

# before you begin

Here are a few things you need to know, and equipment you will need, before you start to crochet.

## abbreviations

|        |   |
|--------|---|
| ch(s)  | Chain(s)  |
| ch-sp  | Chain space   |
| cm     | Centimetre  |
| dc     | Double crochet  |
| dc2tog | Double crochet 2 stitches together to decrease 1 stitch |
| dtr    | Double treble crochet                                   |
| g      | Gram  |
| htr    | Half treble crochet                                     |
| in     | Inches  |
| m      | Metre   |
| mm     | Millimetre  |
| oz     | Ounce   |
| pm     | Place markert   |
| rep    | Repeat  |
| RS     | Right side of work                                      |
| ss     | Slip stitch   |
| st(s)  | Stitch(es)  |
| tr     | Treble crochet  |
| tr2tog | Treble crochet 2 stitches together to decrease 1 stitch |
| trtr   | Triple treble crochet                                   |
| t-ch   | Turning chain   |
| WS     | Wrong side of work                                      |
| yds    | Yards   |

## equipment

**Craft wire:** Used to give a few elements their shape, and to hold their structure.

**Hooks:** the following hooks are used in the projects.

| UK    | US    |
|-------|-------|
| 4mm   | G/6   |
| 4.5mm | 7     |
| 5mm   | H/8   |
| 5.5mm | I/9   |
| 6mm   | J/10  |
| 7mm   | K/10½ |
| 8mm   | L/11  |

Please note there is no direct US hook size conversion from 7mm, but we have suggested the nearest lower size (US K/10½). However you should adjust your hook size as necessary to achieve an even gauge.

**Stitch markers:** You will need a removable stitch marker for when you are working in spirals, to keep track of where each “round” of the spiral starts and ends. The pattern will tell you where to place the marker (pm) and it should be moved up as you complete each round. They come in all shapes and sizes, just ensure it is removable!

**Tape measure:** Always handy for making sure your finished outfit will fit the recipient.

**Tapestry needle:** A blunt ended needle with a large eye for sewing up and weaving in ends.

**Yarn:** There are two main thicknesses of yarn used in the projects, DK (Light Worsted) weight and Chunky weight. Please use the following yardage information as a guide when selecting your yarn:  
DK (Light Worsted) weight: 328yds (300m) per 3½oz (100g)  
Chunky weight: 153yds (140m) per 3½oz (100g)

You will also find additional specialty yarns featuring in a few of the projects, including the Mermaid and Unicorn. Details for these are given with each project.

The phrase “small quantity” is used for projects or features that tend to use less than 25g (1oz) of yarn. In some case you will only need a very small amount of a particular colour.