

Introduction to Crochet

Introduction to Crochet

Arianna Cheveldave



Introduction to Crochet Copyright © 2021 by Arianna Cheveldave is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/), except where otherwise noted.

© 2021 Arianna Cheveldave

The CC licence permits you to retain, reuse, copy, redistribute, and revise this book—in whole or in part—for free providing the author is attributed as follows:

[Introduction to Crochet](#) by Arianna Cheveldave is used under a [CC BY 4.0 Licence](#).

Sample APA-style citation (7th Edition):

Cheveldave, A. (2021). *Introduction to crochet*. BCcampus. <https://pressbooks.bccampus.ca/webinar/>

Cover image attribution:

[“Thee Granny Square Yarn Sack”](#) by [Tara](#) is used under a [CC BY-NC-SA 2.0 Licence](#).

Visit [BCcampus Open Education](https://bccampusopeneducation.ca/) to learn about open education in British Columbia.

This book was produced with Pressbooks (<https://pressbooks.com>) and rendered with Prince.

Contents

Advanced Pressbooks 1

Advanced Pressbooks

H5P 5

Multiple Choice 5

LaTeX 7

Without LaTeX 7

With LaTeX 7

More on LaTeX 7

Internal Links 9

Internal Links 9

Filler Text 9

Anchors 11

Glossary Tool and Footnotes 13

Create a Glossary 13

Edit Glossary Terms 13

Insert a Footnote 14

Overcast Stitch 15

Sheri Deaton

Overcast Stitch 17

Getting Started

Tools and Materials 23

Yarn 23

Hooks 24

Review 25

First Pattern 27

Your Own Project 27

Common Questions

Why did my project come out a different size than the pattern said it would?	31
What yarn material is best for my projects?	33
Where can I buy crochet supplies?	35
How do I alter a pattern to make my object a different size?	37
Appendix	39
Glossary	41

Advanced Pressbooks

Topics included in today's Advanced Pressbooks webinar are:

- basic H5P
- LaTeX
- internal links and anchors
- the glossary tool
- footnotes
- importing content
- adding users and user roles
- theme options
- book information

Advanced Pressbooks

H5P

[H5P](#) is a tool that allows you to create interactive, reusable content that you can embed on the web, including in a Pressbook. H5P activities are useful for formative assessment, which is the kind of activities you do when you're still learning a topic. This is as opposed to summative assessment, which is when you're being tested on what you are already supposed to know, like in an exam.

Multiple Choice



An interactive H5P element has been excluded from this version of the text. You can view it online here:
<https://pressbooks.bccampus.ca/webinar/?p=5#h5p-1>

Let's look at the editor used to create this content. In the Pressbooks Dashboard, go to **H5P Content** > **All H5P Content**.

LaTeX

LaTeX is a math markup language that is used to create automatically formatted documents and mathematical and scientific expressions.

Without LaTeX

$$5 \times 7 = 35$$

$$4a - 1 = 15$$

$$\frac{3}{4} + \frac{1}{8} = \frac{7}{8}$$

$$\int_0^{\pi/2} 2\pi x \cos x \, dx = 1$$

With LaTeX

$$n = 1$$

$$5 \times 7 = 35$$

$$4a - 1 = 15$$

$$\frac{3}{4} + \frac{1}{8} = \frac{7}{8}$$

$$\int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} 2\pi x \cos x \, dx = 1$$

More on LaTeX

If you want to learn more about LaTeX, check out the [LaTeX Questions Answered](#) section in the Pressbooks Guide by BCcampus. If you need any help with adding LaTeX to your OER, feel free to contact latexsupport@bccampus.ca.

Internal Links

Internal Links

When a link in an open textbook leads to a different website or OER, we call that an external link. An internal link is a link that goes from one section or chapter of a book to another within the same book.

To link from one chapter to another in the same book, follow these steps:

1. Navigate to “Edit” view of the chapter where you would like to insert a link.
2. In the visual editor, select the text you want to link.
3. Select “Insert/edit link” on the visual editor toolbar (or use the shortcut `Ctrl + K`).
4. In the text box that appears, either type in the chapter or part title that you want to link to or paste its URL.
5. Select the desired chapter or part from the list that appears.
6. Hit the blue arrow that says “Apply”.
7. Click “Preview” and test your link.

