

Crochet Extra

140th Edition- February—2018

2018 is off to a flying start. January has gone with a blink of an eye—I just hope the rest of the year doesn't pass by so quickly.

We have been busy getting kits and yarn ready for the Crochet Cruise next month and I have been visiting other potential venues for the Sunshine Coast Crochet Retreat to be held in September. The new colours of yarn haven't stopped—with new colours in MT Perle metallic and Camilla Batik arriving—nor have the new books! And I am very excited to finally receive the book written by the Sunshine Coast designer Emily Littlefair, which we feature as our book of the month.

Being in the craft industry now is quite exciting. It is great to see the interest that is being taken in these skills once again, and by ones so young. Crochet in particular has had people talking, as it is one of the most portable crafts—as is tatting. There are also so many modern patterns and exciting colours which is adding to the interest. Hence our theme for this month—motifs. There are so many modern shapes and designs out there!

Our workshops begin again in February—where we are going to be making the Jenny King Criss Cross Vest. The fee for the workshop is \$5 each visit and \$7 for the

pattern. Book your spot now. This vest is lovely in the Camilla Batik and Dalia with the beautiful colours, and will look equally as nice in one colour made with Natura, Sunkissed, Almina or Perle 5 cottons.

Until next month

Lynda



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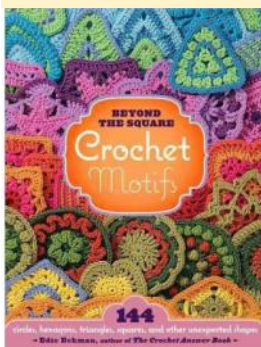
Theme - Motifs

Motifs, I believe, are one of the most versatile things to crochet. They are great for beginners to master their skills, for intermediate or advanced crocheters to practice new techniques or colour combinations, for on-the-go crocheting, using up scraps, and the list goes on.....



Motifs can be any shape, although the most popular are squares and circles:

triangles, hexagons, stars, spirals, hourglass are just a few others you'll find. And of course you can design your own unique shape, which is often done in freeform. Motifs are not new, but there are many new and modern patterns now available in the market.



They are also able to be made from any type of yarn - threads, cottons, wools, acrylics, 4 ply, 8 ply, bulky or fine. The projects you can complete with motifs are endless - clothing and accessories, blankets, cushions, coasters, bags, footwear, gloves, hats, just to name a few.

In the following sections we feature some of the books and patterns available as well as other useful tools for preparing successful motifs. With Valentine's Day just around the corner, try these free [heart motifs](#), you can use as coasters, bunting, earrings or even embellishments.



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The Year Ahead.....

It's been a busy start to January, and it looks like being a busy year. There are many crochet and craft related events on throughout the year. We'll bring news of many of them as they get closer, but here is an overview of the years' events to add to your calendar, some of which Crochet Australia will be involved with (in bold):

CGOA National Crochet Month	March
World of Craft - various locations	Brisbane—2—4 March Sydney—20—22 April Melbourne—29 June—1 July
Crochet Cruise - Cruise Express	21 March
Jenny King Kids Squared workshops at Crochet Australia	18 and 21 April
World wide knit in public day	9 June
Stitches & Craft Shows and Craft & Quilt Shows - various locations	Various dates, check www.expertiseevents.com.au/events
Beanie Festival - Alice Springs	29 June
Knitfest - Maleny	30 June
Warwick Jumpers & Jazz - Warwick	20 July
Australian Sheep & Wool Festival - Bendigo	20 July
NZ North Island yarn tour	22 August
Agricultural Shows - various locations	Various dates, check www.countryshows.com.au
Crochet Retreat - Sunshine Coast	8—9 September
I Love Yarn Day	October
Fibre Festival Singleton	17 November
Yarn Rambles - various	various dates, check www.yarntrail.com.au

The Pantone colour of the year for 2018 is ultra violet. Check www.pantone.com/color-of-the-year-2018 for information about this colour.



A number of our yarns carry ultra violet in their range for you to make beautiful projects - [Scheepjes Catona cotton](#), [Clever country cotton](#), [Dazzle 8 ply acrylic](#), [Loyal wool](#), [Lizbeth cotton thread](#), [Mulberry Hybrid silk](#), and [Risoni silk](#).



Tip of the Month

Finger and Hand Exercises



Do you get sore fingers, hands and wrists when you crochet a lot? It is common for the repetitive movement to cause some pain. Some of this can be relieved by changing hooks or yarns or not holding the yarn so tight. However, I also found that doing 'finger aerobics' help a lot. I first heard about finger aerobics when I visited Adelaide a few years back, and as it was being done at a winery, I figured it was just a gimmick.

