



Crochet Extra

118th Edition- February 2016

It's the beginning of another year, with new projects to complete, new products to find, new friends to make and new things to do with family and friends. I hope you all saw 2016 arrive with joy and good health and spent some time with your own family and friends. I decided to depart the warm shores of the Sunshine Coast and spend two weeks in the cold UK climate visiting family in London. It does make me appreciate this warm climate!

Thank you also for the cards and warm wishes we received before closing down for the Christmas break. Our first week back was busy to ensure all your orders placed while we were closed were filled. And I'm happy to say we have now caught up again and orders should be able to be sent within our normal time frame.

If you are anything like me, now that the thrill of making gifts for everyone is over I have lots of 'bits' left hanging around, taking up room in my yarn box. Hence our theme for this month - to help you use them up and make room for new yarns. Please do send in the photos of the many gifts and Christmas decorations you made - we all love to see these and get inspiration.

We are introducing a new scheme - a reward for sending in your photos. All submissions received will receive an entry into our quarterly prize draw for a \$15 voucher. The only condition is that the photo be of something made using yarn purchased from Crochet Australia and/or using a pattern purchased from us. Please state the yarn used and where the pattern is from with all photos.

We've also changed the structure of our workshops based on feedback from you. Our workshop will now be a combination of social crocheting- bring along your own project, or crochet the pattern of the month - and learning new techniques and ways around problem areas. Each 2 hour workshop will be \$5 to attend. Bookings are advisable, but not essential. Our Learn to Crochet sessions will remain the same. All details are in the Crochet Australia Learning Centre. We look forward to seeing more of you at these sessions. For the month of February we are working on amigurumi - the pattern being an amamani puzzle ball.

Until next month, happy crocheting.

Lynda

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Using up your Leftovers.

When Christmas is over we hear many people talk about what to do with their leftovers. Although this is usually aimed at the turkey and ham left over from Christmas day, it also applies for us crocheters - what do we do with the leftover yarn and thread when we finish a project?

I have seen many customers use their bits to make motifs that they then join together to make unique and interesting table runners and bed covers or use them to make squares while practicing new techniques, which they can also join together or make into pot holders. It is also a good way to experiment with different colour combinations.



You can also use these bits to create accessories - flowers to turn into broaches, or hair pieces or to adorn your



other clothes and bags; add beads and make unique jewellery; dolls clothes for your own or another child's toy doll; decorative items for the home - just to name a few. Many of these can be made from any yarn.

With leftover cotton, crochet towel tops or add edging to washers, handkerchiefs and handtowels.



Thicker yarn is perfect for making Pom poms that can be added to any time, or



become a play thing themselves. It also perfect for making Amigurumi- as any colour mixes can be used to create your own look for the toy.

We've featured below a selection of the many books and other tools available to give you more ideas of what to do with your leftovers. Don't forget to send in a photo of what you do with them to be in the prize draw for April.

Why not try using your leftover yarn to crochet a [Danish heart](#) for Valentines Day.



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Tip of the Month

Swatches



With almost all patterns - particularly for garments - you should always prepare a swatch before beginning your article. Why? Each pattern is written based on a specific type of yarn and size of hook and the tension of the pattern writer. It is not always possible to purchase the exact yarn used, and in my case, I always find a different yarn that I want to use. Nor do we all crochet with the same tension. However, a swatch has many more uses that has made me give more importance to this step with any project. I have noted down a few of the other reasons I have come across for spending time on preparing a swatch.

- To see if you like the look of the stitch pattern with the yarn selected - In my early years I started many garments with lots of stitches only to find that by the time I'm halfway through I don't like the look of the pattern with the yarn I had chosen.
- To see if you like working that stitch at all - I've made some where I was so frustrated with the stitch after three rows I decided I couldn't continue with it to make the whole garment.
- If substituting yarn, you can see how the created fabric feels against the skin in places it will touch the skin. For example if making a turtle-neck jumper, lay/rub the swatch against your neck for a while to see how it feels.
- If you are going to wash the finished item, then wash the swatch to see what happens to it - does it lose its colour, shape, stitch definition?
- If using a variegated yarn, it helps to see exactly how long the colour changes are and whether it will give the colour effect you are after.
- To see if you get right drape or lacy effect you want.

So....how do you make the swatch? I always find making a swatch of at least 15cm square (larger for bulk yarn) gives you ample to see the drape and the stitch pattern and is larger than needed for the gauge—as you don't want to measure from the ends anyway. To measure the gauge lay your swatch flat, but do not stretch it! I find pinning it on a board works, and if it is a fancy pattern, eg shells, placing a pin at the beginning of the stitch and at the end of the indicated number of stitches helps to identify where to measure.