To learn [how to create an anchor](#), go to the end of the chapter.

First Pattern

Read your [first pattern](#) later in this book.

Filler Text

From [Pride and Prejudice](#) by Jane Austen:

It is a truth universally acknowledged, that a single man in possession of a good fortune, must be in want of a wife.

However little known the feelings or views of such a man may be on his first entering a neighbourhood, this truth is so well fixed in the minds of the surrounding families, that he is considered as the rightful property of some one or other of their daughters.

“My dear Mr. Bennet,” said his lady to him one day, “have you heard that Netherfield Park is let at last?”

Mr. Bennet replied that he had not.

“But it is,” returned she; “for Mrs. Long has just been here, and she told me all about it.”

Mr. Bennet made no answer.

“Do not you want to know who has taken it?” cried his wife impatiently.

“You want to tell me, and I have no objection to hearing it.”

This was invitation enough.

“Why, my dear, you must know, Mrs. Long says that Netherfield is taken by a young man of large fortune from the north of England; that he came down on Monday in a chaise and four to see the place, and was so much delighted with it that he agreed with Mr. Morris immediately; that he is to take possession before Michaelmas, and some of his servants are to be in the house by the end of next week.”

“What is his name?”

“Bingley.”

“Is he married or single?”

“Oh! single, my dear, to be sure! A single man of large fortune; four or five thousand a year. What a fine thing for our girls!”

“How so? how can it affect them?”

“My dear Mr. Bennet,” replied his wife, “how can you be so tiresome! You must know that I am thinking of his marrying one of them.”

“Is that his design in settling here?”

“Design! nonsense, how can you talk so! But it is very likely that he may fall in love with one of them, and therefore you must visit him as soon as he comes.”

“I see no occasion for that. You and the girls may go, or you may send them by themselves, which perhaps will be still better, for as you are as handsome as any of them, Mr. Bingley might like you the best of the party.”

“My dear, you flatter me. I certainly have had my share of beauty, but I do not pretend to be anything extraordinary now. When a woman has five grown-up daughters, she ought to give over thinking of her own beauty.”

“In such cases, a woman has not often much beauty to think of.”

“But, my dear, you must indeed go and see Mr. Bingley when he comes into the neighbourhood.”

“It is more than I engage for, I assure you.”

“But consider your daughters. Only think what an establishment it would be for one of them. Sir William and Lady Lucas are determined to go, merely on that account, for in general, you know, they visit no newcomers. Indeed you must go, for it will be impossible for us to visit him, if you do not.”

“You are over scrupulous, surely. I dare say Mr. Bingley will be very glad to see you; and I will send a few lines by you to assure him of my hearty consent to his marrying whichever he chooses of the girls; though I must throw in a good word for my little Lizzy.”

“I desire you will do no such thing. Lizzy is not a bit better than the others; and I am sure she is not half so handsome as Jane, nor half so good-humoured as Lydia. But you are always giving her the preference.”

“They have none of them much to recommend them,” replied he; “they are all silly and ignorant like other girls; but Lizzy has something more of quickness than her sisters.”

“Mr. Bennet, how can you abuse your own children in such a way? You take delight in vexing me. You have no compassion on my poor nerves.”

“You mistake me, my dear. I have a high respect for your nerves. They are my old friends. I have heard you mention them with consideration these twenty years at least.”

“Ah, you do not know what I suffer.”

“But I hope you will get over it, and live to see many young men of four thousand a year come into the neighbourhood.”

“It will be no use to us, if twenty such should come, since you will not visit them.”

“Depend upon it, my dear, that when there are twenty, I will visit them all.”

Mr. Bennet was so odd a mixture of quick parts, sarcastic humour, reserve, and caprice, that the experience of three-and-twenty years had been insufficient to make his wife understand his character. Her mind was less difficult to develop. She was a woman of mean understanding, little information, and uncertain temper. When she was discontented, she fancied herself nervous. The business of her life was to get her daughters married; its solace was visiting and news.

