



EASY STEPS TO CROCHET

WELCOME

Welcome to the 4-H Easy Steps to Crochet Project! Please read through this project guide carefully, as it contains information and suggestions that are important for your project. 4-H Leaders can obtain a Leader Project Guide and other resources from the PEI 4-H Office. Hopefully you, as a member, will “Learn to do by Doing” through hands-on activities that will encourage learning and enjoyment. If you have any questions, contact your District 4-H Officer or your 4-H project leader.

4-H YEAR COMPLETION

You complete a project by:

- completing the project Achievement Day requirements
- completing a communication project
- completing a community project
- completing an agriculture awareness project
- taking part in Achievement Day

You must complete all of the listed aspects in order to show at Fairs and Exhibitions.



ACHIEVEMENT DAY REQUIREMENTS

Scarf*	60
Samples (10 marks for each)	
Foundation Chain Stitch (<i>approximately 10 cm in length</i>)	
Single Crochet Stitch (<i>approximately 10 cm in length</i>)	
Double Crochet Stitch (<i>approximately 10 cm in length</i>)	
Fringe	<u>40</u>
	100 Marks

EXHIBITION REQUIREMENT

Scarf

*Please Note: The scarf must be made using double crochet, and measure 22 stitches wide by a minimum of 40” (100 cm) long plus a fringe on both ends of the scarf. The scarf may be made using one or more than one color.

Ages for 4-H members as of January 1st of the 4-H year:

Junior: 9-11 years
 Intermediate: 12-14 years
 Senior: 15-21 years

Check out the PEI 4-H Web Site

www.pei4h.pe.ca

KEEPING IT ALL TOGETHER!

It is recommended you get a duotang or a three ring binder in which to keep this member guide and any other project materials you receive from your leader. The duotang or binder can be displayed at your Achievement Day with the above listed requirements.

HELPFUL RESOURCES!

www.crochet.about.com
www.bernat.com
www.patonsyarns.com
www.knitting-crochet.com
www.needlepointers.com
www.crochetme.com
www.learntoknit.com

A variety of books are available at the PEI 4-H Office which can be borrowed for a two week loan period. To book these, call 368-4833 or drop by the PEI 4-H Office at 40 Enman Crescent, Charlottetown.



CROCHET HOOKS

Crochet hooks are made of aluminum, plastic, or wood. Steel hooks are used for fine work in tablecloths of cotton.

The hook you select is very important. It should be the right size for your hand and the pattern you hope to make.

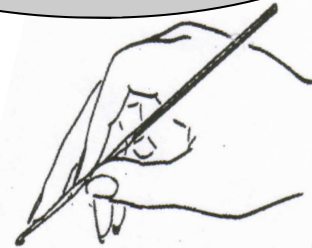
For your project work, you will need a size 4.5 mm crochet hook.

YARNS

Any yarn suitable for knitting is good for crochet. All yarns are made of either wool, cotton or a synthetic material.

For your samples, the yarn you should use is a knitted worsted (yarn) like Canadiana, Red Heart or Dynasty as it is easy to work with and available in a wide variety of colours. Look closely at a piece of yarn. You will see that it is made of several smaller threads twisted together. Ply means the number of threads twisted together.

Hold your crochet hook between your right index finger and thumb, as you would a pencil.



BE A GOOD SPORT!

In the spirit of learn to do by doing, all those involved in 4-H are encouraged to practice good sportsmanship, use common sense at all 4-H activities and the work in any 4-H project should be the member's own work.



JUDGES WILL BE LOOKING FOR...

- Series or combination of basic stitches
- Even tension and accurate pattern throughout
- Item well blocked but not over-pressed and lays flat
- Design materials and colors suitable for end purpose
- Edging in proportion to overall size of article
- Knots and ends worked in neatly and securely

STANDARDS FOR JUDGING HANDCRAFTS

General Score Card for Handcrafts

45	Workmanship
25	Creative Design
15	General Appearance
15	Color

TENSION

Tension controls how tight or loose your stitches should be. Your stitches should be loose enough so that your hook will easily pass through. It will take practice to hold your yarn and hook just right - not too loose and not too tight.

READING PATTERN INSTRUCTIONS

Following printed instructions for a crochet pattern is easy. Each pattern begins by telling exactly which yarn and what size crochet hook you must use in making the articles you have chosen, and what gauge you must achieve.

Be sure you use the yarn which is specified in the pattern, or one that the sales person at your yarn department tells you may be substituted. You can't pick out a pattern that calls for baby weight and decide you would like to make it in a bulky wool instead. If you did this, the garment would turn out all misshapen and wouldn't fit you or anyone else.

Instructions for crochet garments usually give a choice of several different sizes. Be careful in choosing the size to make. Each size is based on a set of standard body measurements which are given in every pattern. Check these carefully against your own measurements before starting the garment.

