

FIBER ARTS: BEGINNER CROCHET

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What Is Fiber Art?

Fiber art (**fibre art** in British spelling) refers to **fine art** whose material consists of natural or synthetic **fiber** and other components, such as **fabric** or **yarn**. It focuses on the materials and on the manual labor on the part of the artist as part of the works' significance and prioritizes aesthetic value over utility.

Examples of Fiber Arts

Some examples of fiber arts are the following:

Embroidery, quilting, rug hooking, weaving, knitting, crochet, needle felting, macrame, bobbin lace, etc.

What Is Crochet?

Crochet is a craft developed in the 19th century, or 1800s, from chain-stitch embroidery done with a hook instead of a needle. In crochet, the hook is used without a foundation material to make a texture of looped and interlinked chains of thread.

What Type of Art Is Crochet?

Crochet is a fiber art done with one hook and one strand and creates a textile. It is very fun and easy, and it has a lot of possibilities.

What is Amigurumi?

Amigurumi is a Japanese word used to describe the knitting or **crocheting** of stuffed yarn creations. The word comes from ami, meaning **crocheted** or knitted.

How Is Crochet Different From Knitting?

Knitting stitches are interlocking loops and their construction means that each stitch can stretch quite a bit. Crochet stitches are more like knots, making them very solid, and any stretching will normally be minimal and largely decided by the type of yarn used.

The main difference between crochet and knitting is that crochet has only one live stitch at all times - the stitch that lives on your hook.

Also, crochet is much younger than knitting. People were knitting in Ancient Egypt, and crochet only dates back to the 1800s.

What Can I Make With Crochet?

Crochet is used to make clothing like sweaters, tops, pants, and accessories. It also makes household items like tablecloths, potholders, decorative items, and even toys.

What Tools Do I Need For Crochet?

To crochet you need some items such as yarn, a crochet hook, stitch markers, scissors, and a tapestry needle.

How Do I Know What Crochet Hook to Use?

The two main crochet hook types—inline and tapered—look similar on the surface, yet they have subtle differences that can affect how you crochet. The pink crochet hook is an inline hook, while the gold one is a tapered hook.

Boye hooks are a great example of a tapered shaping and Susans Bates hooks are a great example of in-line shaping. There are changes in the shaping of Boye and Bates hooks depending on the year and where they were made.

Each yarn will have a recommended crochet hook size to be used with it, depending on the yarn weight. The thicker the yarn, the larger the hook size you will need to use with it.

What Hook Is Best For Crocheting?

Aluminum Hooks: Aluminum hooks are the trusty workhorses of the crochet world. They're lightweight, smooth, and glide effortlessly through your yarn. Perfect for most projects, these hooks are reliable and comfortable to use.

What Yarn Do I Use for Crochet?

You can crochet with everything from baby alpaca yarn to banana silk yarn. However, the three most common yarn choices for beginners are wool, cotton, and acrylic yarn.

Worsted weight yarn is one of the most popular yarn weights for crocheters, and is usually the first yarn you encounter (especially if you live in the USA). In other countries, the worsted weight is sometimes called 4-ply or medium weight.

What Are the Types of Yarn

Animal fibers like wool, cashmere, and alpaca come from animals (sheep, goats, and alpacas, respectively). Plant fibers like cotton, linen, and bamboo are derived from plants. Synthetic fibers like rayon, acrylic, and nylon are man-made.

What Does the Number Mean On Yarn?

Weights of yarn are assigned a number from 0 - 7 and that number indicates the thickness of the yarn. The higher the number, the thicker the yarn is. The higher

the number, the thicker the yarn is. This yarn is thicker because it is a 6 - Super Bulky Weight yarn. The lower the number, the thinner the yarn is.

How to Read Labels on Yarn?

On the yarn label, you should see the amount of yards and/or grams that are in one ball/skein. It should also have the color and lot number. If you buy two skeins of the same color but the lot # is different, they are from different dye batches and may not be the same.