

THE COMPLETE

Crochet Starter Bundle

A keep-forever planner for your hooks, yarn, and works-in-progress — hook inventory, stitch guide, yarn tracker, project & gift planners, and a WIP log, all in one place.



How To Use This Bundle

A quick tour before you pick up your hook



This bundle is built to travel with your crochet practice — from the moment you buy a new hook to the day you mail off a finished gift. Print the whole thing and keep it in a binder, or print only the sections you'll actually use. Every tracker is designed to be filled in by hand, again and again.

What's inside

-  Hook Kit — inventory + size conversion
-  Stitch Guide — abbreviations + symbols
-  Yarn Tracker — stash + weight/care reference
-  Project Planner — queue + worksheets
-  WIP Log — progress + frog pond
-  Care Guide — washing, blocking, gift tags
-  Gift Planner — list + wrapping ideas

How to print it

Print single-sided if you'd like to write directly in the margins, or double-sided to save paper — every page is self-contained. Standard letter paper (8.5" × 11") works best. Hole-punch the left edge for a 3-ring binder, or have it spiral-bound at a copy shop.

Tips for using the trackers

Use pencil for anything that changes often (like WIP row counts) and pen for permanent records (like your hook inventory). Photocopy the worksheet pages before filling them in if you want to reuse them for future projects.

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A note from allfreecrochet

We believe the best patterns come from makers who track what works — the hook that finally got your gauge right, the yarn that felt perfect against the skin, the gift that made someone cry happy tears. Keep this bundle close, and let it fill up with your own crochet story.

SECTION 01 · HOOK KIT

My Hook Collection

Every hook you own, at a glance



Log every hook in your kit here — ergonomic handles, steel hooks for thread work, the oddball size you only use for one pattern. Check “In Kit?” when it’s actually in your bag, not just on your wishlist.

SIZE (MM)	US / LETTER	BRAND	MATERIAL	IN KIT?	NOTES

Tip: sort loosely by size as you fill this in, smallest steel hooks first, so it doubles as a shopping checklist at the craft store.

SECTION 01 · HOOK KIT

Hook Size Conversion

Metric, US, and UK sizing side by side



Hook sizing conventions differ by country and by manufacturer — when in doubt, trust the millimeter measurement over the letter or number. Use this chart whenever a pattern lists a size system that doesn't match your hooks.

METRIC	US	UK
2.00 mm	B/1	20
2.25 mm	B/1	19
2.75 mm	C/2	17
3.25 mm	D/3	10
3.5 mm	E/4	9
3.75 mm	F/5	8
4.00 mm	G/6	7
4.5 mm	7	6
5.00 mm	H/8	5

METRIC	US	UK
5.5 mm	I/9	4
6.00 mm	J/10	3
6.5 mm	K/10½	2
8.00 mm	L/11	0
9.00 mm	M/13	00
10.00 mm	N/15	000
12.00 mm	O	—
15.00 mm	P/Q	—
19.00 mm	S	—

Reading this chart

US letter/number sizing and UK sizing are both older systems that predate standardized millimeter measurements, so slight variations between brands are normal — always check the mm marking stamped on the hook itself when it's available.

SECTION 01 • HOOK KIT

Notions & Accessories

The small tools that make the big projects possible



My notions checklist

- ☐ Stitch markers
- ☐ Yarn needles / tapestry needles
- ☐ Measuring tape
- ☐ Small scissors / snips
- ☐ Row counter
- ☐ Point protectors / hook caps
- ☐ Blocking mats
- ☐ Blocking pins
- ☐ Steam iron / spray bottle
- ☐ Project bags / pouches
- ☐ Gauge ruler
- ☐ Pom-pom maker
- ☐ Tassel maker
- ☐ Yarn bowl
- ☐ Cable / stitch holders

ITEM	QTY	STORAGE / BAG	REPLACE BY

SECTION 02 • STITCH GUIDE

Abbreviations Reference

Decode any pattern at a glance



Keep this page bookmarked while you work through a new pattern — almost every published crochet pattern uses some combination of these standard abbreviations.