GAUGE

Each pattern will give you a guide called a gauge. Gauge means the number of stitches per inch (2.5 cm) and rows per inch (2.5 cm), that result from a specified yarn worked with a specified hook size. But since everyone crochets with a different amount of tension (loosely or tightly) the measurements of individual work can vary greatly, even when using the same size hook and yarn. At the start of every pattern, you will find the gauge given like this:

Gauge: 3 dc = 1"; 3 rows = 1"

Before you begin a project, you should crochet a small sample and check your gauge. This will tell you the number of stitches per inch (2.5 cm) and the number of rows per inch (2.5 cm) that will give you the size specified in your pattern.

Gauge Problems

If your sample has fewer stitches and rows per inch (2.5 cm) than your patterns asks for, you will need to use a smaller crochet hook.

If your sample has more stitches and rows per inch (2.5 cm) than your pattern asks for, you should try a larger crochet hook.

FOLLOWING CROCHET DIRECTIONS

To read a crochet pattern, you will need to know the abbreviations used in these patterns. Below is a listing of crochet abbreviations and crochet terms. Keep this as a handy reference when learning to read a crochet pattern.

Crochet Abbreviations

ch	chain	sc	single crochet
st	stitch	sl st	slip stitch
sts	stitches	dc	double crochet
lp	loop	mc	main color
inc	increase	cc	contrasting color
dec	decrease	bl	block
rnd	round	sp	space
beg	beginning	cl	cluster
sk	skip	pat	pattern
tog	together	in(s)	inch(es)
yo	yarn over hook		

Other Crochet Abbreviations

p	picot
hdc	half double crochet
tr	treble or triple crochet
dtr	double treble crochet
tr tr	treble treble crochet

An Asterisk (*) indicates that the instructions immediately following are to be repeated the given number of times in addition to the original.

A Double Asterisk (**) is the same as above.

Work Even, means to work without increases or decreases, following pattern as described in your instructions.

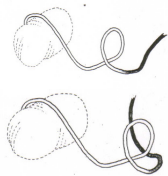
SAMPLES

(Achievement Day Requirement)

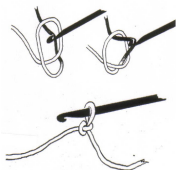
*These sample directions are for right-hand crochet.
Left-hand crochet directions can be found in the Leader's Project Guide.*

FOUNDATION CHAIN (or CHAIN STITCH)

Start out by making a slip knot on your crochet hook about 10 cms from the end of the yarn. Pull one end of yarn to tighten knot.



Thread over ring finger, under middle finger and over index finger, holding work between thumb and middle finger.



After you have made your slip knot, insert your hook under and over the yarn, catch the yarn with your hook and draw it through the loop. This is the beginning of the chain. Repeat until the chain is the desired length.



SINGLE CROCHET

Use a 4.5 mm crochet hook and a knitted worsted yarn.

Chain 16 stitches. This is called your foundation chain.

Insert the hook into the second chain from the hook.



Catch the yarn with your hook.



Draw the yarn through the loop making two loops on the hook.



Catch the yarn with your hook again.



Draw the hook through 2 loops leaving 1 loop on hook.



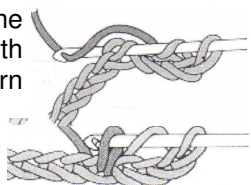
This completes one single crochet.



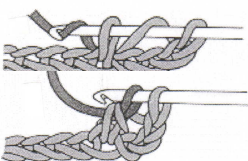
Single crochet in each loop of the chain to the end of the row (15 across when done).

DOUBLE CROCHET

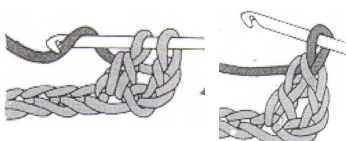
To begin, create a chain of 18 stitches. Next with yarn over the hook, insert hook into the fourth chain from the hook. Catch the yarn with the hook and draw it through the chain. You now have 3 loops on the crochet hook.



The next step is to catch the yarn and draw it through 2 loops. Now there are 2 loops remaining on your crochet hook.



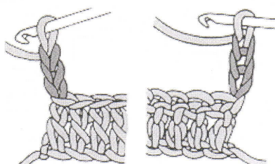
Catch the yarn again and draw it through 2 loops. The double crochet is now complete.



Make a double crochet in the top of each chain across your chain.



At the end of the row; chain three, turn so your worked crochet is on your left and start your next row.



ALL TOGETHER

Your final sample will include the skills you have learned as well as the fringe shown below. Make a double crochet sample that measures 10 cm. by 10 cm.

Do a single crochet around the edge of your sample. Attach a fringe to one end of your sample.

How To Make A Fringe

Attach the fringe with the wrong side of your work facing you.

