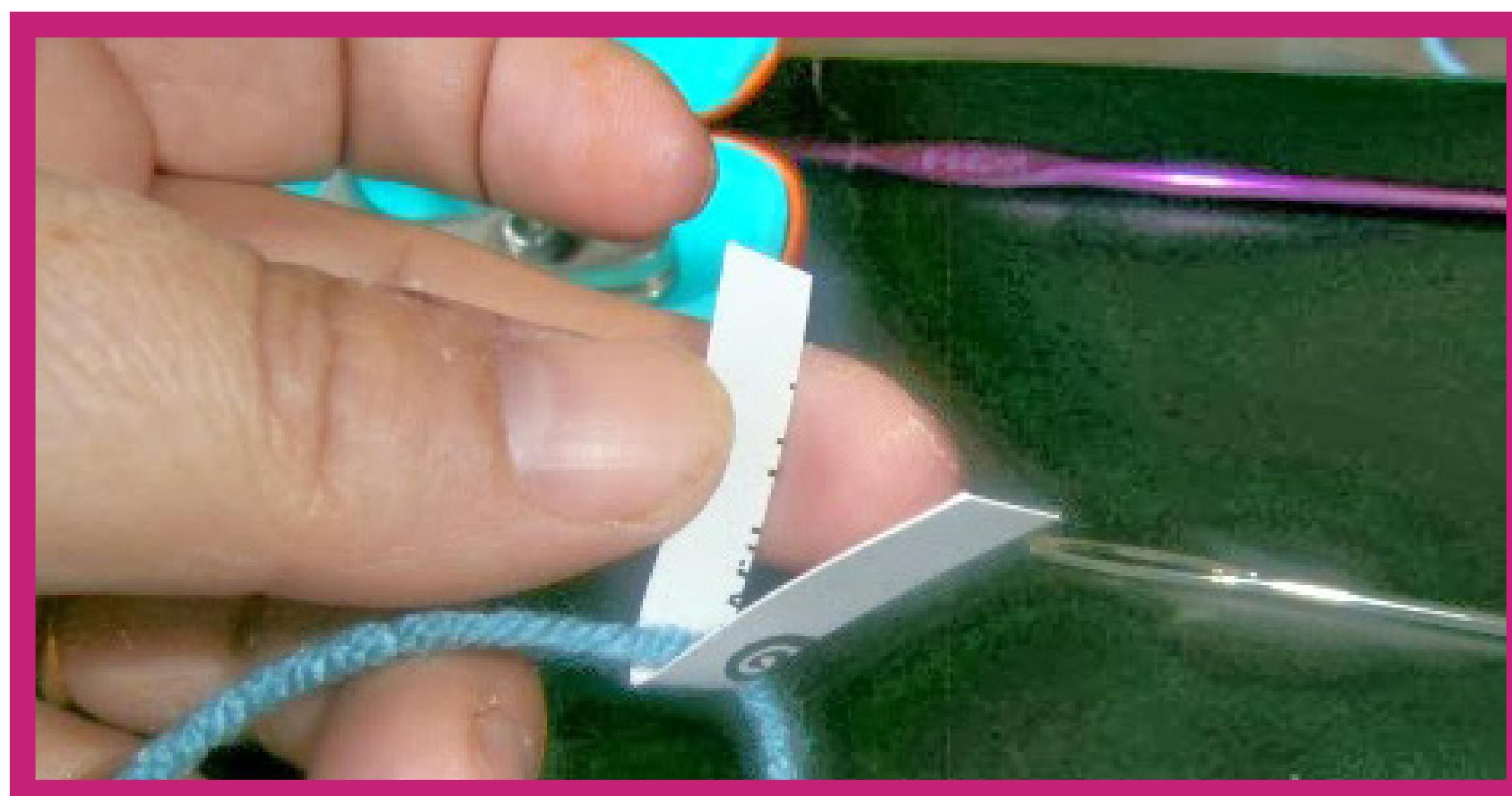
It's time consuming and nobody really likes to do it. Probably because it's tedious and has nothing to do with the creating of our our beautiful projects.