ABBR.	MEANING	ABBR.	MEANING
ch	Chain	rep	Repeat
sl st	Slip stitch	rnd(s)	Round(s)
sc	Single crochet	inc	Increase
hdc	Half double crochet	dec	Decrease
dc	Double crochet	yo	Yarn over
tr / trc	Treble / triple crochet	FLO / BLO	Front loop only / back loop only
dtr	Double treble crochet	FPdc / BPdc	Front post dc / back post dc
sk	Skip	MC	Magic circle / magic ring
st(s)	Stitch(es)	tog	Together
sp(s)	Space(s)	blo	Beginning

US vs. UK terms

This chart uses US terminology. In UK patterns, "double crochet" (dc) refers to what US patterns call "single crochet" (sc), and every term below shifts one step — always check which system a pattern uses before you begin.

SECTION 02 · STITCH GUIDE

Crochet Symbol Chart

For reading diagram / chart patterns



Chart-style patterns use these standard symbols instead of written instructions. Charts are read the direction stitches are worked — usually right-to-left, bottom-to-top for rows, or in a spiral outward for rounds.

○ **Chain stitch**
CH

✕ **Single crochet**
SC

⌞ **Double crochet**
DC

⤴ **Front post dc**
FPDC

• **Slip stitch**
SL ST

⌞ **Half double crochet**
HDC

⌞ **Treble crochet**
TR

Sketch a swatch chart

DRAW YOUR OWN SYMBOL CHART HERE

SECTION 02 · STITCH GUIDE

Gauge Swatch Tracker

Because gauge really does matter



Record a swatch every time you start a new pattern with a new yarn or hook — future you will thank present you for the reference.

Swatch A

YARN / HOOK USED

STITCH PATTERN

STS PER 4IN / 10CM

ROWS PER 4IN / 10CM

BLOCKED? BEFORE / AFTER MEASUREMENTS

Swatch B

YARN / HOOK USED

STITCH PATTERN

STS PER 4IN / 10CM

ROWS PER 4IN / 10CM

BLOCKED? BEFORE / AFTER MEASUREMENTS

Quick gauge math

If your swatch has too *few* stitches per 4in compared to the pattern, go down a hook size. Too *many*, go up a size. Always block your swatch the same way you'll block the finished piece before measuring.

Yarn Stash Inventory

Part 1 of 2 — know what you already own



Before buying yarn for your next project, check here first — most crocheters have more stash potential than they remember.

[illegible]

SECTION 03 · YARN TRACKER

Yarn Stash Inventory

Part 2 of 2 — continued



BRAND / LINE	COLOR	FIBER	WEIGHT	YARDAGE	QTY	EARMARKED FOR

Running low on space? Photograph your stash shelf and tape a print-out to the inside of your storage bin lid as a visual index.

SECTION 03 · YARN TRACKER

Yarn Weight & Substitution

Match any yarn to any pattern



Standard weight categories (per the Craft Yarn Council system) — gauge ranges below are for single crochet over 4in / 10cm using a standard hook for that weight.

CATEGORY	SC GAUGE (4IN)	HOOK RANGE	COMMON USES
0 — Lace	33-40 sts	1.5-2.25 mm	Doilies, shawls
1 — Super Fine	27-32 sts	2.25-3.5 mm	Socks, baby items
2 — Fine	23-26 sts	3.5-4.5 mm	Light garments
3 — Light	16-20 sts	4.5-5.5 mm	Sweaters, blankets
4 — Medium (Worsted)	12-17 sts	5.5-6.5 mm	Everyday projects, amigurumi
5 — Bulky	8-11 sts	6.5-9 mm	Quick blankets, hats
6 — Super Bulky	5-9 sts	9-15 mm	Chunky throws
7 — Jumbo	fewer than 6 sts	15 mm+	Arm-knit style pieces

Substituting yarns

When swapping yarns, match weight category and yardage-per-skein first, then check fiber content for drape and care needs. Always swatch with your substitute before committing to a full project.

SECTION 03 · YARN TRACKER

Yarn Care Symbols

What the ball band is actually telling you



Save the ball band from every skein you use, or transcribe the care details here before you toss it — you'll need this information again when the finished piece needs its first wash.

INSTRUCTION	WHAT IT MEANS
Machine wash, cold	Gentle cycle, cold water recommended for most acrylic and superwash wool blends.
Hand wash only	Fully submerge in cool water with mild soap, do not agitate or wring.
Do not wash	Spot clean only — common for pieces with delicate embellishments.
Lay flat to dry	Reshape while damp and dry on a towel, away from direct heat or sun.
Do not tumble dry	Heat can felt wool or warp acrylic fibers permanently.
Low iron / steam block only	Use a press cloth, and always test on a swatch first.

Ball-band scrapbook

Tape or staple ball bands directly onto this page as you finish a skein, alongside a small snip of the leftover yarn, to build a running reference of everything that's gone into your projects.

SECTION 04 · PROJECT PLANNER

Pattern Queue & Wishlist



Every pattern you want to make someday

Save pattern links, designer names, and priority level here so your queue lives in one place instead of a dozen open browser tabs.

PATTERN NAME	DESIGNER	SOURCE / LINK	YARN NEEDED	PRIORITY

SECTION 04 · PROJECT PLANNER

New Project Worksheet

Photocopy this page for every new project · Template A



PROJECT NAME

YARN / COLORWAY

PATTERN & DESIGNER

GAUGE (STS X ROWS / 4IN)

FOR (SELF / GIFT RECIPIENT)

SIZE / MEASUREMENTS

HOOK SIZE(S)

START DATE TARGET FINISH

Materials checklist

- ☐ Yarn (all skeins in hand)
- ☐ Correct hook size confirmed via swatch
- ☐ Stitch markers / notions
- ☐ Pattern printed or saved offline

NOTES, MODIFICATIONS & SPECIAL TECHNIQUES

SECTION 04 • PROJECT PLANNER

New Project Worksheet

Photocopy this page for every new project • Template B



PROJECT NAME

YARN / COLORWAY

PATTERN & DESIGNER

GAUGE (STS X ROWS / 4IN)

FOR (SELF / GIFT RECIPIENT)

SIZE / MEASUREMENTS

HOOK SIZE(S)

START DATE TARGET FINISH

Materials checklist

- ☐ Yarn (all skeins in hand)
- ☐ Correct hook size confirmed via swatch
- ☐ Stitch markers / notions
- ☐ Pattern printed or saved offline

NOTES, MODIFICATIONS & SPECIAL TECHNIQUES

SECTION 04 · PROJECT PLANNER

Materials Checklist

Confirm you have everything before you start



A quick pre-flight check to run through before casting on a big project — nothing stalls momentum like realizing skein six is a different dye lot.

PROJECT	YARN (SKEINS NEEDED)	HAVE ON HAND	STILL NEED	NOTIONS NEEDED

SECTION 05 • WIP LOG

Active Projects Overview

Everything currently on your hook



A bird's-eye view of every work-in-progress — useful for deciding what to pick up next, or confessing exactly how many projects are open at once.

PROJECT	STARTED	STATUS	ROW / RND	LAST WORKED	NEXT STEP

Status shorthand: **A** active • **P** paused • **B** blocked on supplies • **F** finishing touches

Detailed Progress Tracker

PROJECT NAME

PATTERN SECTION / STEP CURRENTLY ON

[illegible]

SECTION 05 · WIP LOG

The Frog Pond

Paused, unraveled & \u201crip-it, rip-it\u201d projects



Not every project survives — and that's alright. Log what went wrong so you can avoid repeating it, and note whether the yarn re-joined your stash or found a second life.

