



Crochet Extra

131st Edition- April—2017

Attending the IntoCraft Live show at Brisbane last month was certainly an experience. It was good to meet many of you and put a face to a name. And of course meet many new people. We will enjoy seeing you all again as you venture up towards the Sunshine Coast. It was also gratifying to see so many people interested in crocheting – whether they were beginners, getting back into it after a long spell, or long-time crocheters. And the enthusiasm for our workshops was great, giving me lots of satisfaction as people went away with new skills. The Crochet Lite Hooks were a real success (ie a sellout) and we expect to have all sizes back in stock in the coming weeks.

Two and a half years ago I decided to undertake the CGOA (Crochet Guild of America) Masters of Advanced Crochet Stitches and Techniques Program. I am delighted to say that in March I received notice that I have passed and am now a CGOA Master. It was an enjoyable program. The hardest part I found was making myself complete it as there is no time limit set by the Guild. It has helped me learn new stitches, reinforce the different techniques for working into the foundation chain, adapting for differences in my tension to the written pattern and reading patterns generally. If you are looking for a way of improving your techniques and stitch library, this is a good program to do.

In my travels I also discovered The Centre for Knitting and Crochet – an organisation to preserve and promote the art and craft of knitting, crochet and related arts. They have opened up an online exhibition: Sanquhar Gloves: A Living Scottish Tradition. It is a great collection of Scottish Knitting and a fantastic way to share the art. Check it out [here](#).

In our April workshops we will be making a Mochila Bag. We will be using the beginner pattern available on the Mochila Bag facebook page and referring to their videos.



You can follow along with the videos on their [facebook](#) page or join us on Tuesdays at the shop.

Until next time
Lynda



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Theme – Teaching and Learning

My mother sat down recently to teach my niece how to knit and shared her experience with me – you can read about it on the next page. I was happy that she had tried – as she had taught me to both knit and crochet at a young age. I believe it is also important to pass on these skills to the young generation – not only to keep the craft alive – but so that they can experience the satisfaction and benefits of crafting themselves.

But it did make me reflect on my teaching experience – both when I was an accountant and since running workshops and lessons at the shop. The biggest thing I have learnt is that everyone learns in different ways – and there are many resources available to the learner to find the method that works best for them – DVDs, books, online tutorials or classes. However, I still think the best way to learn a new skill is from another person. And teaching someone else can be so rewarding.



Of course learning a new skill – whether it is to learn to crochet, knit or tat – or learn new stitches and methods – can at times be frustrating. But don't give up – keep at it or try a different way to learn it. Because when you do get it, the sense of satisfaction that comes with it is rewarding, and it opens up your world to new possibilities.

This month we have put together a collection of the different resources available for learning to crochet, knit or tat or learn a new technique. They make great gifts for friends and family to learn this craft, or for supplementing your own teaching. Our free pattern this month is an easy Easter pattern that can be used with beginners – [crochet](#) an egg cozy or [knit](#) some egg socks.



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Tip of the Month – Teaching Children



Teaching a child to Knit – perspectives of a Grandmother

I'm not a teacher, but the strong desire of my 6 ½ year old granddaughter to knit could not to be ignored.

Unfortunately, cartoons had given her the strong understanding that the needles were held in a certain way (which of course was portrayed wrongly). 6 years of watching cartoons, and she knew best!

Holding the needles was the greatest stumbling block and needed continual correction and reminding. When she held the needles correctly the yarn movement required little help and tension was consistent as shown in the photo. We started with 6 stitches and by the end of the weekend we still had 6 stitches and some very 'lumpy' work. But her enthusiasm never faltered. And the smile on her face when she achieved this was so huge and memorable—making it all worth it.



The saddest part for me is that her mother has no idea how to knit nor her other grandmother. So, in a few months when I see her again most will be forgotten or she will have developed bad habits by persevering on her own and with the aid of cartoons!!

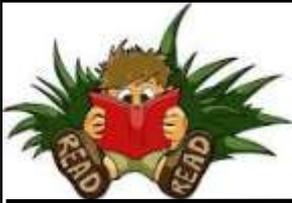
We (that know how) need to keep these hand crafts alive. Even when teaching them is hard, the benefits are numerous. It is both mentally challenging and emotionally satisfying both to the teacher and the learner.