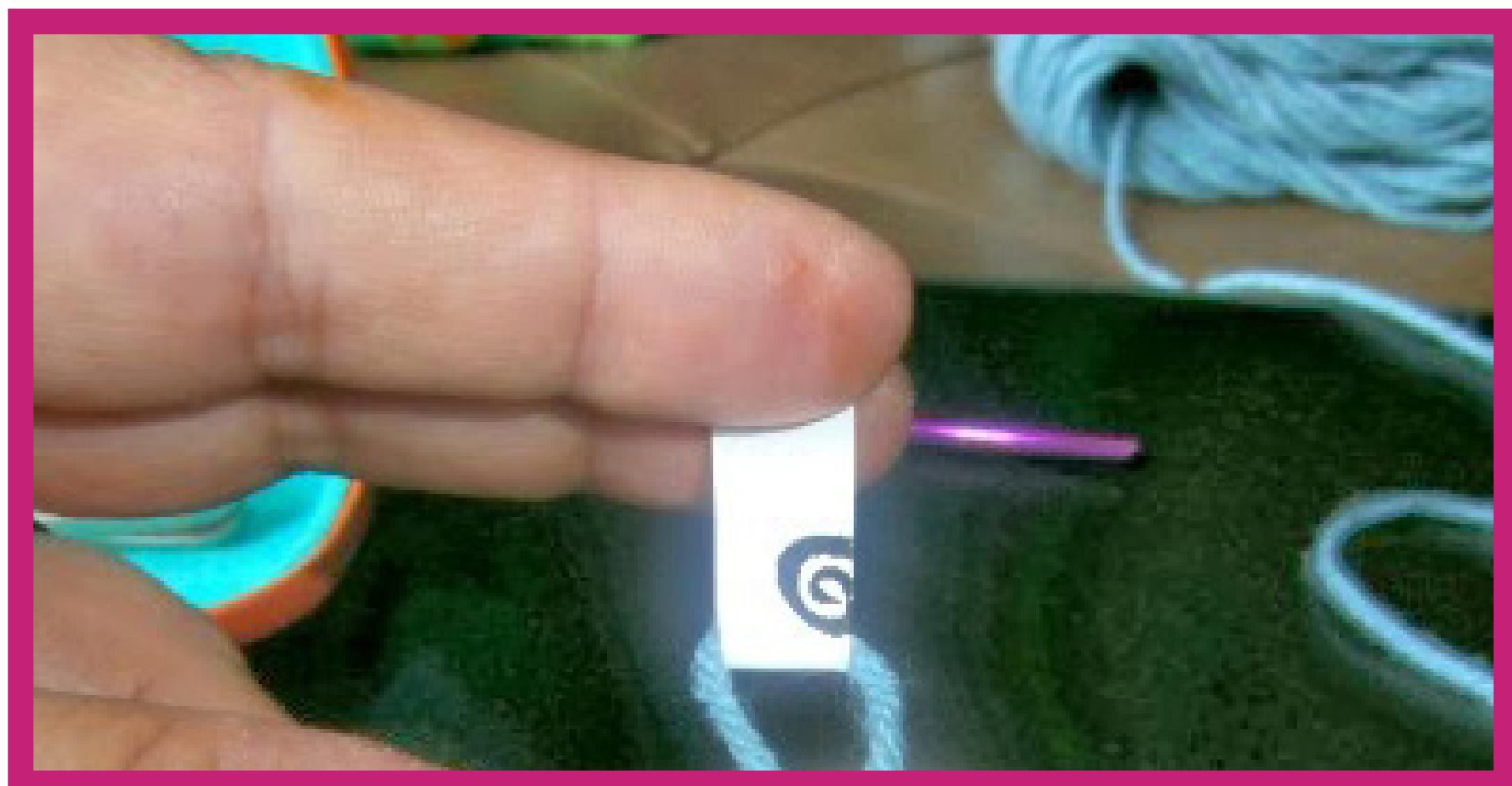
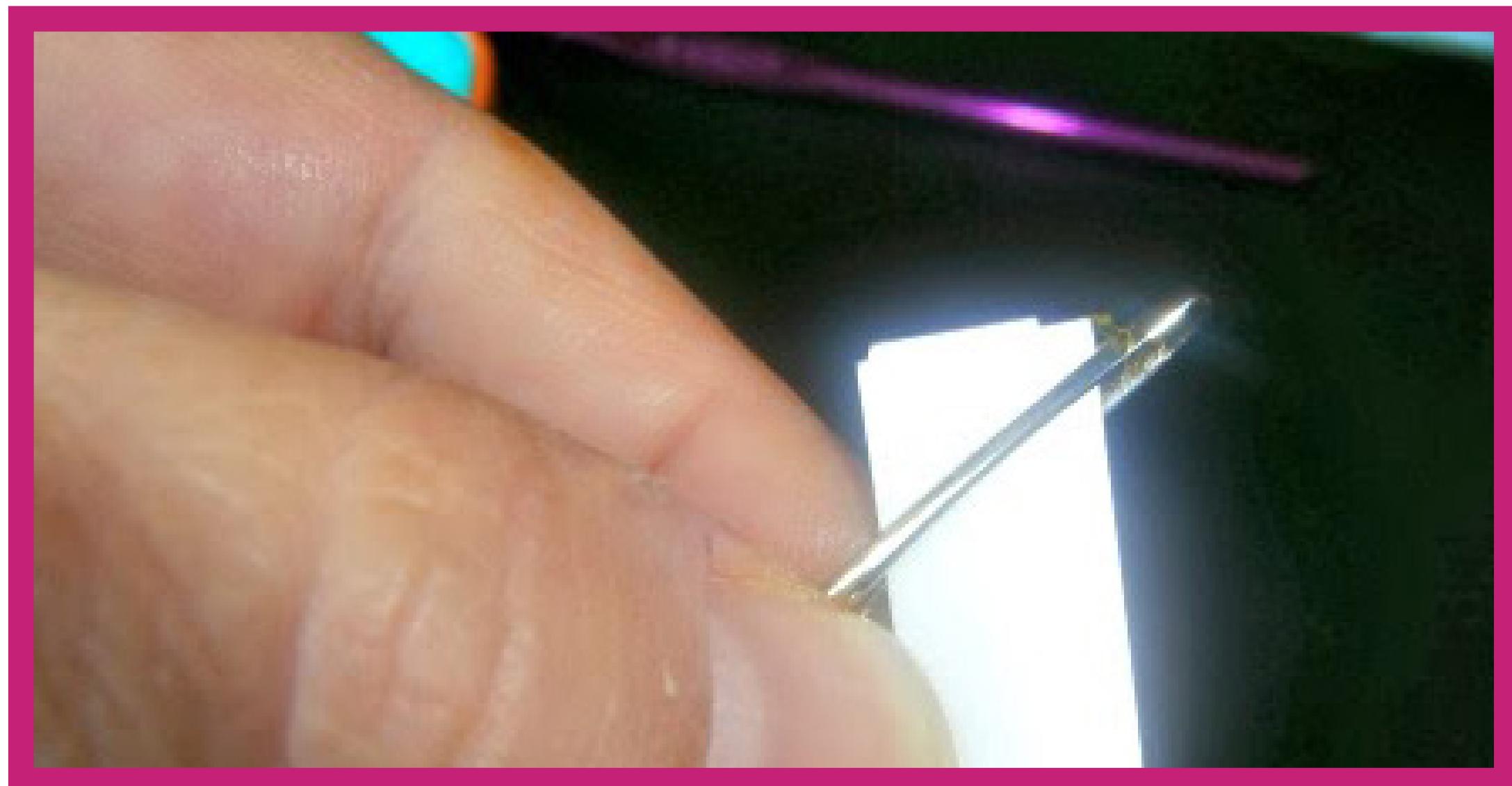
We usually save it for last, then spend hours hiding those little pieces left after connecting our squares or motifs.

I don't mind it anymore!

As a matter of fact, I enjoy the task now that I have started using a large needle to 'weave in the ends'. Yes, I used to avoid that needle like the plague because it was such a PAIN trying to work the yarn through the eye of the needle.

Last Halloween, I looked at a discarded candy wrapper and inspiration struck. I cut a strip of the wrapper and folded it in half, placed the yarn in the crease, closed the fold and BAM...threaded the needle quick and easy for the very first time!







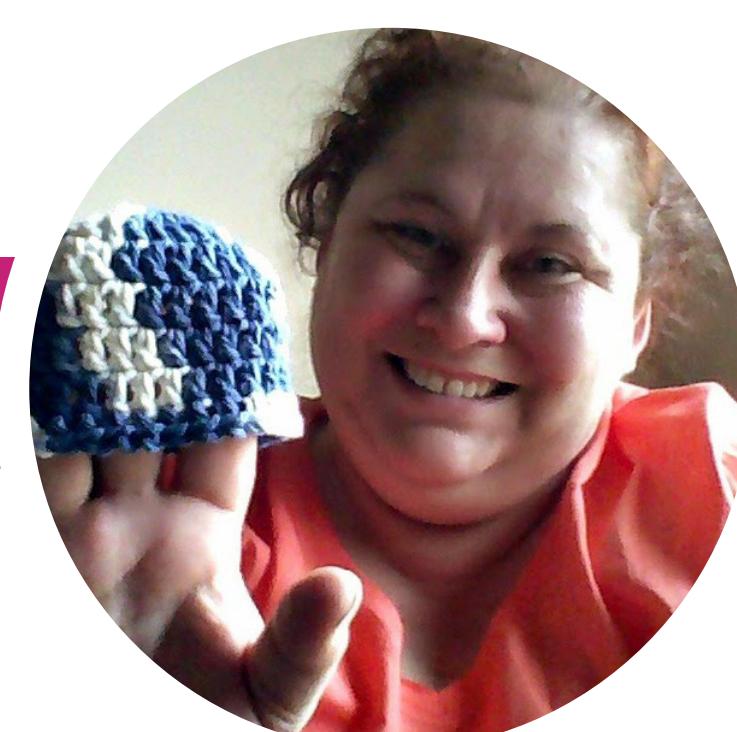
Using the large needle actually makes it much easier to hide the tails and here are a couple of tips for making certain they stay hidden too!

Use Long Tails

I woman I spoke to who specializes in repairing and restoring crochet and knitted pieces says "PLEASE, use long tails" Not only does it allow original material to work with if someone eventually needs to work a repair, but long tails rarely come un-done..short tails are more likely to come un-knotted with time.