Anchors

An anchor is a link on a web page to a different part of that page, or a link from one web page to a specific part of another one.

To make an anchor, follow these steps:

1. Navigate to “Edit” view of the chapter where you would like to insert an anchor.
2. In the visual editor, insert your cursor where you would like to place the anchor.
3. Select the “Anchor” banner on the visual editor toolbar.
4. Type in a descriptive identifier for your anchor. (For example, if you’re creating an anchor beside instructions on how to make croissants, your anchor might be called “croissants”.)
5. Select “OK”. Save the page.
6. Select the text that you would like to link to the anchor.
7. Select “Insert/edit link” on the visual editor toolbar (or use the shortcut `Ctrl + K`).
8. Type the name of your anchor into the text box that appears.
9. Select your anchor from the list. It will look like “#anchor (Chapter Name)”.
10. Hit the blue arrow that says “Apply”.

11. Click “Preview” and test your anchor.

To review the steps for [how to set up an internal link](#), see the beginning of this chapter.

Glossary Tool and Footnotes

Learners like to have a **glossary** to refer to while they are studying new concepts. Learners also find it useful to have additional information in footnotes.¹

Create a Glossary

To create a glossary in Pressbooks, follow these steps:

1. In the visual editor, select the text to which you would like to add a glossary definition.
2. Select the Insert Glossary Term button on the third row of the visual editor toolbar.
3. Check that the term going into the glossary is correct. You may want to change the verb tense or change a noun from plural to singular.
4. Write a suitable description for the term.
5. Select “Insert”.
6. Select “Preview” and check that the definition is displaying the way you want it to.
7. From the Pressbooks Dashboard, under Organize, select “Add Back Matter”.
8. On the right-hand side of the Add New Back Matter page, under “Back Matter Type”, select “Glossary”.
9. Give the glossary page a name, such as “Glossary” or “Key Terms”.
10. Leave the content of the glossary page blank. This will ensure that the page automatically populates with the terms you insert into the book.
11. Select “Create”.
12. Click the glossary’s URL and view your glossary terms, listed in alphabetical order.

Edit Glossary Terms

You can edit the entries in your glossary by going to the **Pressbooks Dashboard > Organize > Glossary Terms**.

To edit a term, hover over it in the list and select “Edit”. From there, you can edit the term which is being defined as well as the definition. Changing the term in Glossary Terms will change the pop-up definitions and the definition in the back matter.

1. For more information about footnotes, see the [Pressbooks User Guide section on footnotes](#).

Insert a Footnote

Footnotes are easy to insert into your book. Follow these steps:

1. In the visual editor, place your cursor where you want to insert your footnote.
2. Select the footnote button on the third row of the visual editor toolbar.
3. A pop-up box will appear that says, “Footnote Content.” You can either:
 - a. Type your footnote into the box, then select “OK”.
 - b. Select “OK” without typing anything.
4. Short codes that look like “[footnote]information[/footnote]” will appear in your text. If you didn’t write out your footnote in the last step, do so now between the short codes. If you want to add any special formatting to your footnote, like boldface or italics, you can do this now (this is not possible in the footnote pop-up box).
5. Select “Preview” and check that your footnote is satisfactory.

Overcast Stitch

Sheri Deaton

Overcast Stitch

The overcast stitch (also called the whip stitch) is commonly used to prevent a flat, raw edge from raveling or it can be used to stitch pieces of fabric together in a visible and decorative manner. This stitch is a great choice for a finishing touch on a light-medium-weight fabric. Sergers have the capability to create this stitch, as do many sewing machines. Knowing how to sew this stitch by hand can be helpful for small projects and for situations where you do not have access to a serger or a sewing machine.

Knowing that the stitches will be seen, many choose to use a contrasting color of thread to create a decorative stitch that stands out. Some choose to use the same color of thread to camouflage these stitches. Regardless of the thread choice, consistent and even stitches are necessary to create a sturdy version of this stitch (Deaton, 2021).