If you find you don't like the stitch for the pattern, or the gauge is not correct, don't pull it undone. Finish off or just change your hook or stitch marking the change so you can see the contrast.



Lynda's Book of the Month

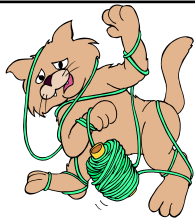


871535 From Scraps to Sensational \$22.50



Special Issue Magazine from Crochet! to use up those bits and pieces of leftover yarn. This issue provides an abundance of projects taking the scrap crochet to new levels of creativity. There are 39 projects for all ages and tastes and all skill levels. Fashion accessories - scarf, neckwarmer, cowl, handbag, leg warmers, jewelry, and hat; Home accents - afghans, blankets, pillow, basket, rug and throws; Kitchen accessories - napkin rings, tea cozy, dishcloths, coasters and pot holders; Gifts - tablet cozy, phone case, mug hugs, socks, bands, bags, and washcloths; Kids - headbands, blocks, baby blanket, and amigurumi toys.

130 pages. US Terminology * **Heavy**



Look What We Found



LA5169 More Projects from your Scrap Bag— Crochet \$13.70



876513 Scrap Granny—Crochet \$15.30



LA75028 Scrap Wraps – Crochet \$8.30



121040 Itty Bitty Baby Dolls Clothes— Knit \$11.65



121056 Itty Bitty Knits \$15.00



201013 Dishcloths on the Double \$12.75



874051 Special Day Bookmarks Crochet \$10.95



873717 Baker's Dozen Pot Holders— Crochet \$12.95



871026 T-Shirt Dresses & Accessories— Crochet \$15.00



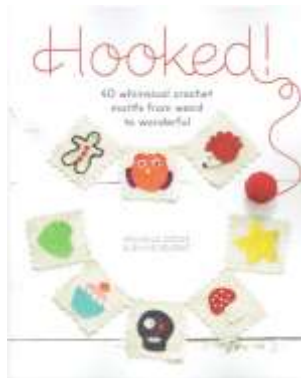
SP6342 Knitted Egg Cosies 20 to Make \$9.95



ASN1386 Crochet Trims for Tops \$14.20



NMTA07761 Crocheted Hearts & Flowers \$19.75



DC5751 Hooked—Crochet
\$42.50 * **Heavy**



BK04 Top That Towel -
Crochet \$13.50



ICM002 Crochet Projects
for Little Ones \$26.50



QRK46451 Pom-Poms
\$23.50



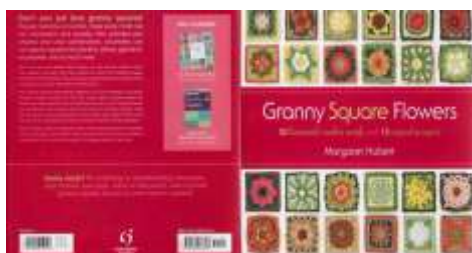
121081 Quick-Knit Flower Frenzy
\$13.80



873218 Easy Special Stitches
Dishcloths— Crochet \$15.30



SP6069 Knitted Mug Hugs 20 to
Make \$13.50



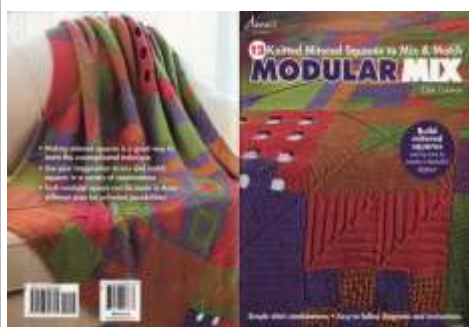
A7803 Granny Square Flowers—
Crochet \$34.95 ** **Very Heavy**



121052 More than A Dozen
Dishcloths—Knit \$13.35



TRA64509 Easy to Crochet
Potholders \$30.15 ** **Very Heavy**



121083 Modular Mix - Knit \$18.75



872116 Baby Headbands & Sock
Trims—Knit \$16.50



ASN1446 Bright & Cheery Knit
Dishcloths \$14.20



SM42736-50 Pinchusions to Knit &
Crochet \$35.95 ** **Very Heavy**



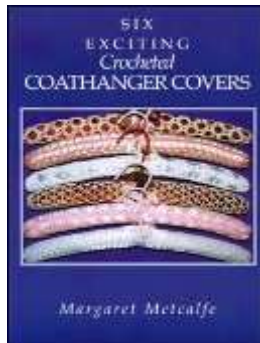
MAGDECOR88 Decorative Crochet
Mag \$10.00