Weave Back and Forth, Up and Down

This is the best way to make sure that your tails don't come loose. It is pretty common for us to grab the tail and pull it through a length of stitches to hide it. That's easy, but it also comes out of that single row easy too. Using the large needle, makes it easy and even fun to do a little more. Weave those long tails to the right, to the left, up and down.



Tracy Joyner of Tracy's Crochet Bliss

Tracy's an avid crocheter and blogger. She has been crocheting since 1973 and has launched two successful crochet websites.

Tracy's Crochet Bliss

Stay Connected With Tracy





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PRODUCT REVIEW

by Marie Segares of Underground Crafter



Lazadas Blocking Wires

Lazadas Blocking Wires

Like many crocheters, I have a love/hate relationship with blocking. Recently, I had the opportunity to try out a set of blocking wires for the first time, and I'm completely hooked!

The Lazadas **Mix Set** includes four 35" (90 cm) blocking wires, three 70" (180 cm) blocking wires, and 30 nickel plated T-pins. Lazadas Knitting Accessories also offers three other sets. The **Short Set** includes ten 35" (90 cm) blocking wires, and is recommended for shawlettes, sleeves, sweaters, and cardigans. The **Long Set** includes five 70" (180 cm) blocking wires, and is recommended for stoles, big shawls, and baby blankets. Both sets include 30 nickel plated T-pins, and, like the Mix Set, are priced at \$28.90. The **Deluxe Set** includes ten 35" (90 cm) blocking wires, five 70" (180 cm) blocking wires, and 60 nickel plated T-pins and is priced at \$56. Lazadas Knitting Accessories is a woman-owned family business located in Israel, and shipping is \$5 worldwide.

The sets come in small packages with snap closures and handles.

Each set package has a gusset so it can stand on its own. Inside, the wires are coiled and the package (wisely) advises you to carefully open them.

I only started blocking my crochet a few years ago when I started designing. As I've mentioned before, I prefer **spray blocking**. I don't like my projects to get that "overblocked" look, so I generally avoid wet blocking and "killing" the fabric with steam. (If you'd like to try either of those methods, **Tamara Kelly** shares tutorials on **wet blocking** and **steam blocking** on the Moogly blog.)

To test out the wires, I blocked my Pineapples for Everyone Shawl (available for free [here](#) in English and [here](#) in Italian), crocheted with SHOKAY Orient in Cerulean. Thankfully, simple instructions are included in the set as I'd never used blocking wires before.

In the past, I've applied seemingly endless amounts of pins across the edges of my projects, struggled with shaping the project, and have sometimes ended up with unusual

"points" on the edges.



I blocked this shawl with one 70" (180 cm) wire on each side. If you look closely at the bottom of the picture above, you can see the excess of the wires sticking out. With the wires, I could pin to shape just a few times and let the wires do their work. I was also able to bend the wires on the bottom edges and pin them to allow the pineapples on to fan out. The process of setting up the project to block was much faster and more precise than when I used pins alone.

After blocking, the edges were much more defined, and the shawl was less "squishy." The pineapples completely opened up and they look great.

Lazadas Blocking Wires



I have since used these wires to block several other projects, including two baby blankets. In each case, I found the process significantly easier than pin blocking alone, and the results were much neater looking.

I would highly recommend Lazadas Blocking Wires. The package is small enough to be portable. With the gusset folded, it can easily lay

flat. At the same time, the package can stand up so it's easy to find it on your shelf. The wires are very flexible and easy to uncoil and recoil (with care, of course). The T-pins can easily be positioned so that they hold the wires in place. The instructions are straightforward and effective.

As for sizes, thus far, I have used the 70" (180 cm) wires for everything except for squares/motifs. I like having extra room on the edges, so the 35" (90 cm) wires feel too short for most of my projects. I have used the 35" (90 cm) wires to block several motifs at once, though.

I should also note that with one particularly fiddly blanket that I blocked, I needed more than the 30

pins in the set, so I used additional **quilting pins** to finish blocking the blanket. If I were buying a set, I'd purchase the Long Set or the Deluxe Set because I primarily block blankets and shawls. If you generally crochet smaller projects, you might prefer the Short or Mix sets

Thanks to the Lazadas Blocking Wires, I am now leaning much more closely towards a love/love relationship with blocking!

Full disclosure: A free Mix Set of blocking wires was provided by Lazadas. Although I accept free products for review, I do not accept additional compensation, nor do I guarantee a positive review. My reviews are based entirely on my honest opinions.

Marie Segares has been hooked on crochet since she learned from her grandmother when she was 9, and she conquered her fear of knitting in 2010. In addition to designing, Marie teaches both crochet and knitting in the New York City metro area and at regional fiber events. She is a Professional member of the Crochet Guild of America and a Designer/Teacher member of The Knitting Guild Association. Marie's published designs can be found at on her Ravelry page, and she blogs about her crafty adventures on her blog.



Stay Connected With Maria





5 Steps to Creating Your First Yarn Bomb

*by Jessie Hemmons
aka “ishknits”*

5 Steps to Creating Your First Yarn Bomb

Have you seen trees and statues covered with brightly covered yarn in your neighborhood and wondered how it was done? Or have you seen photos of knitted or crocheted statues online and dreamed of becoming your town's next yarn bomber? If so, you've come to the right place. Here, we'll reveal how to yarn bomb in five steps.



Photo via of Oakland Art Enthusiast

What is a yarn bomb?

A yarn bomb is form of street art where yarn in any form (knit, crochet, latch hook, cross stitch, amigurumi, or simply wrapped) is attached to an object in the public environment.

How to yarn bomb:

Step 1: Find the object you would like to yarn bomb.

If you plan to knit or crochet a fabric, then choose a 3-D object that you can sew your fabric around, like a tree, street post or statue.

When choosing this route, make sure to choose an object that allows you to secure your yarn bomb from falling down.