But then I remembered when I learnt piano years ago I had a finger exercise routine I did regularly to help me play. While I don't play the piano as regularly as I did then, I began doing the exercises again and found they helped keep my hands and fingers flexible and free of pain. Be careful not to tense your shoulder while you are doing them, or crocheting. Here are just a few that I found work for me:

The spider - spread your fingers as far apart as you can, with palms facing together. Join the tips of your fingers together and then push your palm and fingers together then away again so just the tips are touching. Essentially the fingers are doing push-ups against each other.

The spread - with palms facing down, spread your fingers as far apart as you can, then squeeze them into a fist then spread them out again.

The fist - with palms facing up, curl your fingers so they touch the bottom of your palm as close to the wrist as possible. Release then curl them again to touch the middle of your palm. Release then curl them again to touch the top of your palm (just below your fingers).

Thumb dancing - make a fist with your thumbs pointing up towards the ceiling. Bend your thumb back as far as possible, then make as wide a circle as you can first clockwise, then anticlockwise.

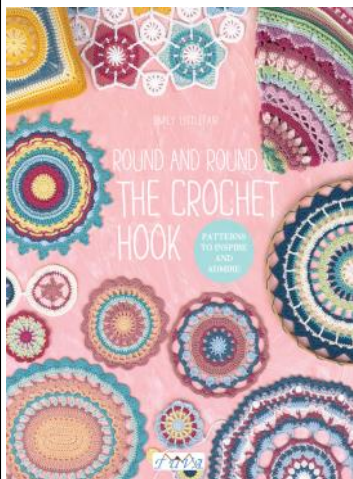
I also found a complete [yoga session](#) designed for the fingers and wrists. When I started doing these, I found the movement in my wrists improved further. I try to make this a part of my daily routine to keep the flexibility I need to crochet comfortably.

If you already have severe pain, please check with a doctor before doing any of the above to ensure they don't aggravate the problem, and/or whether you need a variation to the exercises.

We'd love to hear what exercise routine you have.



Book of the Month



Round & Round the Crochet Hook T6330 \$35.50 **** Very Heavy**

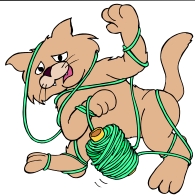
By Emily Littlefair.

Working in the round has never been so easy or enjoyable. From quick projects, to ones that wow, this crochet book has it all. No matter your experience, or the size of project you're looking for, this book has something for everyone.

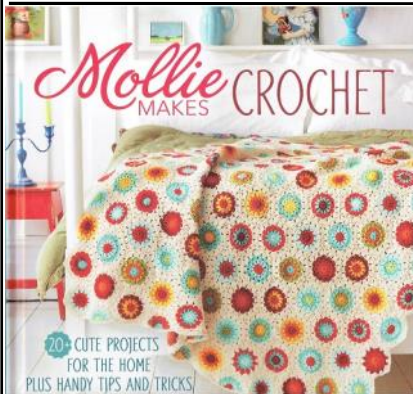
The timeless designs allow readers to personalize each pattern to suit them. Each project is beautifully illustrated with step by step instructions and detailed charts. The book also includes other useful tips and hints for giving the professional finish to each project.

Projects included are Winnie's Wonderland Blanket – Emily's favourite design – cushions, coasters, placemats, doilies, rug, table centrepiece, wall hangings, garlands, shoulder bag, table runner.

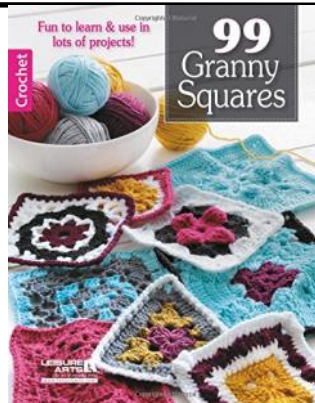
128pages, US terminology



Look What We Found



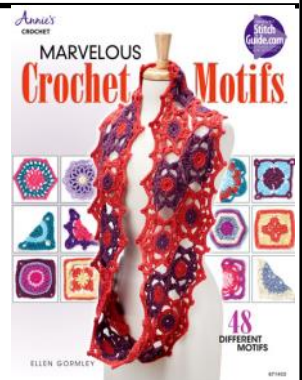
IP30951 Mollie Makes Crochet
\$38.50 ****Very Heavy**



