



Crochet Extra

62nd Edition - December 2010 / January 2011



Welcome to the December - January newsletter. Only a few more weeks now and the Christmas break will be here. Post out for last orders in December will be Friday 17th and Crochet Australia will be having a short break then resuming work on Monday 10th January 2011. No doubt the elves will still be here some of that time, but no post outs unless we are swamped. You can still leave messages by email and phone and we will get back to you or you can place your orders on line - we will attend to them in due course.

In the past 12 months we have had 330 new products arrive in the store and as most of these have been sourced from overseas, it has been a great opportunity for us to share the jewels of the world with you. Oh yes there are still more to come next year.

Here at Cro Aus, we are finding more customers now order on-line and the flow of new customers (some ring first to see if we are real) is still growing by 30 - 40 each week. We now have over 10,000 customers who have found us either by word of mouth or via the internet. For us, this has been huge, and as the time in each week does not increase we have learnt to work smarter. Packaging a parcel these days is just a blurr.



As some of you are aware, we have had limited customer visits in 2010 due to the on-going building renos. Now that we have a safer environment and an all weather path to the front door, we hope to see more visitors in

2011. Please ring for an appointment as we are not always available. If visiting, PLEASE DO NOT WEAR PERFUME.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a safe and great Christmas holiday season and thank you for your ongoing support throughout the year of 2010. Many of you have become good friends and we look forward to our little chats from time to time.

Vicki

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PRODUCT OF THE MONTH



Crochet on the Double (Reversible Tricot and Crochenit)



For some, this technique has been around for awhile, but as new customers find us and read through our archive newsletters, they discover that we have had these hooks and books for a long time.

Crochenit (and on-the-double) uses a double ended crochet hook which produces a soft knit-like fabric. Tricot uses a



hook that resembles a knitting needle with a hook instead of a point. Crochenit is similar to Tunisian (tricot) work but uses 2 or more colours of yarn and produces a soft reversible fabric.

The stitches are drawn up either through the vertical or horizontal bars (the pattern will tell you) with the loops left on the hook (like knitting). When all the loops are on the hook, turn the hook, change the colour, and take the stitches off in 2's or 3's as the pattern indicates.

The yarn colour is changed every 2nd row so there are no ends to sew in later, just run them up the side of the work.



For 8ply we use a 5.5mm hook and the yellow crochenit hooks work great with 2 strands of 8ply and is so quick and easy you can produce beautiful soft rugs in no time at all. All our on-the-double and Crochenit books have a "how to" section that explains the technique.

A listing of priced books and hooks relating to this technique is shown at page 4. So why not give it a try!!



CROCHETER'S CORNER

and

Masterpieces of the Month



Send us a photo of your masterpiece and tell us what book it came from and your masterpiece could feature in the next edition of "Crochet Extra"

Here are some customer comments and masterpieces for this month!



Phyllis W, Lalor VIC tells me you can tell everyone that you have several PhDs (projects half done), so guess the old UFO (unfinished object) is now a thing of the past.



Sounds so intellectual, doesn't it.

Just letting you know the loom arrived safely this morning; so fast I was very impressed. I also enjoyed reading the newsletter you enclosed. I thought you might like to see one of the tea cosies I made from the Jean Greenhowe JG3075 Christmas book which was reviewed on the last page. Some of my students made table centrepieces out of these by stitching all the way up the side seam & filling with hobby fill. They stand them on round silver cake decorating boards and they look great!! **Joan Z, Hampton VIC.**

Marianne S, Fig Tree Pocket QLD

says thank you so much for your prompt delivery. The 0.5mm Clover arthritic steel hooks arrived yesterday morning. How she can see to crochet with those minute hooks beats me....even with specs I can barely see the hook; but my daughter crochets a lot of beaded doilies.



Thank you Vicki for your prompt reply. I didn't expect anyone would respond until Monday. Wonderful service! I found your site mentioned on the Simple Savings website in a discussion about thread and finding real

old fashioned handkerchiefs, and was going to post a query about finding hemstitched hankies but on reading through the thread, I found someone had already asked and someone else had supplied your details. **Elaine M, Five Dock NSW.**



Thank you very much for the terrific service that you provide all the time. I only spoke to you Tuesday morning and my order of little dolls was delivered before 8.30 this morning. As neither one of us is in a city, I think you are truly amazing. The little porcelain baby doll arrived safely, thank you. Plus, I've been showing off the little dolls I ordered and everyone has inquired where they came from. Of course I provided your name and website details. I have told people before that you do more than just crochet patterns!!!



Jenny C, Oak Flats NSW.

Happy Hookers Competition

The Crochet Australia Team is proud to announce the winner of our "Happy Hookers Competition" who will receive a \$20 gift voucher. This is the winner from the October 2010 period.



**Congratulations
Babette G
Margaret River WA**



Entering the competition couldn't be easier. All you have to do is place an order. All orders will enter the random draw which takes place on the last day of every month. Good Luck!!



Handy Hints



Crochet-on-the-double and Tricot hook sizes.