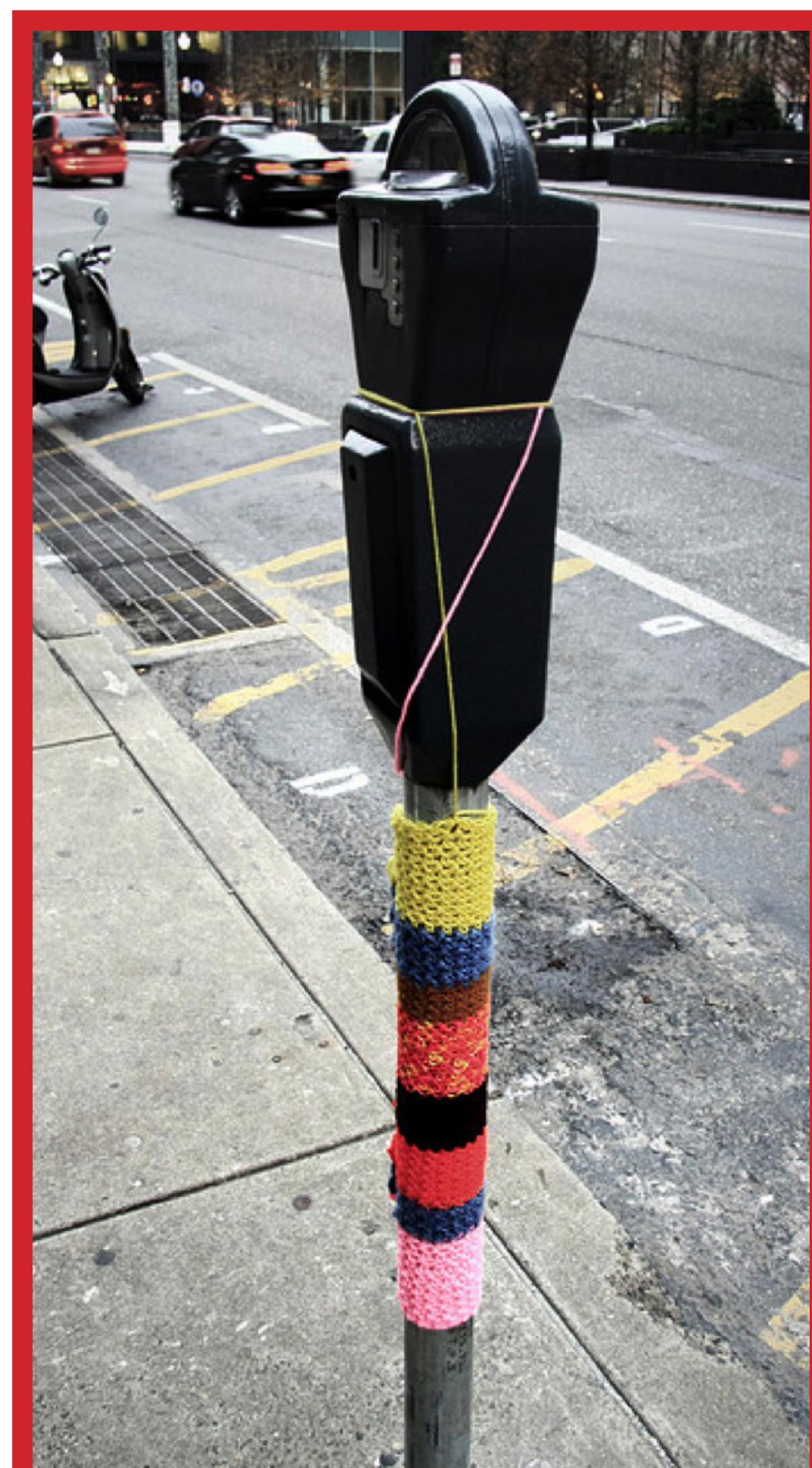


Photo ©Damon Landry/damonabnormal

For example, if you choose to wrap a yarn bomb around the pole of a street sign, then you must somehow attach a string into a hole in the post, or around the sign, so that the yarn bomb will not droop to the ground at the first hint of rain.



"Park It" by Lorna Watt/KnitsForLife; photo via of Jill Watt

If you plan to cross stitch or latch hook, then find an object that allows for this process, like a fence or a park bench.



Photo via of Conrad Benner/StreetsDept

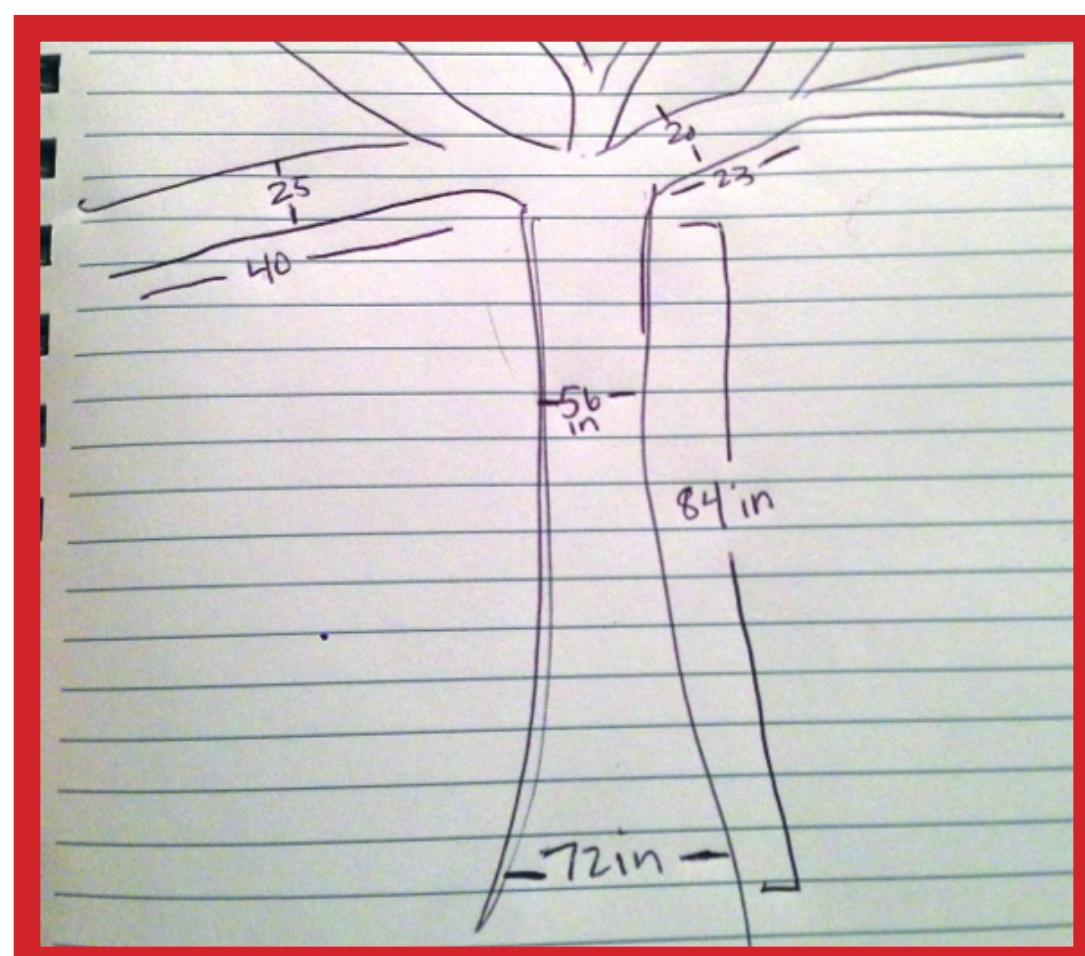
You can also add a handmade piece to any existing object, like adding pom-poms to tree branches, or amigurumi to a street post.

Step 2: Draw a diagram and measure the object you plan to yarn bomb.

5 Steps to Creating Your First Yarn Bomb

Draw a diagram of the object so that you can easily collect measurements for each different section of the object you are planning to yarn bomb.

Use fabric measuring tape to collect the width, height and/or circumference of your target. Using fabric measuring tape will allow you flexibility when collecting measurements for oddly shaped objects, such as the arms of a statue, branches on a tree, etc.



For example, when collecting measurements of a tree:

1. Draw a diagram of the tree.
2. Use fabric measuring tape to measure the circumference of tree trunk. Collect circumference for wider and thinner parts of the trunk that you plan to cover.
3. Measure the height of the trunk that you plan to cover.
4. Collect measurements of the

length and circumference of any branches that you intend to wrap with yarn.

Step 3: Design your yarn bomb

Decide how you are going to create your yarn bomb by figuring out if you will be knitting or crocheting, etc.

In creating a design for your yarn bomb, ask yourself the following questions:

- . What colors am I going to use?
- . Will I be creating a repeating pattern?
- . Will I be putting an image into my piece?
- . Will I be creating a patchwork piece?



Step 4: Create your yarn bomb.