MAGDECOR83 Decorative
Crochet Mag \$10.00



BK11 Knitted Coat-hanger Covers
\$13.50



MC001 6 Exciting Coathanger Covers
\$7.80



121032 Easy Knit Squares
\$15.00



121073 Little Knitted Jewels \$19.95



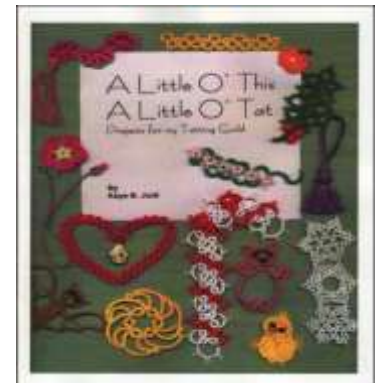
LA6373 Animal Lovie Blankets—Crochet \$18.50



885128 Easy Scrap Baby Blankets—Crochet \$8.95



BK13 Simple Jug Covers—Crochet \$13.50



HHT349 A Little O'This/Tat



HHT343 Tatted Butterfly Garden \$22.50



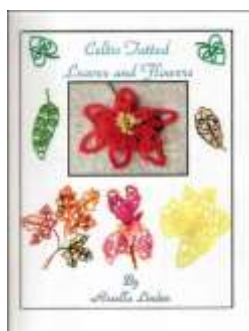
HHT332 Tea is for Tattling \$38.10



879519 Itty Bitty Animals—Crochet \$17.95



879548 Scrap Crochet \$15.00



HHT341 Celtic Tatted Leaves & Flowers
\$19.75



DB1296 Boho Crochet
\$47.50



ASN1406 Crochet for the Kitchen \$16.35



875555 Sassy Stripes in Crochet
\$16.35



Pom Pom Makers—4 sizes
Extra Small (20 ad 25mm)—\$8.60
Small (35 and 45mm)—\$10.10
Large (65 and 85mm)—\$14.50
Extra Large (115mm)—\$17.65



TOWELWAMWASH8—8
Floral Washers \$10.80

TOWELWAMWASH12—12
Novelty Washers \$16.20





871025 Ta-wash-is in Crochet
\$12.20



873151 Ultimate Book of Pot Holders
\$15.95



879517 Big Book of Dishcloth Pot Holders—Crochet
\$24.95

***Heavy**



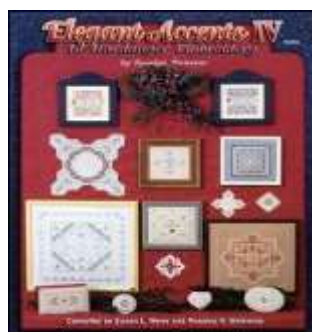
101058 Oven Loving Pot Holders—Crochet
\$10.95



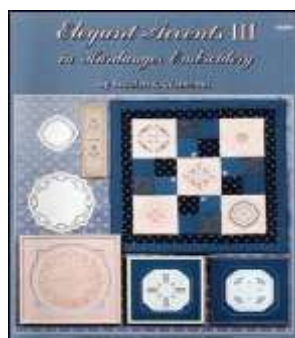
LA4547 Crochet Your Cares Away
\$23.60



876518 Gifts from the Heart—Crochet
\$26.70 * Heavy



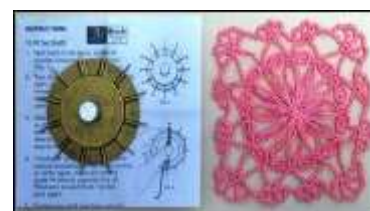
NN218 Elegant Accents 1V in Hardanger
\$14.25



NN218 Elegant Accents 111 in Hardanger
\$14.25



HOOSETICHANGE Boyle Changeable Hook set
\$42.95



ACCDASIWHL Daisy Wheel
\$15.00



HOOKSETCROLGE Set of 7 Cro-hooks
\$59.85



ACCPOCKETKNIT
\$21.50



Handkerchiefs—Coloured hemstitched
Straight Edge plain—\$4.25e/4 for \$16.00
Straight Edge motif—\$4.55e/6 for \$24.50
Scallop Edge plain—\$4.25e/4 for \$16.00
Scallop Edge motif- \$4.60 e/6 for \$24.80

Handkerchiefs—White hemstitched

Straight Edge plain—\$4.15e/6 for \$22.40
Straight Edge motif—\$4.40e/6 for \$23.75
Scallop Edge plain—\$4.10 e/6 for \$22.00
Scallop Edge motif- \$4.40 e/6 for \$23.75



Visiting hours:

Mon, Tues, Thurs: 9am—3.30pm
Fri: by appointment
Wed: Group visits by appointment

Workshops: Tuesdays 9.30am—11.30am bookings recommended

1563 Yandina-Coolum Road, Yandina

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.