When working Crochet on the double or tricot, use a hook that is one and a half sizes larger than normally used for that particular yarn. When we crochet 8ply, the usual hook is a 4mm, so for crochet on the double and tricot use a 5.5mm. The larger hook is required because you are working into the side of the stitch and a looser tension is required.



Irene McA, Junee NSW who is 83 years young, won first prize in the local show and then she donated this little beauty to be a raffle prize at the retirement units where she lives. Proceeds go to building more units. Her next pleasure is a communion cloth for the local church. No stopping this lady.



Helen McC, Banora Point NSW crocheted up some jackets from BK19 Crochet Matinee Jackets and then cleverly made bonnets, hats and booties to match.

Her other passion is knitted dolls from the Jean Greenhowe books that she placed in the hospital gift shop.



Madeline C, Burpengary QLD usually visits, but now that we have shifted a little further away is using phone orders for her DMC perle threads. She is delighted that Australia Post delivers on time and enjoyed her free gift for placing an order over \$100. A win win all round.

Evelyn L, Glenore Grove QLD writes: I have just received my order which was placed a couple of days ago. Thank you for your assistance, prompt service and the map. I hope to come up and visit in the New Year.



Dorelle R, Rowville VIC bought some tatting books recently and to her surprise there was an invoice to our supplier for some books that a tatting teacher in the USA had supplied to the same company. She also enclosed with the mystery invoice this delightful needle tatted card. Just goes to show you never know what arrives in your parcels from Crochet Australia.

Esme D, Kurri Kurri NSW sent in this beautiful beaded doily that she made from #11 seed beads. Some people are just so clever.



Crochet-on-the-Double Books

Title	Price
201013 Dishcloths on the Double	\$12.75
842251 On the Double Sampler Afghan	\$19.95
842614 Reversible Ripple Afghans	\$13.95
842652 Scrap Afghans on the Double	\$12.95
842653 Sensational Shawls on the Double	\$12.95
842654 Baby Blankets on the Double	\$12.95
843111 Southwest Ripples On The Double	\$14.95
843311 Naptime Buddies & Blankets	\$11.95
843551 Luscious Scrap Afghans	\$13.95
873216 How to Crochenit	\$15.95
873217 Easy Place Mats & Trivets	\$15.30
873218 Easy Special Stitches Dishcloths	\$15.30
873253 Easy Cuddle Critters	\$15.95
873416 Crochenit Cuddle-Up Lapghans	\$13.95
873421 Crochenit Beautiful Baby Afghans	\$13.95
873814 Heartland Comforts	\$14.30
873851 Easy Afghans	\$14.30
873852 Lady Ester Bear & Friends	\$16.35
873916 Crochenit Mile-a-Minute Afghans	\$15.95
873917 Cro on the Dbl Mile a Min Afgh	\$14.30
874052 Faux Monk Rugs	\$10.95
874056 Handy Dandy Dishcloths etc	\$12.95
874711 Cro on the Dble In the Round	\$12.30
876529 Best of Crochet on the Double	\$28.80*
878543 Special Techniques & Sts Afghans	\$15.95
879544 Crochenit Fashions	\$15.00
991056 How to Crochet on the Double	\$12.75
ASN1323 Reversible Ripple Afghans	\$15.35
ASN1330 Reversible Kitchen Sets	\$13.65
JE16031 Reversible Baby Afghans	\$14.45
LA3275 Double Delight Afghans	\$14.95

* or ** after price indicates a heavy book and extra postage may apply



CRO-HOOKS (35cm long) **\$9.50ea**

3.75, 4.25, 5.00, 5.50, 6.00, 6.50 and 9.00mm



HOOKCABLE Crochenit Cable Hook - \$16.35

Great for those larger projects (use 2 strands of 8ply together), crochenit hooks approx 9mm (US #N) diameter joined with a flexible cable to make total length 76cm (30").

Crochet on the double, which may be called "cro-hooking", "reversible crochet" or "crochenit" is a crochet technique using a double ended crochet hook (cro-hook) which quickly produces a soft, knit-like fabric. This technique is similar to Tunisian (tricot or afghan) crochet but uses 2 or more colours of yarn and produces a soft, reversible finish. Stitches are drawn up through either the vertical or horizontal bars with the loops left on the hook (like knitting). When all loops are on the hook the work is turned, colour is changed and the stitches are taken off in 2's or 3's or as the pattern indicates. The yarn colour is changed every 2nd row so there are no ends to sew in later, just run them up the side of the work. Crochet on the double appears to be called "crochenit" when thicker yarn and hooks of 9mm or more (crochenit hooks) are used.



HOOKCIRC Flexible circular cro-hooks, \$14.40ea, 80cm (31.5") long, sizes; 4.25mm (G), 5.00mm (H)



HOOKCIRC Flexible circular cro-hooks \$15.75ea, Susan Bates Flexible circular cro-hooks, 101cm (40") long (approx 24cm long hooks and 53cm cable), sizes; 5.50mm (I), 6.00mm (J) and 6.50mm (K).



HOOKCRONIT Crochenit Hook \$14.50. Double ended crochet hook, approx 9mm (US #N) diameter x 35cm (14") long with colour coded yarn stoppers.