When fabricating a knitted or crocheted fabric, understand that you will be making a 2-D piece that will

wrap around a 3-D object.

Also, yarn bombing with knitted and crocheted fabric requires you to sew the seam of the piece once it is wrapped around your object of choice with yarn for thread and a yarn sewing needle. This is less of a concern for latch hook, cross stitch and wrapping yarn, as for these methods you will generally be using a 2-D object as your "canvas," like a fence or a park bench.

Using the method of your choice, create pieces that match the corresponding measurements on your diagram. For example, if you have a tree trunk that measures 36 inches around and 50 inches tall, then create a rectangular piece with those measurements. You will sew the seam around the object when you install your piece.

If you have many pieces that can be sewn together at home, like the patchwork above, you can sew the patches together to create one large 2-D piece that will eventually be wrapped around your target.

Step 5: Install your yarn bomb.

Find a good time for installation

5 Steps to Creating Your First Yarn Bomb

by asking yourself the following questions: 1) Will it be easier during the day when I can see what's going on? (If you yarn bomb during the day you may risk your anonymity.) 2) Will it be easier at night when no one is around?

You'll want to bring:

- . Any tools needed for the installation
- . A ladder if you need to reach tall branches
- . A friend so you feel safe installing in the evening
- . Your diagram to help you find the corresponding pieces
- . If you'll be sewing, you'll also need to bring a yarn sewing needle, yarn (the "thread"), and scissors

Wrap each piece around your object, and sew a simple stitch to close the seam of the piece and create a fully wrapped yarn bomb.

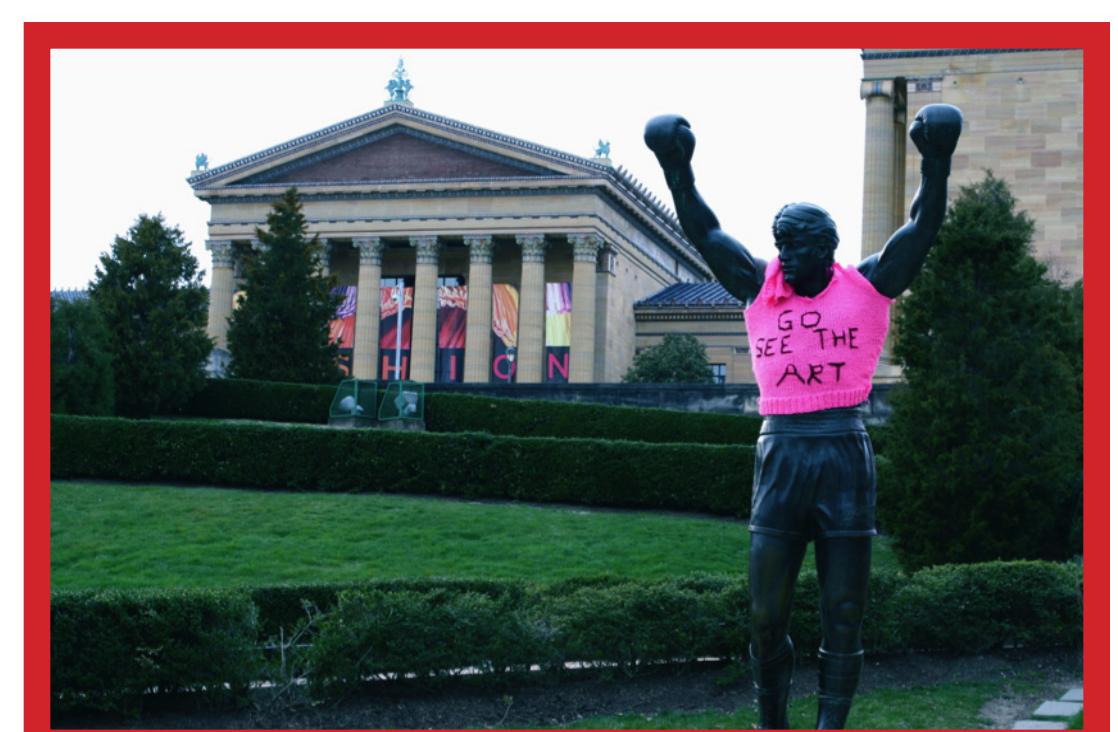


Photo via of Conrad Benner/StreetsDept

When your yarn bomb requires several pieces, use a simple stitch to sew all of the pieces together, to create the illusion of one cohesive piece.

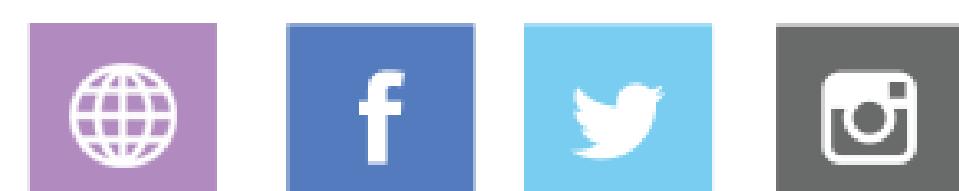


For example, if you knitted several pieces for your tree, like one for the trunk four for branches, then sew the end of your branch to the edge of the trunk piece, and sew the end of the branches together. And now enjoy your masterpiece!



ishknits

Stay Connected With Jessie



Ishknits, or Jessie Hemmons, is a yarbnomer who recently moved to Oakland, CA from Philadelphia, PA. Her work concentrates on facilitating a shift in the perception of street art, by using a typically feminine craft to initiate a dialogue on the relationship between gender and non-commissioned public art. Through her use of vibrant colors and an historically empathic medium, she encourages people to understand and utilize the ability they possess to be assertive as well as positive in their community. Her work exemplifies that the loudest public voice does not have to be the most hostile and threatening, but can be used to encourage and elevate.



getting hooked

HAPPILY

Your Handy Hooker Reference Guide





Learning how to read the language of Crochet Patterns

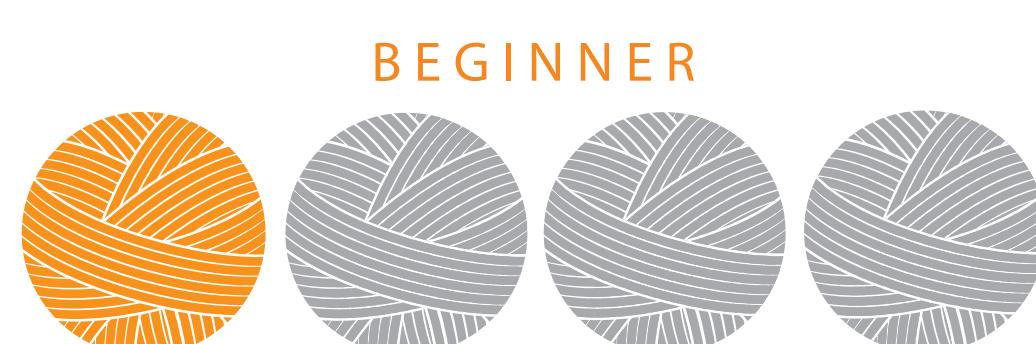
If you are new to crochet and picked up a pattern and thought you were reading Greek, you are not alone! At first the shorthand terms can be a bit overwhelming but keep these tips and the handy definition guide with you and you'll be tackling patterns before you know it.