Photo by Teona Swift: <https://www.pexels.com/photo/woman-making-stitch-on-fabric-while-sewing-in-studio-6851161/>

Overcast Stitch Overview

- Thread the needle and make a double knot at the end of the thread.

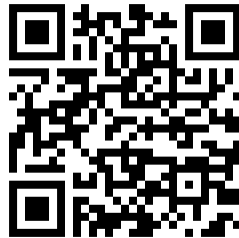
TIP: Be sure to use a needle that is appropriate for the type of fabric you are sewing.

- Insert the needle through the fabric, about ¼” below the raw edge. Start from the back of the fabric and bring it through the fabric to the front side, ensuring that the knot stays hidden on the underside. Pull the thread through.
- Loop the thread over the fabric edge and move ¼” to the left and repeat the stitch. Be sure to bring the needle through the fabric from the back to the front in the same direction. Pull the thread so that it is tight, but not so tight that the fabric wrinkles or crimps.

TIP: This stitch is historically easier to do if you work from the right to the left. Keep stitches evenly spaced.

- Allow the threads to wrap over the edge of the fabric and pass the needle through again. Always go from the back to the front.
- Repeat this process and finish the seam with a back-tack knot.

TIP: [Treasurie](#) created a step-by-step tutorial on using the overcast stitch as a hemming technique. Check out this tutorial if you are interested in using the overcast stitch as a way to hem the edges of a garment.



Hemming it Up

Once you know how to complete an overcast stitch, you can whip it out in a few moments, even on a cloudy or overcast day. The more opportunities you take to practice these skills, the more confident you will feel in your abilities to create this stitch and teach this to others.



Photo by Gabriela Palai: <https://www.pexels.com/photo/person-standing-on-brown-wooden-dock-395196/>

Resources

Resources	QR Codes
How to Handsew: The Overcast Stitch Craftsy	
What Is an Overcast Stitch and How Do You Hand Sew It?	

References

Deaton, S. (2021). Teaching Apparel Production. Presentation.

Getting Started

Tools and Materials

In this chapter, learn what tools and materials you need to get started in crochet.

The two main things you'll need are yarn and a hook.

Yarn

There are many different kinds of yarn to choose from. Yarn varies based on material (e.g., wool, acrylic, cotton, bamboo), weight (e.g., lace, fine, bulky), and colour (anything you can think of!). Choose a yarn that is easily available to you and fits your budget.

For more information about the composition of yarn, read the presentation [Yarns & Classification \[PDF\]](#).

Read up on the [standard yarn weight system](#) online, or reference the following chart:

Standard Yarn Weight System

Yarn weight number	Category name	Hook size	Example project
0	Lace	2.25 mm	Doily
1	Super fine	2.25–3.5 mm	Socks
2	Fine	3.5–4.5 mm	Baby onesie
3	Light	4.5–5.5 mm	Sweater
4	Medium	5.5–6.5 mm	Toque
5	Bulky	6.5–9 mm	Rug
6	Super bulky	9–15 mm	Heavy blanket
7	Jumbo	15 mm and larger	Basket

Once you're comfortable with this chart, test your knowledge in the [Review](#) section at the end of this chapter.

Hooks



Crochet hooks are either sold separately or in sets. Seen here is a set of six aluminum crochet hooks, ranging in size from 3.75 mm to 6.5 mm.

Whereas knitting¹ uses two needles, crochet uses one hook. Hooks come in different sizes, materials, and designs.

Size

Like yarn, crochet hooks come in a variety of sizes. Matching your the size of your hook to that of your yarn is important to creating a crochet project with appropriate tightness. For instance, using a giant hook with light-weight yarn will result in your project having gaping holes.

When purchasing yarn, the packaging will likely indicate what size of hook is appropriate. Hooks are

1. Knitting is another fibre craft.

sized according to the diameter of the shaft in millimetres, meaning that a 5 mm hook is 5 mm thick. If you crochet long enough, you are bound to collect a range of hooks in different sizes.

Material

Crochet hooks are made from aluminum, steel, wood, and plastic, among other things.