Tips for teaching Children

- Showing is better than telling—demonstrate often in short blocks and ensure the child has a hook and yarn when you are demonstrating so they can try immediately.
- Keep it fun—Don't demand perfection. Go with the flow and don't dwell too long on one thing. Once they feel comfortable form will come. At the start, work around mistakes and don't rip them out. Keep the lessons short (no more than an hour), and before the lesson ends, get them excited about what they will learn on the next lesson.
- Be patient—Children love attention and the quality one-on-one time you spend with them is very important. Give praise, and maintain a sense of humour.
- Preparation—Sometimes it is easier to begin by giving children a crochet hook with a few rows of crochet already completed. By using this method, they learn the stitches easier. Creating a foundation chain in crochet can be tricky for beginners because of their tension. Once they feel comfortable with the basic stitches, you can go back and teach them how to begin a foundation chain.
- Projects—The satisfaction from completing a project will keep them going—even a chain necklace/bracelet will give them a sense of achievement and wanting to learn more.
- Thinking outside of the norm—if a student is having difficulty with a particular task/step, try finding an alternative way to explain it—use different words, different ways of using the tools or different ways to achieve the same result. For example, if making a foundation chain is difficult, try finger chains instead.
- Step by step instructions—Experienced crocheters often forget to explain some of the steps—take it slow and break each step down.
- Use other resources—Use tutorials available as DVDs, with books, or online as supplements. Children are very familiar with technology and this can reinforce or help explain what you are teaching them. Be wary of the terminology differences though.

See more tips for sharing your love of crochet at the Craft Yarn Council [website](#).

And of course don't forget our learn to crochet guides, hints and tips on our website—in the [Crochet Australia Learning Centre](#).



Book of the Month



871240 I Can Crochet \$14.50

This is a fun book if you are learning to crochet. There are 10 lessons and right and left handed stitch guides. First you are shown the things that you need, how to begin and then make a chain necklace. Lessons progress with a scrunchie, beaded friendship bracelet, scarf, cellphone bag, granny square pot holder, and by lesson 8 you are working with 2 strands and making an afghan. Then you progress to a hat in continuous rounds with a daisy flower. All of this is in 8ply yarn. Great beginner's book, especially for children, with a lot of thought put into each project. 32 pages. US terminology



Look What We Found



LA6352 Learn to Crochet for Kids \$18.50 OR Kit (Includes yarn and hook) for \$23.00



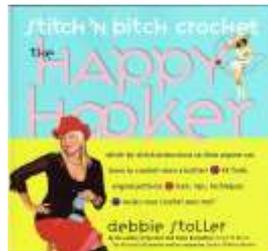
LA6435 Crochet Refresher \$16.95



LA3164 10-20-30 Minutes learn to Crochet \$23.45



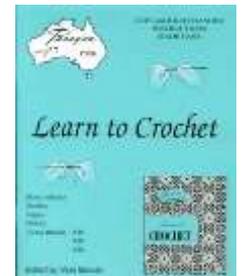
HOOKSETBEGIN Boye Beginner Crochet Set \$29.50



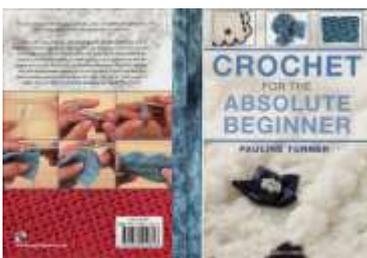
MD987 Stitch n Bitch Happy Hooker \$18.75
****Very Heavy**



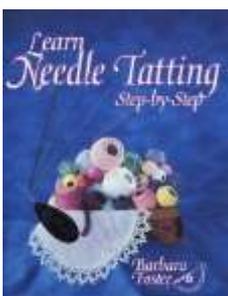
ASN5101W First Steps in Crochet \$8.95



PARC126 Learn to Crochet (Rev) \$11.20 OR Kit (Includes yarn and hook) for \$16.00



SP210818 Crochet for Absolute Beginner \$29.95
**** Very Heavy**



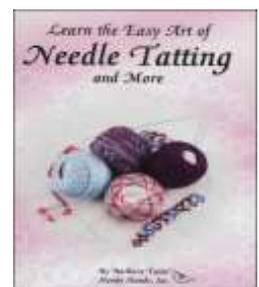
NMST11P Learn Needle Tatting Kit \$44.50



PARC104 Learn to Tat \$10.75



ASN3766 Learn to Tat (with DVD) \$32.50



HHTDVD10 Learn Needle Tatting DVD \$35.50



ASN1396 Learn to Knit in Just One Day \$28.45 * Heavy Book



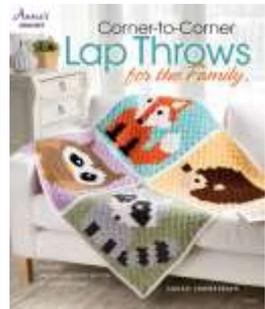
KNITSETBEGIN Beginner Knitting Set \$27.50



HOOKSETKNOOK The Knook Beginner Set \$19.50



16210x Learn to Cro-Tat \$18.50



871626 Corner to Corner Lap Throws \$17.50



CJV22D Learn to Crochet Jewelry \$29.95 (DVD)