Things to keep in mind when diving into a pattern:

- . A crochet pattern can be worked in rounds (rnds), rows or both. Each pattern will indicate what you'll be working in.
- . Patterns will have a difficulty scale to help you gauge your skill level:
 - . Beginner – These patterns are for the newbies. Patterns labeled beginner will use the basic stitches and will have minimal shaping.
 - . Easy – Perfect for watching your favorite shows and still being able to crochet =) The stitches will be repetitive and there might be minimal shaping and easy coloring changes.
 - . Intermediate – These patterns will include a wider variety of stitches and more complex color patterns.
 - . Experienced – Break out your magnify glass for these patterns! They will have really intricate stitch sequences and may use smaller hooks with thread.
- . Gauge Check!
 - . It's important to check your gauge/tension before starting a pattern.
 - . Crochet a test 4x4 square with the hook listed in the pattern. If your gauge is too big go down a hook size, if it's too small then go up a hook size.
 - . It may seem like a waste of time but if your pattern is for a newborn size and you wind up with a hat that'll fit your noggin, you'll be sad.

If you are feeling overwhelmed in the beginning, don't stress! The more patterns you read the more confidence you'll gain and you'll tackle more challenging patterns. If you are new to the crochet world, it might be helpful to take a class at your local craft store or if you have a friend who already crochets, ask if they'd mind showing you the ropes.

Patterns that Appear inside Happily Hooked Magazine will be accompanied with the below legend to illustrate the difficulty level of each design:



Abbreviations

beg – begin/beginning
 bpdc – back post double crochet
 bpsc – back post single crochet
 bptr – back post treble crochet
 CC – contrasting color
 ch – chain stitch
 ch – refers to chain or space previously made (i.e. ch-1 space)
 ch sp – chain space
 cl – cluster
 cm – centimeter(s)
 dc – double crochet
 dc dec – double crochet 2 or more stitches together, as indicated
 dec – decrease/decreases/decreasing

dtr – double treble crochet
 fpdc – front post double crochet
 fpsc – front post single crochet
 fptr – front post treble crochet
 g – grams
 hdc – half double crochet
 hdc dec – half double crochet (decrease) 2 or more stitches together, as indicated
 inc – increase/increases/increasing
 lp(s) – loops(s)
 MC – main color
 mm – millimeter(s)
 oz – ounce(s)
 pc – popcorn
 rem – remain/remaining

rep – repeat(s)
 rnd(s) – round(s)
 RS – right side
 sc – single crochet
 sc dec – single crochet (decrease) 2 or more stitches together, as indicated
 sk – skip(ped)
 sl st – slip stitch
 sp(s) – space(s)
 st(s) – stitch(es)
 tog – together
 tr – treble crochet
 trtr – triple treble
 WS – wrong side
 yd(s) – yard(s)
 yo – yarn over

Symbols

Crochet patterns use symbols to signal repeated text, special instructions and clarifying information.

() Work instructions within parentheses in place directed; used to indicate collective stitch groups worked as one procedure in the same place; used for additional or clarifying information, indicated in italic text.

[] Repeat instructions within brackets as directed; also used to indicate additional or clarifying information.

{ } Repeat instructions within braces as directed; used to indicate a set of repeat instructions that are worked within a bracketed set of repeat instructions, or to indicate multiple repeats of stitch patterns that are part of a collective stitch group contained within parentheses.

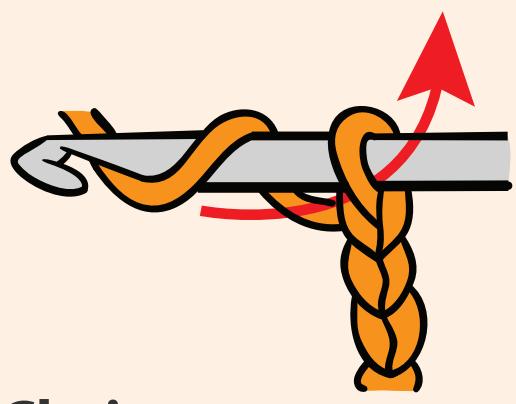
* Repeat instructions following a single asterisk or between two single asterisks as directed.

** This symbol has two uses, as follows:

1. Repeat instructions between or from double asterisks as directed, usually in combination with a set of single asterisk instructions.
2. Work a partial set of repeat instructions as indicated by double asterisks.

◆ Repeat instructions between or from diamonds as directed, usually in combination with single asterisk instructions.

Basic Stitch Guide



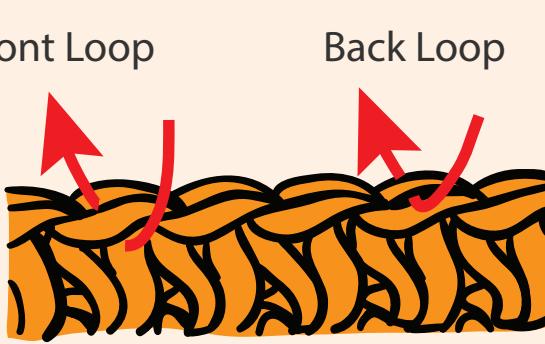
Chain

Once you've made your slip knot you'll have one loop on the hook. Yarn over and pull through the loop. There will be one loop left on the hook.

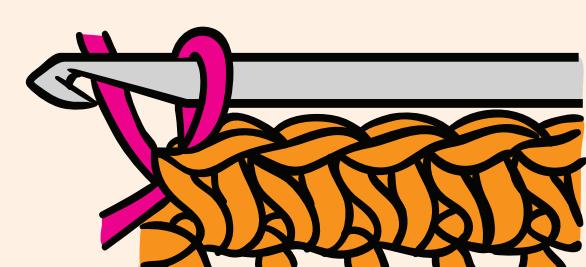


Slip Stitch

Insert your hook in the stitch indicated then yarn over and pull loop through the stitch and through the loop on your hook. You will have one loop remaining on your hook.

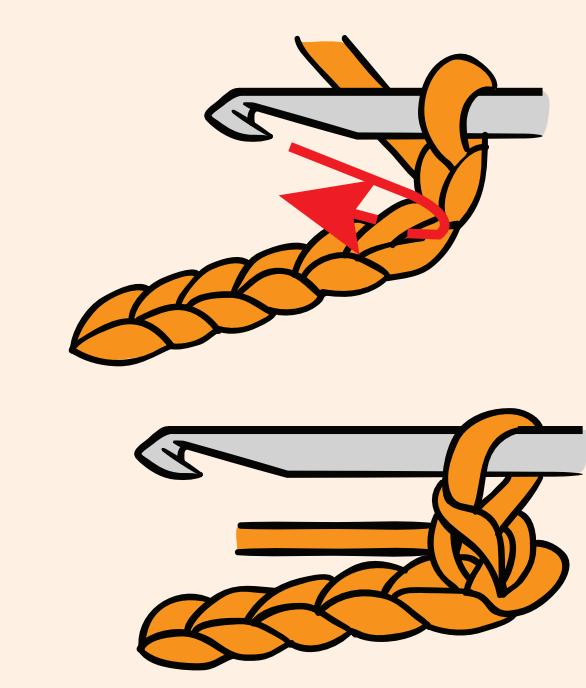


Front Loop (front lp) Back Loop (back lp)



