CROCHETING

Crochet is a needle work done with a needle having a small hook at one end for drawing the thread or yarn though intertwined loops. It is also a process by which a fabric is formed from yarn, thread, or other material strands using a crochet hook. The word '*crochet*' is derived from the French word meaning '*hook*.' Crocheting is used to make a variety of articles both for personal and household use. Examples of these are baby's clothes and blankets, ladies blouses and gowns, shawls, bags, belt, caps, table or foot mats, etc. Crocheting would be a nice hobby as it requires just a ball of thread and a hook.

Difference between Knitting and Crocheting

Crochet differs from knitting in that only one stitch is active at one time, stitches made with the same

diameter of yarn are comparably taller, and a single crochet hook is used instead of two knitting needles. Also, crochet has its own system of symbols to represent stitch types.

Materials and Tools and Used in Crocheting

1. Ball of wool
2. Crochet hooks
3. Small pair of scissors
4. Tape measure
5. Hook organizer
6. Yarn needles
7. Stitch marker
8. Stitch counters
9. A small bag to keep equipment clean
10. Yarn thread
11. Crocheting pins

Rules of Crocheting

1. Wash and dry your hands well before beginning to crochet.
2. Follow the instructions that is usually given
3. Always keep the hook facing you; also, your fingers, hands and fists must be relaxed, while you work your stitches.
4. Always check each row to see that you have made exactly the correct number of stitches instructed.

Basic Stitches in Crocheting

Chain Stitches: Fold over the wool to make a loop. Place the wool under and across the loop with the crochet hook. Draw it up, tighten the knot by pulling the strand wool on the right. This knot and

the loop attached are used as a starting stitch. Other loops are made and linked together, one on top of another. These loops are also called chain stitches, and these stitches are the beginning of the crochet work.

Treble stitch: The treble stitches are one of the useful stitches in crochet. It is done from left to right. Treble crochet is also known as the triple crochet. Make fifteen or twenty chain stitches the wool over and under the hook. Pass the wool over and under the hook. Catch the wool and draw it through the hook. Pass the wool over again and under the hook. Catch the wool and draw it through the remaining two loops. There should be only one loop left on the hook. Repeat this stitch by working in all the remaining chain stitches. When the row is completed, tune the work and

make two chain stitches. Miss the first loop at the base and do the treble stitch in all the loops. Continue in this way until eight rows have been obtained. When the last loop has been made, cut the wool 15cm away from the work. Next, pass the wool over and under the hook. Draw it completely through the loop and fasten firmly.