Review



An interactive H5P element has been excluded from this version of the text. You can view it online here:
<https://pressbooks.bccampus.ca/webinar/?p=25#h5p-1>

Media Attributions

- [Susan Bates crochet hooks](#) © [Nadine \(cafeconlecheporfavor\)](#) is licensed under a [CC BY-NC-ND \(Attribution NonCommercial NoDerivatives\)](#) license

First Pattern

Learning Objectives

- Learn how to read a crochet pattern.

Ready to crochet? Here is an easy pattern you can try: [Chevron Stripes Crochet Scarf Pattern \[PDF\]](#).

If you don't know what you need to make this pattern, go back to [Tools and Materials](#).

To learn how to read a pattern, watch this video:



One or more interactive elements has been excluded from this version of the text. You can view them online here: <https://pressbooks.bccampus.ca/webinar/?p=32#oembed-1>

Your Own Project



An interactive H5P element has been excluded from this version of the text. You can view it online here: <https://pressbooks.bccampus.ca/webinar/?p=32#h5p-2>

Common Questions

Why did my project come out a different size than the pattern said it would?

If your project is larger or smaller than the pattern said it would be, it's likely that your gauge is off.

In crochet, your gauge is how many rows and how many stitches per row you produce in a designated area, which is often 4 inches by 4 inches. If the pattern says that your gauge for a 4-inch-by-4-inch square should be 11 rows up and 15 stitches across, but you measure 9 rows up and 13 stitches across, your stitches are likely bigger than those of the pattern's designer. Therefore, if you follow the pattern as written, your project will be bigger than the designer intended. If you want your project to match the size of the designer's, then you have a couple of options.

Firstly, you can modify your stitching until your gauge matches the designer's. Techniques to try include going up or down a hook size (a bigger hook size will create a bigger stitch), intentionally using more or less yarn per stitch (the more yarn you use, the bigger your stitch will be), or using a hook of a different material, as the material of the hook can affect the size of the stitch.

Secondly, you can adjust the pattern to match your natural stitching. This may involve decreasing the number of stitches per row or the total number of rows (if your stitches are bigger than the designer's) or increasing the number of stitches per row or the total number of rows (if your stitches are smaller than the designer's).

What yarn material is best for my projects?

Whichever kind of yarn you like best, have access to, and can afford!

Everyone is different. Some people like thick, woollen yarn to make cozy winter sweaters, but some people are allergic to wool. Some like acrylic yarn because it's cheap, but some want something softer and comparably prized, like cotton.

While some yarn will work better than others for certain projects (for example, an absorbent material like cotton would be better for a foyer rug than acrylic, which will just let any tracked-in water fall to the floor), generally speaking, you can choose whichever yarn suits you.

Where can I buy crochet supplies?

A fibre craft store in your area is likely to have any hooks, yarn, or crochet accessories that you might need. Plus, their staff will be able to help you choose the products that are right for you.

If you do not have convenient access to a locally owned store,¹ you can go to a larger crafting store, like Michaels, or a superstore, like Walmart.

1. Use this [yarn store locator](#) to find a store near you.

How do I alter a pattern to make my object a different size?

Patterns will often indicate that the width of the finished object is based on a multiple of something. If you would like to change the size of an object when you're working with a pattern, you can use a little math to determine how much bigger or smaller you need to go.

For example, the lemon peel stitch requires a single crochet stitch followed by a double crochet stitch, which makes a total of 2 stitches. Therefore, the width of a row made using lemon peel stitch would have to be a multiple of 2 stitches wide.

Say I were making a lemon peel washcloth, and the pattern said to make 10 stitches for each row for a width of 5 inches (just a made-up example). If I only wanted my washcloth to be 4 inches wide, I could do a little algebra and find out how many stitches per row I need:

$$\frac{10 \text{ st.}}{5 \text{ in.}} = \frac{x \text{ st.}}{4 \text{ in.}}$$

$$4 \times \frac{10}{5} = \frac{x}{\cancel{4}} \times \cancel{4}$$

$$\frac{40}{5} = x$$

$$x = 8 \text{ st.}$$

Appendix

This is where you can add appendices or other back matter.

Glossary

glossary (ch. 1)

an alphabetized list of terms and their definitions in relation to a specific subject