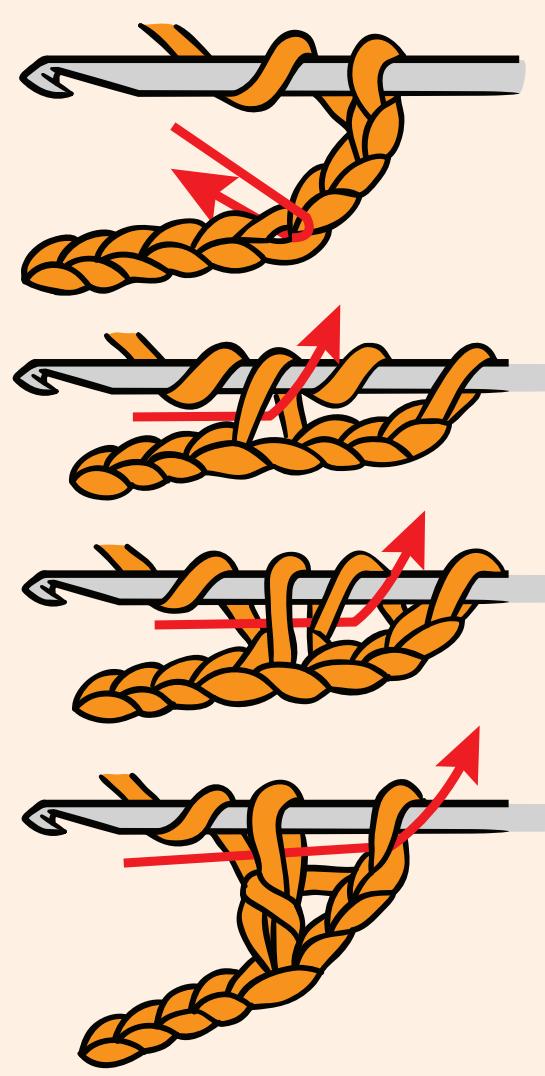
Change Color

Drop first color; with 2nd color, pull through last 2 lps of st.



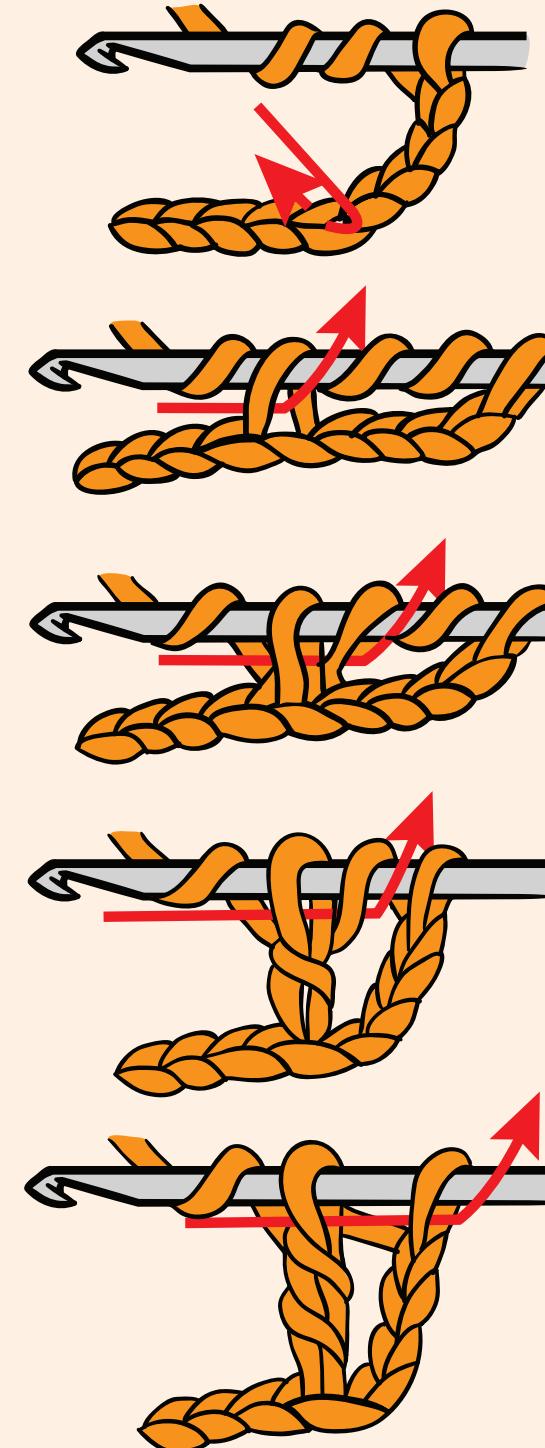
Single Crochet – sc

Insert hook in stitch indicated and yarn over. Pull up through the loop (two loops on hook), yarn over and draw through both loops on hook (one loop on hook).



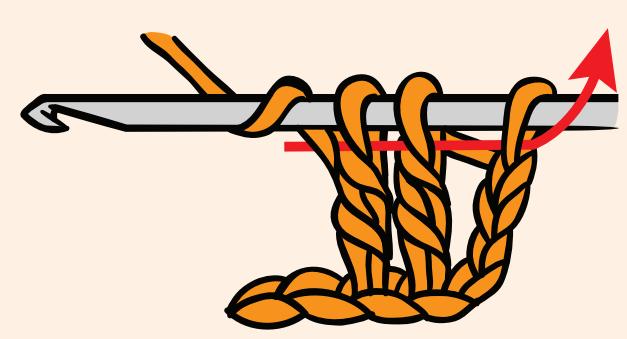
Double Crochet

Yarn over, insert hook into indicated stitch, yarn over and pull up a loop (3 loops on hook), yarn over and draw through 2 loops on hook (2 loops on hook), yarn over again and draw through the last two loops on the hook (1 loop remains).



Treble Crochet – tr

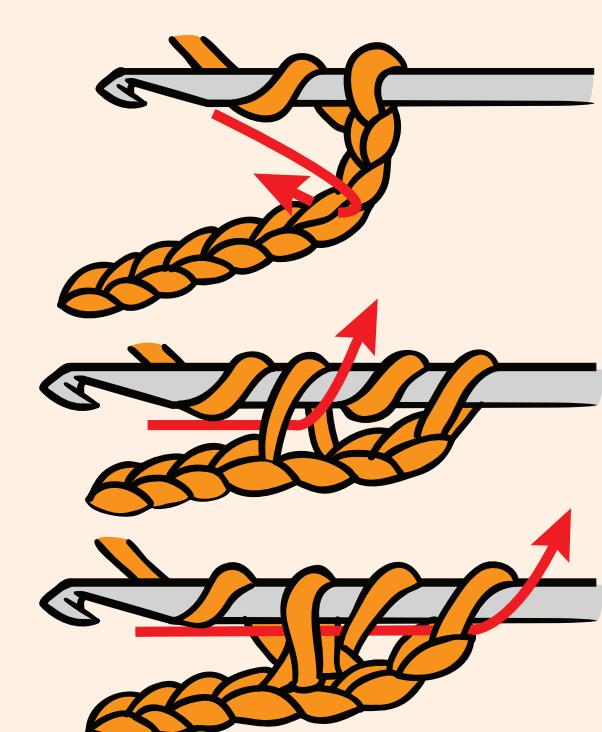
Yarn over twice, then insert hook into stitch indicated, yarn over and pull up a loop (4 loops on hook), yarn over through 2 loops on hook for a total of three times (1 loop remains on hook).