LA6393 99 Granny Squares
(revised) \$25.50 *** Heavy**



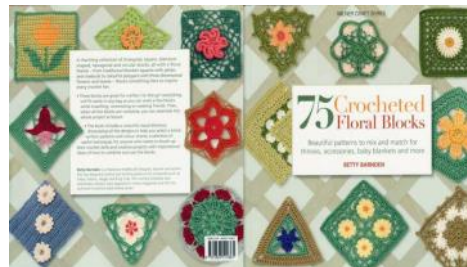
LA7073 Emoji Crochet
\$20.50



871422 Marvellous
Crochet Motifs \$22.50
*** Heavy**



LA4748 Triangle Treasure
\$16.40



S4361 -75 Crocheted Floral Blocks
\$39.95 **** Very Heavy**



LA4421 50 Fabulous Crochet
Thread Motifs \$25.10 *** Heavy**



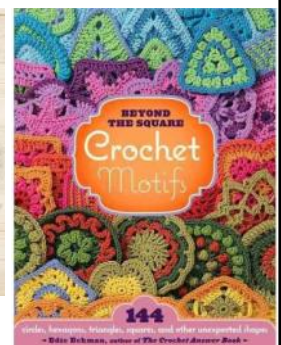
LA6082 Learn to Crochet Circles
into Squares \$16.75



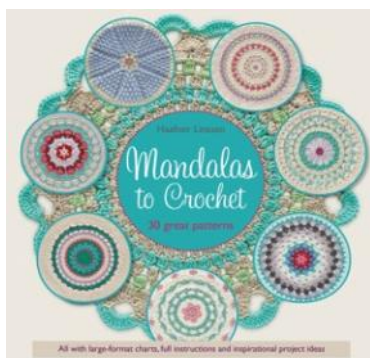
LA75438 Motif Afghans
\$9.50



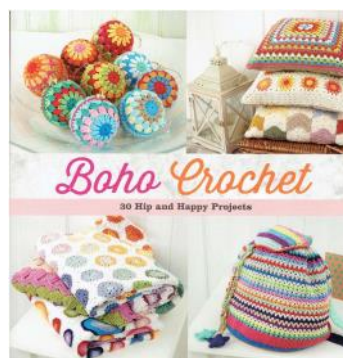
STC21119 Crochet Therapy
\$41.50 **** Very Heavy**



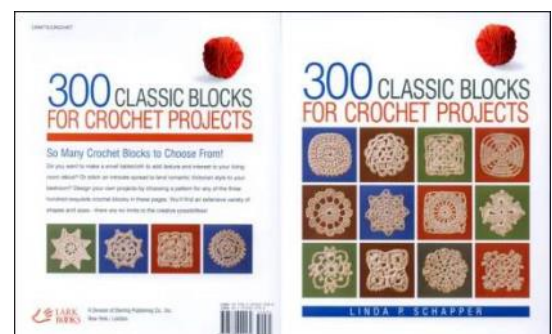
STO20396 Beyond the
Square Motifs \$37.50
**** Very Heavy**



SP83050 Mandalas to
Crochet (was SP3895) \$38.50
**** Very Heavy**



DB1296 Boho Crochet
\$47.50 **** Very Heavy**



A9090130- 300 Classic Blocks (CL9130)
\$33.50 **** Very Heavy**



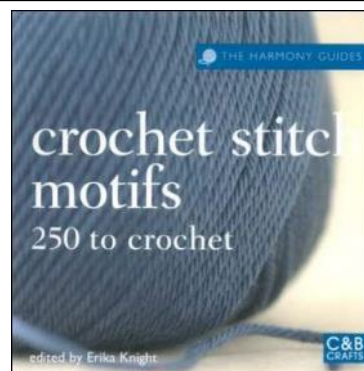
SM3982 200 Knitted Blocks
\$44.95 ** Very Heavy



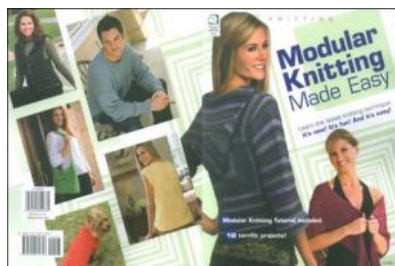
LA5284 Totes & Bags
Hip 2 B Square \$21.80



P4092 Patchwork
Knitting \$32.50



HC4262 Harmony– Crochet
Stitch Motifs \$29.95
** Very Heavy



121033 Modular Knitting Made
Easy \$16.70



121032Z Easy Knit Squares
\$15.00



LA4592 Artsy Afghans \$17.50



LA6083 Totes & Bags \$15.55



LA4799 Crochet Wear \$48.20
** Very Heavy



LA4099 Simply Soft Garden
Party \$19.60



LA75275 Relaxed Fashion \$9.30



N1294 Delight
Crochet Shawl
\$5.00



STB14631 Colourful
Crochet Afghans \$33.50



LA5243 The Perfect Pillow \$18.25



N1194 Granny
Square Afghan
\$5.00



LA75065 Kid-Pleasing
Afghans \$8.30



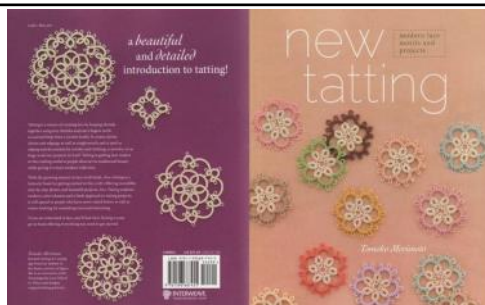
LA2986 Contest Favorites
Afghan Squares \$21.80