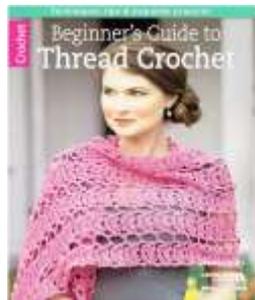
LA5776 Learn to Knook \$15.30



ASN1354 Learn to do Pattern-Play Crochet \$18.50



LA75474 Learn to Crochet Ripple Afghans \$9.50



LA6354 Beginner Guide to Thread Crochet \$21.50



101123 Pineapples for Beginners \$10.95



871071 Learn to Freeform Crochet \$15.90



LA5599 Begin Guide to Tunisian Crochet \$20.75



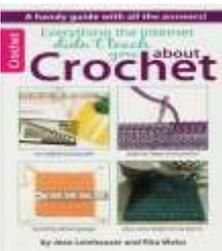
879552 Learn Tunisian Stitches + DVD \$25.10 *Heavy



871045 Learn to do Bavarian Crochet \$25.60



LA75010 Beg Guide Mile a Minute Afghans \$8.50



LA75434 Everything about Crochet \$15.95 * Heavy

Visiting hours:

Mon, Tues, Thurs: 9am—3pm

Fri: by appointment

Sat: 1st Saturday of each month 9am—12pm

Wed: Group visits (6 or more) by appointment

Workshops: Tuesdays 9.30am—11.30am bookings recommended

Order three ways (See front page for contact details):

Secure shopping cart, phone or mail.

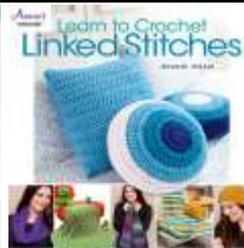
We ship Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. We endeavour to ship all orders received before 12pm on these days, and orders received after this are shipped on the next day we ship.



871382 Learn Drop Stitch Crochet \$16.25



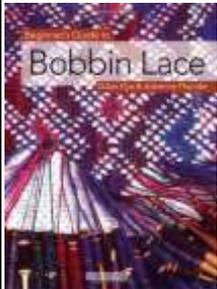
LA6188 Learn to Crochet Toys \$18.50



871627 Learn to Crochet Linked Stitches \$17.50



ASN1281 Learn to Filet Crochet in a Day \$19.40



SP1088 Beginners Bobbin Lace \$32.75 * Heavy



BK29 Hairpin Crochet made Easy \$13.50



HOOKTATCLOSET5 Clover Tat Shuttles Pkt 5, \$17.00



HOOKSETBIRCH 24 Piece Crochet Hook Set \$32.00



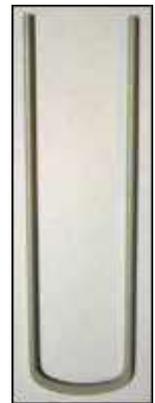
871410 Learn Star Stitch Crochet \$16.95



ASN1358 Learn to Knit Cables \$14.60



LA4318DVD Knitting Cables Bobbles & Lace \$29.95 (DVD)



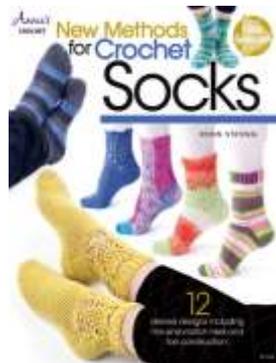
HOOKHAIRPIN

Hairpin Crochet prongs

- #2 - 35mm (1.4") \$3.75
- #4 - 60mm (2.4") \$3.75
- #5 - 70mm (2¾") \$4.20



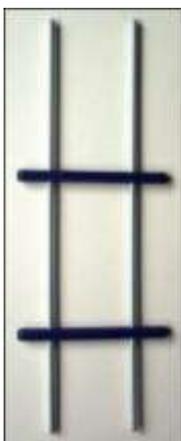
121028 How to Knit Socks (3 methods) \$22.50



871510 New Method for Crochet Socks \$22.95



ACCKPIN25 \$8.60 With instructions how to Broomstick Crochet



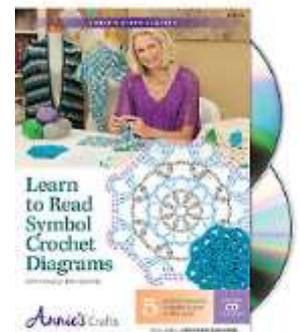
HOOKHAIRPINADJ \$9.80 Adjustable Hairpin Loom



ACCKNITLITSET (14pr 30cm) \$69.00



LA6082 Learn to Crochet Circles into Squares \$16.75



CDV02D Learn to Read Symbol Crochet DVD \$29.95