Are you ready to crochet?
This project is designed for beginning, intermediate, and advanced members. To decide where you should start, read the lists of goals on the next page. Then complete most of the goals in a list before going on to the next level. Of course, it's OK to take the project more than once. Just select new goals!

Study fair or roundup premium listings to decide what to exhibit. The listings are updated every year. It's also a good idea to make several items to strengthen your skills before beginning your exhibit.

Now here's what you'll do!
### Beginner

**Skills**
1. Select yarn or thread
2. Select crochet hooks
3. Read abbreviations
4. Check and adjust gauge
5. Make a chain
6. Make a slip stitch
7. Single crochet
8. Double crochet
9. Make rounds of single crochet
10. Use a beginner’s book on crocheting
11. Wind a ball of yarn

**Goals**
1. Make two of the following articles:
   - Potholder
   - Bean bag
   - Coin purse
   - Belt
   - Scarf
   - Pillow
   - Purse or clutch
   - Headband
   - Hats
   - Mittens

2. Keep a record of how much materials cost.
3. Care for your crocheted garments or articles.
4. Keep work clean and organized.
5. Give a demonstration or talk at a group meeting.
6. Exhibit two articles at roundup or fair.
7. Complete the project record.

### Intermediate

**Skills**
1. Make a half-double crochet
2. Make a treble crochet
3. Increase stitches
4. Decrease stitches
5. Make a square motif
6. Assemble motifs

**Goals**
1. Crochet one or more of the following articles:
   - Vest
   - Belt
   - Purse
   - Placemat
   - Wallhanging
   - Poncho
   - Shawl
   - Scarf
   - Rug
   - Pillow
   - Toy
   - Afghan
   - Tie
   - Mittens
   - Tablecloth
   - Baby blanket
   - Christmas ornament

2. Experiment by crocheting with fabric as well as yarn.
4. Care for your crocheted garments or articles.
5. Keep work clean and organized.
6. Give a presentation or lead a discussion at a group meeting.
7. Exhibit two small articles or one large article at roundup or fair.
8. Complete the project record.

### Advanced

**Skills**
1. Make at least four of the following stitches: shells, cluster, popcorn, puff, afghan, filet, arch, knot, loop, and bullion.
2. Make an article or garment that contains two or more colors.
3. Experiment with hook sizes and yarn types.

**Goals**
1. Crochet one or more of the following articles:
   - Sweater
   - Vest
   - Coat
   - Dress
   - Afghan
   - Gloves
   - Tie
   - Pillow
   - Socks
   - Toy
   - Tablecloth or runner
   - Bedspread
   - Hat
   - Scarf
   - Poncho
   - Baby blanket
   - Rug

2. Keep a record of how much materials cost.
3. Keep work clean and organized.
4. Give a presentation or lead a discussion at a group meeting.
5. Exhibit an article or garment made with one or more pattern stitches.
6. Complete the project record.
Helpful Hints
Rug yarn is best used for rugs and items such as hot plate mats. Lighter weight yarn is suitable for bedspreads, placemats, hats, bags, tablecloths, doilies, edgings, and accessories. It’s important to think about the fiber content of the yarn, too. Wool yarn provides warmth and is flame retardant, but it is usually not machine washable.

Yarn cannot always be color-matched. Plan to buy at one time all the yarn you’re going to need. Check the dye-lot numbers to make sure all skeins are the same. Crochet thread sizes vary from a 5 (heaviest) to a 30 (finest).

Crochet hooks are made of steel, nylon, plastic, or wood. Sizes range from 00 to 15. United Kingdom (U.K.) sizes are also written on the package. These sizes range from A to K. For good results, use the hook size given in the directions and check your gauge. Crochet hooks may be single- or double-ended.

Tension is controlled by the way you hold the thread as it passes through your fingers. With practice you’ll learn to relax, and the flow of thread or yarn will become even. Even tension means even work. Try to make your loops and stitches just loose enough for the hook to go through easily.

“Blocking” means to press or steam material into shape; it is necessary in working with wool. Block all parts of any crocheted garment before sewing together. Doilies and fine work must also be blocked.

Gauge refers to the number of stitches per inch and rows per inch. When making an article of a certain size, you must be sure the measurements are exactly right. This means the gauge must be consistent with that given in the directions. Make a sample to determine if your gauge agrees with the one given in the instructions. If you need fewer stitches, try a larger hook. If you need more stitches, try a smaller hook.

Good crocheting instructions should contain an explanation of abbreviations. Study the abbreviations below to help you follow directions quickly and easily.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>st, sts</td>
<td>stitch, stitches</td>
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<tr>
<td>ch</td>
<td>chain stitch</td>
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<tr>
<td>sc</td>
<td>single crochet</td>
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<tr>
<td>dc</td>
<td>double crochet</td>
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<tr>
<td>rnd</td>
<td>round</td>
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<tr>
<td>sl st</td>
<td>slip stitch</td>
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<tr>
<td>dec</td>
<td>decrease</td>
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<tr>
<td>inc</td>
<td>increase</td>
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</table>

An asterisk (*) means to repeat the instructions as many times as specified. Parentheses () are sometimes used instead of an asterisk to mean the same thing.
Care I gave to my crocheted articles

Number of articles washed

Number of articles repaired

What I shared with others (presentations, helping other members, community service)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TOPIC OR SKILL</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>NUMBER IN AUDIENCE</th>
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Project story
Use this space to write about your project. What did you do? What did you enjoy doing most? Least? Tell about the materials you selected. Include a picture or make a sketch of your final project.

Tell about any crochet books or magazines you read, people who helped you, and activities you completed at your club meetings.
Crocheting Project Record

Name ____________________________________________________________

Address _________________________________________________________

Age as of January 1 ____________________________________________

Club ____________________________________________________________

Project level (beginner, etc.) ______________________________________

Number of years in this project ____________________________________

Leader’s signature ______________________________________________

What I made for my project and what it cost

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ARTICLE OR GARMENT</th>
<th>COST</th>
<th>ESTIMATED VALUE</th>
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Project goals I completed this year

_________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________
Sharing What You’ve Learned
Demonstrate one or more of the skills listed in this project for your skill level.

Resources and References for Your Project
Ask your leader about resources and references for this project. Many are available on PENpages, at your county extension office. Don’t forget to look through craft and crochet magazines at libraries, bookstores, and department stores. The magazines are packed with ideas and skills to help you.

Exhibits and Fashion Revue
Check current roundup or fair premium listings to learn what you can enter as an exhibit. Each item should have a label printed with your name, age, club, and county. You may model crocheted garments and accessories at the fashion revue. Check county, regional, and state guidelines before entering.

Other Things You Can Do
You may take each level as many times as you’d like to learn and develop new skills. If you want to try out your own ideas, you can take the Textile Science “Create Your Own” project.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Kelly Taras</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Age</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-H club</td>
<td>Smoke and lace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County</td>
<td>Snappet</td>
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Prepared by Jan Scholl, associate professor of agricultural and extension education.


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