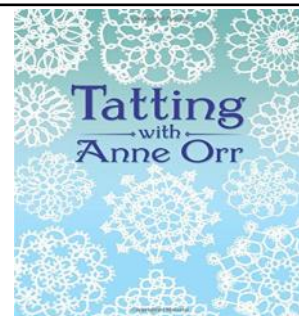
N1053 Naturally
Crochet Shawl \$5.00



878521 Dazzling Dishcloths \$12.95



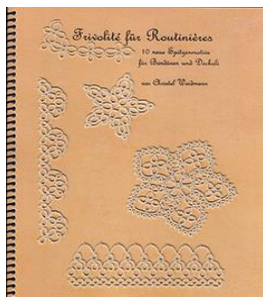
A8745 New Tatting \$42.95 **** Very Heavy**



HHT16 Tatting with Anne Orr \$22.50



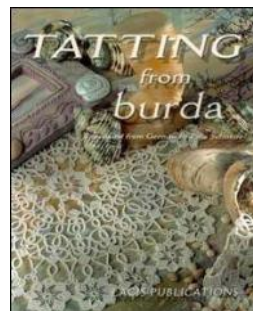
HHT491 Tat Mats \$21.25



HHT493 Tatting for Adventurous \$52.50 **** Very Heavy**



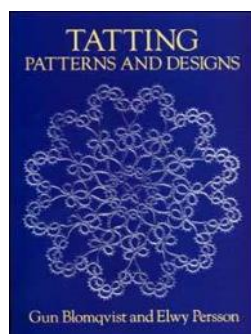
HHT377 Tatting lace \$75.50 *** Heavy**



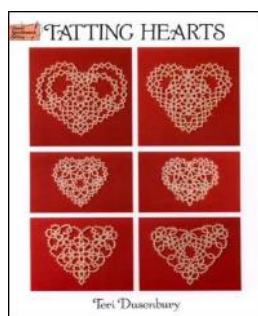
LH15 Tatting From Burda \$39.50 *** Heavy**



HHT140 Old Fashioned Tatting Book 1 \$30.50 *** Heavy**



HHT31 Tatting Patterns & Designs \$18.95



DV0713 Tatting Hearts \$13.95



SP8819 Crochet Granny Squares 20 to Make \$13.50



LA75023 Floral Afghans \$8.30



LA75142 Boutique Afghans \$9.30



LA75270 Absolutely Afghans \$9.30



Stitch Markers:

ACCTSTMOP Locking Stitch Markers Opry \$5.20

ACCSTMKCV Locking Stitch Markers Clover \$10.25

ACCSTCNTRING Split Stitch Markers Birch \$1.90

Yarn Threaders:

ACCYNTHREADCLOVER Yarn Threader \$10.40

ACCYNTHREADCV Antique Yarn Threader \$18.50

ACCTHREAD Yarn Threader Birch 2pk \$1.75



ACCTHREADCUT \$2.40 Threader and Cutter—fine, medium or heavy

Needles:

ACCYNNDLSET Steel Yarn Needles set of 4 \$7.50

ACCYNNDLBENT Steel Bent Yarn Needles 2 \$4.50

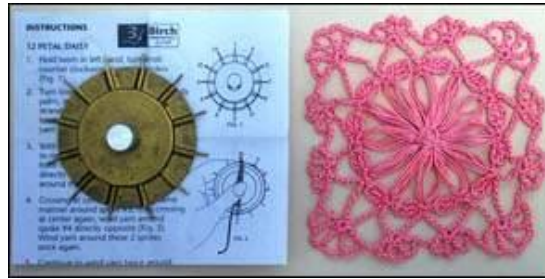
ACCWOOLNDLWool Needles \$1.15

ACCJUMBOSUPER Jumbo Needles Set \$7.50





CMPATC091 \$5.00
Daisy Wheel Scarf



ACCDaisyWHL Daisy Wheel \$17.25



ACCACOLWH Colour Wheel \$8.75



ACCYARNBAB7 Set of 7 Yarn Bobbins \$4.00

Visiting hours:

Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri: 9am—3.00pm

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.