1. Cut two strands of yarn 18 cm long. Hold two strands together and fold in half.
2. With the crochet hook, draw the folded end through the space or stitch on the edge of your article.
3. Pull the loose ends through the folded end through the space or stitch on the edge of your article.
4. Repeat in each space or stitch as desired, but evenly across the edge. Trim the fringe slightly to make it even when you are finished



SCARF

(Achievement Day and Exhibition Requirement)

For this scarf, you may use one or more than one color. You will require approximately 7 oz. or 200 g of a knitted worsted yarn. More yarn will be required if you wish to make your scarf longer than 40" or 100cm. Use a knitted worsted like Canadiana, Red Heart or Dynasty. Be sure to get a matching dye lot if you are making your scarf in one color. The crochet hook you will need is a 4.5 mm hook.



There are certain requirements for your scarf:

1. Use one or more colors to create your scarf.
2. Create your scarf using double crochet stitch.
3. Your completed scarf should measure a minimum of 40" (100 cm) long, plus the fringe.
4. Complete the edge of your scarf by making a single crochet along both sides of your scarf.
5. The completed fringe should measure 5" to 6" (12.5 to 15 cm). Each fringe is made using 5 strands of yarn approx. 12" (30cm) long. Count your stitches; subtract 2; this will give you the number of fringes needed. Use half that number evenly spaced on each end of your scarf.

STEPS

1. To make your scarf, begin with a chain of 22 stitches.
2. Complete one row of single crochet across the chain.
3. Now begin and continue with double crochet till your scarf measures a minimum of 40" (100 cm).
4. Finish work with one row of single crochet.
5. Single crochet along both sides of the scarf to create a finished edge.
6. Attach the fringe as described on page 4.

Turning Your Work

Chain one stitch then turn your work so that the worked strip lies to the left. Now your hook is in position to start the next row.

Next make a single crochet in each single crochet of the preceding row. When you get to the end, chain one stitch and turn as before. Repeat these steps till the sample measures 10 cm.

Please Note: The usual method of working a crochet row is to insert the hook through the two loops of the stitch

Changing Colours or Adding a New Ball of Yarn

When adding a new ball of year or changing colours in your crochet project, work the last stitch of old ball or colour until 2 loops remain on the hook, finish the stitch with the new ball or colour. Work over the ends, or weave them into the wrong side of the work later.

Finishing Your Work

At the end of your work, do not make a turning chain. Cut the yarn about 10 cm from your work. Bring the loose end through the final loop remaining on hook and pull it through. This fastens the end of your work. Weave the end into the back of your work so it is hidden.

Darning in Ends

Nothing takes away from the smart appearance of your article like loose threads hanging at the end of a row of crochet. It's important that you learn to get rid of these ends. You can't just cut them off. You will end up with a hole, if you do!

You can use your crochet hook or a bodkin (blunt end needle) to darn in the ends. Work a loose thread over and under your crochet loops so the ends 'disappear' into your work.

PROJECT ENROLLMENT DIRECTORY

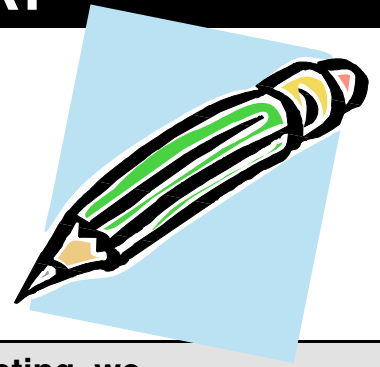
From time to time throughout the 4-H year, you may wish to contact your leader(s) or another project member for one reason or another. Just fill in the information below, and you will have a handy Project Member—Project Leader Directory!



MEMBERS' NAME	E-MAIL	PHONE NUMBER
LEADERS' NAME	E-MAIL	PHONE NUMBER

PROJECT MEETINGS DIARY

Most projects will require at least six to eight project meetings to complete the project.



Meeting Date	Location	Time	At this meeting, we...

Community and Agriculture Awareness Projects

COMMUNITY PROJECT

Each year you are encouraged to provide a service to your community as a 4-H member. This introduces you to the responsibilities of citizenship. You must participate in your club's plan for a community project and you should have a role to play. Describe your involvement with your club's community project this year.



Our Community Project was _____

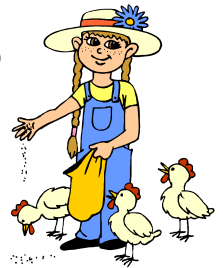
I helped by _____

It was beneficial because _____

I learned _____

AGRICULTURE AWARENESS PROJECT

Agriculture is one of PEI's main industries. You are expected to participate with your club to complete a project (or provide a service) which helps your club or others become aware of the importance of agriculture in our lives. As in the community project, you should actively participate.



Our Agricultural Awareness Project was _____

I helped by _____

It was beneficial because _____

I learned _____