



Looped and Knotted

Pattern Reading Starter Guide

Learn how to read crochet patterns without feeling lost!

Why Learn to Read Patterns?

Crochet patterns are like secret codes that unlock endless creative projects! Once you know how to read them, you'll be able to:

- Follow tutorials with confidence
- Understand new stitches
- Crochet from books, blogs, and Ravelry
- Customize patterns to make them your own

Common Abbreviations (U.S. Terms)

Abbreviation	Meaning
ch	chain
sc	single crochet
hdc	half double crochet
dc	double crochet
tr	triple/treble crochet
sl st	slip stitch
st	stitch
sk	skip
rep	repeat
* *	repeat between asterisks

💡 You don't need to memorize everything right away. Just keep this sheet handy while you crochet!

Example Pattern Line:

“Ch 26. Row 1: Sc in 2nd ch from hook and each ch across. (25 sc)”

Translation:

- Make a foundation chain of 26.
- Work 1 single crochet into the 2nd chain from your hook.
- Continue placing 1 sc into each chain until you reach the end.
- You should have 25 stitches total when you're done.

Symbols & Repeats

Asterisks (*) indicate repeats:

Sc in next st, ch 1; rep from * to end

→ Repeat what's between the asterisks

Parentheses () show stitch counts or groups:

(2 dc, ch 1, 2 dc) in same st

→ Work all those stitches into one stitch.

Brackets [] often show stitch sets to repeat multiple times.

Pattern Tips for Beginners

Start with small, simple projects like washcloths, scarves, or headbands.

Use worsted weight yarn and a light color so it's easier to see your stitches.

Keep a pen handy to check off rows as you go.

Don't stress! Every crocheter misreads a pattern sometimes.

♥ You've Got This!

Reading crochet patterns takes practice, but it gets easier with every project. Keep your hook moving, trust your hands, and remember: