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Crazy for CROCHET



70 Projects You'll Love to Make:
Hats, Slippers, Sweaters, Bags, Pillows, Blankets,
Potholders, and More

LILY SECILIE BRANDAL AND BENTE MYHRER



First published in the United States of America
in 2016 by
Trafalgar Square Books
North Pomfret, Vermont 05053

Originally published in Norwegian as Heklelyst.

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Norsk Forlag AS
English translation © 2016 Trafalgar Square Books

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author and publisher cannot be held liable for errors.

ISBN: 978-1-57076-759-3

Library of Congress Control Number: 2015956881

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Printed in China

10987654321

Dear friends of crochet,

In this book, you'll find dozens of great crochet patterns. The projects vary considerably—from clothing, toys, and accessories to items for babies and children, as well as pretty sweaters and cardigans for women, to inspiring projects for interior design, hats, scarves, mittens and slippers. You'll also find a detailed course in crochet with clear drawings and explanations of all the basic stitches and techniques for crochet. If you are a beginner, among other things, it is important to become familiar with the abbreviations we use in this book.

Crochet, like knitting, has had both up- and down- turns. From 1960 to 1980, crochet was a very popular hobby. People crocheted hats, cardigans, coats, bags, rugs, tablecloths, lace collars, curtains, and bedcovers. There was almost nothing one couldn't crochet! After a lull, crochet has become popular again, and in 2014 it really took off. We saw a new focus on crochet thanks in large part to the Olympic hat from Sochi—all of Norway was smitten with crochet fever! Young girls and even boys were seen with crochet hooks in their hands. This new interest also became an important source of inspiration for the two of us.

We have both been in the yarn industry for many years. Bente Myhrer has run her yarn shop, Bente's Boutique, since 1969. She established her first shop on Bjølsen, now the longest running yarn store in Oslo. After a few years, she opened a new shop on Carl Berner Place. That was followed by shops on Markveie in Grünerløkka, on Dokka in Oppland, and in the shopping center of Østerås in Bærum (the last two shops in this list are now closed). Since 1986, Lilly Secilie Brandal has been working in Bente's Boutique, first on Markveien, then in the branch on Bjølsen, now called Strikkelilly, where she manages the shop with a great deal of enthusiasm and personal engagement. We've had a close working relationship all these years, and have designed new crochet and knitting patterns, both for our shops and for large yarn companies in Norway and Sweden. Many of our designs have also appeared in weekly magazines and newspapers. We have traveled—and continue to travel—to many trade fairs. The trips to Sweden, Denmark, Germany, and not least France and Paris, have given us so much

inspiration. We are always on the lookout for good ideas and especially for various yarns and accessories that will capture our customers' interest.

Those of us in the yarn industry are most concerned with ensuring that our customers and potential new customers will be inspired to engage in handcrafts and sustain our Norwegian traditions. With today's rapid tempo, everything has to be so fast, but working with handcrafts is not—and we think it is important to do some things more slowly. With peace and quiet for our souls, life becomes a bit easier to live. It is not always what you make that is most important, but finding that quiet space where your fingers can work completely by themselves.

We hope that we have managed to make a varied book that will be suitable for both beginners and more experienced crocheters, and we wish you many fine and quiet moments with the crochet hook and yarn ball.

If you have problems with any of our patterns, or there is something you have a question about, you can contact us at one of our shops.

You'll find Lilly at Strikkelilly
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You can also send questions to:
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You'll find everything you need for all the crochet patterns in this book or for making your own designs in our shops.

Good luck!

Lilly and Bente

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Small Doily from an Old Bedcover Pattern

OLD BEDCOVERS WERE CROCHETED WITH FINE YARN AND SMALL CROCHET HOOKS. TODAY WE USE HEAVIER YARN AND BIGGER HOOKS AND CAN BE SATISFIED WITH JUST ONE MOTIF FOR A NICE DOILY.

Yarn: 50 g Fiol from Solberg Spinderi (CYCA #2 [sport/baby], 100% mercerized cotton, 185 yd/169 m / 50 g)

Crochet Hook: U.S. size C-2 / 2.5 mm

Finished Measurements: approx. 9½ in / 24 cm in diameter

Ch 10 and join into a ring with 1 sl st into 1st ch (or begin with a magic ring—see page 147 in the Crochet School section).

Rnd 1: Ch 4, work 23 tr around ring and end with 1 sl st into top of ch 4 at beg of rnd = 24 tr.

Rnd 2: Ch 3, skip 1 tr, 1 dc between the 2nd and 3rd tr, ch 6, 1 dc between the 2 sts crossed between the ch loop and st (= 1 crossed dc), ch 4, [2 loops around hook, insert hook between the 2 next tr and yoh, bring yarn through 2 loops, yoh, skip 2 tr, yoh, yarn through 2 loops 4 times (with 1 yoh each time), ch 6, 1 dc through the 2 sts in the cross between the ch loop and dc, ch 4] around, ending with 1 sl st into 3rd ch at beg of rnd = 8 crossed dc with ch-4 loop between each.

Rnd 3: Ch 1, (4 sc in each of the 16 ch loops (large and small) around and end with 1 sl st into the 1st ch = 64 sc.

Rnds 4–11: Begin with ch 1, and then work 1 sc through both loops in each st around. End

with 1 sl st into 1st ch. **NOTE:** On Rnds 7 and 9, increase 8 sts evenly spaced around = 80 sts.

Rnd 12: Ch 4 (= 1 dc, 1 ch), (1 dc in next sc, ch 1) around = 80 dc with 1 ch between each dc. End with 1 sl st into 3rd ch at beg of rnd.

Rnd 13: Ch 3, skip 2 dc, work 1 dc between the 2nd and 3rd dc, ch 6, 1 dc between the 2 sts of cross between ch loop and dc (= 1 crossed dc), ch 5, [2 loops around hook, skip 2 dc, insert hook between the two next dc and 1 yoh, bring yarn through 2 loops, yoh, skip 2 dc, insert hook between the two next dc, 1 yoh, bring yarn through 2 loops 4 times with 1 yoh each time, ch 6, 1 dc through 2 sts in cross between ch loop and dc, ch 5] around, ending with 1 sl st into 3rd ch at beg of rnd = 20 crossed dc with 5 ch between each.

Rnd 14: 1 sl st into 1st ch loop, ch 6, 1 dc in same ch loop, [ch 3, 1 sc in ch-5 loop, ch 3, (1 dc, ch 3, 1 dc) in ch loop of the crossed st] around, ending with ch 3, 1 sl st into 3rd ch at beg of rnd.

Rnd 15: 1 sl st into 1st ch-3 loop, ch 6, 1 dc in same ch loop, [ch 5, 1 sc in sc of previous rnd, ch 5, (1 dc, ch 3, 1 dc) in ch-3 loop] around, ending with ch 5, 1 sc in sc, ch 5, 1 sl st into 3rd ch at beg of rnd.

Cut yarn and fasten off.

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Grill Mitt

HERE'S THE PERFECT GRILL MITT FOR YOUR NEXT SUMMER COOKOUT.

Yarn: Paris from Drops (CYCA #4 [worsted/afghan/aran], 100% cotton, 82 yd/75 m / 50 g), 50 g each of:

Color 1: Denim

Color 2: Light Gray

Color 3: Light Mint Green

Crochet Hook: U.S. size E-4 or G-6 / 3.5 or 4 mm

Measurements: Total length 12¼ in / 31 cm

The grill mitt is crocheted from the bottom up and consists of two pieces that are crocheted





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Row 3: Change to Color 3 and work in crab st from left to right. Begin with ch 1 and then work 1 crab st into each dc and 3 crab sts in each ch loop.

Row 4: Change to Color 1. Begin with ch 3 (= 1st dc), work 1 dc in each of the first 2 sts of previous row by inserting hook into back loop of crab st. This method allows the crab sts to be a little raised on the RS of the work. Work 2 dc in 3rd st. *Skip 3 sts, work dc fan around loop of crab st; skip 3 sts, work 2 dc in first st and then 1 dc in each of next 2 sts, 2 dc in last st (= 6 dc). Repeat from *. End row by skipping 3 sts, work dc fan in loop of crab st, skip 3 sts, 2 dc in 1st st, dc to end of row. This sequence adds 1 dc on each side of center back, while, on the rest of the row, there will be 2 new sts in each dc section.

Repeat Rows 3 and 4.

Repeat the yoke sequence until there are 14 (16, 18 dc in each dc section of the yoke (9 dc each at beginning and end of row). End with Row 3, Color 1.

Body of Tunic (worked in the round)

Continue with Color 3 only; begin rounds at center back: Ch 3 (=1st dc), 22 (25, 28) dc, (work 3 dc in each of the ch loops), ch 5 (5, 5), skip 27

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Viking Sweater

A SIMPLE SWEATER TO CROCHET AND VERY EASY TO ADJUST FOR MORE SIZES THAN GIVEN HERE. THE SWEATER MIGHT REMIND YOU A LITTLE OF A COAT OF ARMOR FROM THE VIKING PERIOD. IT HAS COMPLETELY STRAIGHT LINES, WITH A NECK PLACKET AND A SLIT AT EACH SIDE.



Fox Scarf

THE FOX MOTIF IS A SURE WINNER. THE SCARF IS SOFT AND SO FUN!



Cool Vest

A SHARP-LOOKING VEST THAT CAN EASILY BECOME A SWEET AND PRETTY GARMENT IN SOFTER COLORS. THE VEST IS CROCHETED WITH TWO STRANDS OF YARN HELD TOGETHER.



Baby Cardigan

THIS CARDIGAN IS WORKED IN ONE PIECE AND IS A GREAT PROJECT FOR BEGINNERS. THERE IS NO RIGHT OR WRONG SIDE—IT'S JUST THE SAME ON BOTH SIDES. TO FINISH, YOU CAN CHOOSE WHETHER TO PLACE THE BUTTONHOLES ON THE LEFT OR RIGHT SIDE.







Ladybug Bib

THIS PRACTICAL BIB CAN BE DECORATED WITH MANY MOTIFS OTHER THAN A LADYBUG. PERHAPS YOU'D LIKE TO CHOOSE A FLOWER FROM THE BOOK (SEE THE CROCHET SCHOOL ON PAGE 143).

Yarn: Pt Petunia from Rauma (CYCA #3, 100% cotton, 120 yd/110 m / 50 g)

Yarn Amounts:

50 g White and small amounts of Red and Black

Crochet Hook: U.S. size D-3 / 3 mm

Measurements: Length, approx. 11¾ in / 30 cm; width, approx. 8 in / 20 cm at widest point

NOTE: Shrink the bib slightly by washing at 140°F / 60°C for the first wash.

Ch 63 a little tightly.

Row 1: Beginning in 4th ch from hook, work in dc across. Place a marker on every 10th st (= 5 markers).

Row 2: Ch 3 (= 1st dc); work 1 dc in each of next 9 sts. In the space between just worked dc and the next dc, work (1 dc, ch 1, 1 dc). Increase the same way at each marker = 10 sts increased.

Rows 3–4: Ch 3 (= 1st dc). Work in dc, increasing in the ch st at each marked st = total of 20 sts increased over the two rows. Cut yarn.

Row 5: Begin 1 dc before the ch loop at the 2nd marker from back neck—attach yarn with 1 sl st and ch 3 (= 1st dc). Continue to work in dc to the center front of the bib; increase 2 dc as before. Continue with 1 dc in each st until 1 dc past next ch loop.



Ladybug bib



Rows 6–18: Work in dc, increasing as for Row 5 on every row. Work as set until bib is desired length.

Edging: Work Edging 5 (see page 141) around outer edges of bib.

Ties (make 2 alike): With Red, chain a cord to desired length. Turn and work 1 sl st in each ch across. Attach a tie at each side of neck opening (see photo).

LADYBUG

With Red, chain and work 6 rnds in circular single crochet (see page 153 in Crochet School section). Make the back ridge by working slip stitches across the diameter. With Black, embroider a little triangle for the “snout” and three cross stitches on each side for the spots. Sew the ladybug securely to the bib.

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Lace Collars

LACE COLLARS ARE BACK IN STYLE.

These collars were inspired by those in style between the 1940s and 1960s. At that time, most collars were made with fabric edged with lace, either ready- or hand-made. However, many women liked to crochet the entire collar as we have done here. As a general rule, cotton crochet thread was used but we decided to try an alpaca and silk yarn for one collar and a blend of alpaca, silk, and cotton for the other.

Size: Women's

Measurements: Both collars measure 19¾–20½ in / 50–52 cm long as measured along top edge at neck.

Yarn:

Collar A: Baby Alpaca Silk from Drops (CYCA #2 [sport/baby], 70% alpaca/30% silk, 183 yd/167 m / 50 g): 50 g each of Color 1: Light Sea Green and Color 2: Brown

Collar B: Baby Alpaca Silk from Drops: 50 g of Color 1: Green and Vipe from Dale Garn (CYCA #2 [sport/baby], 100% cotton, 137 yd/125 m / 50 g), 50 g of Color 2: Corn Yellow

Notions: A small button for Collar A.

Crochet Hook: U.S. size C-2 / 2.5 mm

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Bobble Hat

YOU CAN CROCHET THIS HAT AS EASY AS 1-2-3! IT IS WORKED FROM THE BRIM UP. THE TECHNIQUE WE USED WAS OFTEN USED FOR BABY BLANKETS PREVIOUSLY AND PRODUCES A SOFT AND FLUFFY ITEM. THE MOTIF CAN ALSO BE USED FOR HATS FOR CHILDREN AND ADULTS, MAYBE WITH A STRAP UNDER THE CHIN FOR CHILDREN.



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Flower 1
BLUE ANEMONE



Flower 3
FIELD FLOWERS



Flower 2
LARGE ROSE



Flower 4
SMALL ROSE



Flower 6
VIOLET



Flower 5
SIMPLE ROSE



Flower 9
1970S FLOWER

Flower 7
BI-COLOR FLOWER

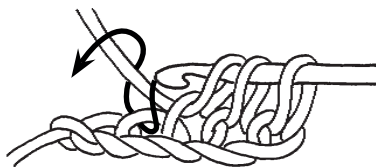


Flower 8
MARIGOLD

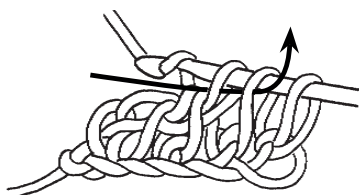


A little
**CROCHET
SCHOOL**

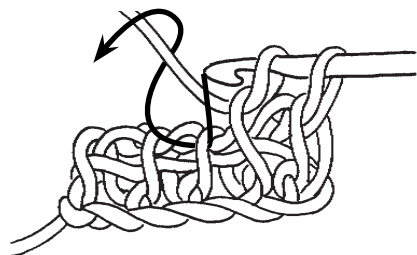
While many people are familiar with handling a crochet hook and are experienced at various techniques, there are others who need help and guidance. The Crochet School here illustrates the details for beginners and more advanced crocheters. The information will also be useful for other projects, not just those in this book.



① Work from right to left. *Insert hook into 1 stitch, yarn around hook and through stitch; repeat from * across.

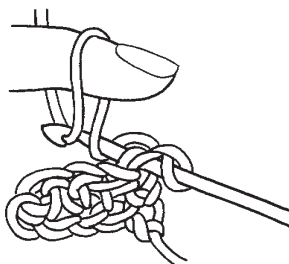


② Work from left to right. Yarn around hook and through the first loop on the hook, *yarn around hook and through 2 loops; repeat from * across.

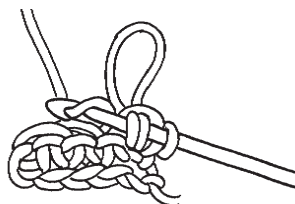


③ When working from right to left, insert the hook through the vertical loop of the stitch on the previous row. Repeat Steps 1 and 2.

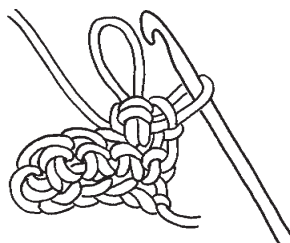
Loop Crochet



① Wrap the yarn around your left index finger, insert hook into the 1st stitch through both loops.



② Bring the yarn through; slip yarn off finger, yarn around hook. Bring yarn through the 3 loops on hook.



③ Repeat Steps 1 and 2 across the row. Work 1 row of single crochet before the next loop row.

Get Crochet Crazy

EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW
IS RIGHT HERE:

- Clear, detailed guidance through crochet basics.
- Patterns for every skill level, from scarves and blankets to socks and slippers, from hats and pillows to lampshades and clutches.
- Helpful tips for using unusual stitches and a variety of edgings, swatches, and crocheted flowers to dress up any project.
- Dozens of helpful photographs.