PROJECT	WHY IT WAS FROGGED	YARN RECOVERED?	LESSON LEARNED

SECTION 06 · CARE GUIDE

Fiber Care Guide

How to keep every finished piece looking new

FIBER	GOOD FOR	CARE BASICS	WATCH OUT FOR
Acrylic	Machine washable, low maintenance, budget-friendly	Machine wash cold, tumble dry low or lay flat	Avoid high heat — it can melt or flatten stitches permanently
Wool (non-superwash)	Warm, elastic, felts easily	Hand wash cool with wool wash, lay flat to dry	Never agitate or shock with temperature changes — this causes felting
Superwash Wool	Treated to resist felting, machine-washable	Machine wash gentle/cold, lay flat to dry	Still avoid the dryer — heat can degrade the treatment over time
Cotton	Sturdy, breathable, minimal stretch	Machine or hand wash, can tumble dry on low	Expect some shrinkage on first wash — swatch and pre-wash for exact sizing
Alpaca / Mohair	Soft halo, very warm, delicate	Hand wash cool, gentle squeeze, lay flat	Handle gently while wet — fibers are weaker when saturated
Novelty / Blend Yarns	Textured, decorative, care varies widely	Always check the ball band — blends inherit the neediest fiber's rules	When in doubt, hand wash cool and lay flat

SECTION 06 • CARE GUIDE

Washing & Blocking Steps

Blocking turns handmade into heirloom



1. Read the ball band

Check fiber content and the manufacturer's specific wash/dry recommendations before doing anything else.

2. Test a swatch first

Wash and dry your gauge swatch the way you plan to treat the finished piece, to catch surprises early.

3. Soak, don't agitate

Submerge in cool water with a gentle wool wash, let it sit 10–15 minutes, then press out water without wringing or twisting.

4. Roll in a towel

Lay the piece in a dry towel, roll it up, and press to remove excess moisture before laying flat.

5. Pin to shape

Use blocking mats and rust-proof pins to ease the piece into its finished measurements while damp.

6. Let it dry fully

Keep out of direct sun and off any heat source; drying time varies from a few hours to a full day depending on fiber.

SECTION 06 • CARE GUIDE

Cut-Out Gift Tags

Snip along the dashed lines and attach to any handmade gift



Fill in the blanks, cut along the dashed borders, and punch a hole where marked to attach with ribbon or yarn.

☐ Handmade with love Fiber: _____	☐ Care Instructions Hand wash cool · lay flat to dry
☐ Made especially for _____	☐ A little bit of me, stitched into something for you
☐ Handmade with love Fiber: _____	☐ Care Instructions Hand wash cool · lay flat to dry
☐ Made especially for _____	☐ A little bit of me, stitched into something for you

SECTION 07 • GIFT PLANNER

Gift List & Occasion Tracker

Never miss a birthday again



RECIPIENT	OCCASION	DATE NEEDED	ITEM / PATTERN	STATUS

Status shorthand: **I** idea • **P** in progress • **D** done • **G** gifted

SECTION 07 • GIFT PLANNER

Gift Project Worksheet

The details that make a gift feel personal



RECIPIENT

PATTERN & YARN PLANNED

OCCASION & DATE NEEDED

ALLERGIES / FIBER SENSITIVITIES

THEIR FAVORITE COLORS

CARE LEVEL THEY'LL ACTUALLY FOLLOW

SIZING (IF WEARABLE)

WRAPPING / PRESENTATION IDEA

Personal touches to consider

- ☐ Add a cut-out care tag (see Section 06)
- ☐ Include a handwritten note about the pattern & yarn
- ☐ Save a small yarn scrap in case of future repairs
- ☐ Photograph the finished piece before gifting

SECTION 07 • GIFT PLANNER

Gift Wrapping & Card Ideas

Presentation is part of the craft



Yarn-wrapped kraft paper

Wind a scrap of leftover project yarn around plain kraft paper before adding a bow — it hints at what's inside.

Reusable project bag

Present the gift inside a drawstring bag it can later be re-used for the recipient's own projects.

Pressed dried flowers

Tuck a small pressed flower under the ribbon for a handmade-to-handmade feel.

Mini skein bundle

Attach a small extra skein in a coordinating color, so the recipient can mend it themselves someday.

MY OWN WRAPPING IDEAS

SECTION 08 • NOTES

Notes & Sketches

Swatch diagrams, measurements, ideas



SECTION 08 • NOTES

Notes & Sketches

Continued



Happy Hooking

Thank you for making with us. May your tension stay even, your stash stay organized (mostly), and your hooks never go missing under the couch cushions.

ALLFREECROCHET