Treble Crochet

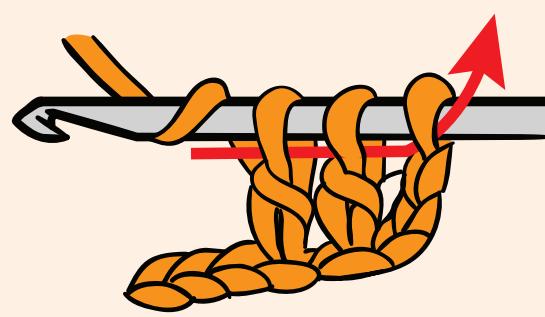
Decrease – tr dec

Holding back last loop of each stitch, treble crochet in each of the stitches indicated, yarn over, pull through all loops on hook.



Half Double Crochet – hdc

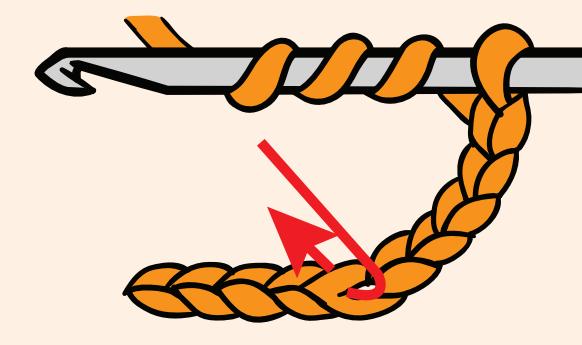
Yarn over and insert hook into indicated stitch, yarn over and up through loop (3 loops on hook), yarn over and pull up through all three loops on hook (one loop on hook).



Double Crochet

Decrease– dc dec

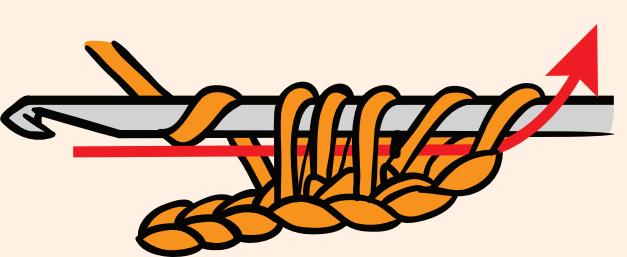
(Yarn over, insert hook, yarn over, draw loop through, draw through 2 loops on hook) in each of the stitches indicated, yarn over, draw through all loops on hook.



Double Treble

Crochet – dtr

Yarn over 3 times, insert hook in stitch, yarn over, pull through stitch, [yarn over, pull through 2 loops] 4 times.



Half Double Crochet Decrease – hdc dec

(Yarn over, insert hook, yarn over, draw loop through) in each of the stitches indicated, yarn over, draw through all loops on hook.



Gauge and Gauge Swatches

Gauge is a set of measurements used to indicate how large your stitches and rows should be to achieve results similar to those achieved by the designer. These results include the size of the piece and the drape or softness of the resulting fabric. If your gauge differs significantly from the designer's gauge your piece will be a different size, and may be stiffer or floppier than desired.

Gauge is typically given as two measurements:

1. Stitch gauge: The number of stitches in a certain number of inches
2. Row gauge: The number of rows in a certain number of inches. It is most common to indicate the stitch and row gauge over 4"/10cm, but it could be given over any number of inches.

To determine if you are working to the correct gauge, you can make a gauge swatch. Or, if the piece you are making is at least 4" wide to begin, you can begin making the piece, work for at least 4"/10cm and then measure your gauge over this piece.

To make a gauge swatch, use the indicated size hook, yarn, and stitch indicated in the "Gauge" section, to make a small, sample piece.

For example: If the gauge is: In single crochet, 12 sts and 14 rows = 4"/10cm, you want to work a piece that is at least 12 sts wide and 14 rows long. We recommend working a piece that is a bit larger than 4"/10cm. After making the small piece, lay it flat but do not stretch it. Use a ruler to measure across a row near the center of the piece and count the number of stitches in 4"/10cm. Then measure and count the number of rows in 4"/10 cm. If the number of stitches or rows is less than the number of stitches or rows given in the gauge, try again using a smaller hook. If the number of stitches or rows is greater than the number of stitches or rows given in the gauge, try again using a larger hook.

Important Notes:

1. It is usually more important to achieve stitch gauge than row gauge. If you must choose, choose to achieve stitch gauge.
2. Gauge is critical to achieve a good fit for sweaters. It is slightly less critical for hats and slippers that are designed to stretch to fit. It is even less critical for blankets, bags, toys, and scarves. If the item you are making must 'fit' it is worth the time to achieve almost exactly the same gauge as the designer. If the item you are making doesn't need to 'fit', the gauge you achieve can vary more from the designer's gauge and still yield acceptable results.
3. Sometimes a pattern indicates that the gauge is not critical. For such patterns, ensure that there's not a note somewhere else indicating that you should work 'tightly' or 'loosely'. Such notes let you know whether the resulting fabric should be stiff (work tightly) or more flowing (work loosely).



Hook Sizes (Aluminum)

US	ENG.	METRIC
-	14	2
B/1	13, 12	2.5, 2.75
C/2	12, 11	2.75, 3
D/3	10	3.25
E/4	9	3.5
F/5	8	3.75, 4
G/6	7	4.25, 4.5
H/8	6	4.75, 5
I/9	5	5.5
J/10	4	6
K/10 1/2	2	6.5, 7
-	-	7.5
L/11	-	8
M/13	-	9
N/15	-	10
P/16	-	16
Q	-	16
S	-	19

Standard Yarn Weight System (and substituting yarn)

Yarn can be grouped into different weights. When substituting one yarn for another, always look for a yarn in the same weight category. There is variance within the same weight category. Swatching for gauge is the best way to check whether a yarn substitution will work well.

Yarn Weight Category	Types of Yarns in Category	Recommended Hook Size
0 – Lace	Finger, Size 10 crochet thread	1.6 – 1.4mm
1 – Super Fine	Sock, fingering, baby	2.25 – 3.5mm
2 – Fine	Sport, baby	3.5 – 4.5mm
3 – Light	DL (double knit), light worsted	4.5 – 5.5mm
4 – Medium	Worsted, afghan, aran	5.5 – 6.5mm
5 – Bulky	Chunky, craft, rug	6.5 – 9mm
6 – Super Bulky	Bulky, super chunky, roving	9mm and bigger



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Colin Piper
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Next Issue...

We truly hope you enjoyed reading this issue, as much as we enjoyed publishing it for you!

We have so much more "crochet goodness" to share with you... but hey, we can only squeeze so much into each issue =)

Here's a little "sneak peak" of what to expect in the next issue:

- . Find out what **Glen Blakely Kinsler** and the rest of the **Crochet Guild of America** is up to in an exclusive Q&A interview
- . Salena Baca shares even more '**Design Wars'** updates, and we'll feature even more of the contestant's patterns!
- . Learn even more handy tips and tricks, brought to you by some of the best crocheters and designers around
- . Several more cute **free patterns** and projects for you
- . **And way more** goodies we'd love to share with you because we're busting at the seams to tell you... but you'll just have to wait =)



In the meantime, if there's anything else you'd like us to cover, or if you have any ways that we can improve our magazine, simply tap the **email button** below and let us know. We want ALL of your feedback – the good, the bad and yes, even the ugly.

See you in the next issue!



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