Step-by-step instructions make it easy to get hooked on crocheting

This hands-on guide helps beginning crocheters choose the right tools, create basic stitches, and finish off their work and helps experienced crocheters expand their skills. Fun projects include placemats, purses, hats, sweaters, afghans, and more. An 8-page color insert shows finished projects and gets readers eager to get clicking. As the sample on the back shows, easy-to-follow instructions and great illustrations take readers through the process step by step, building skills and confidence.

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FREE! Single Crochet instructions
The Old Standby: Single Crochet

The single crochet (abbreviated sc) is the most fundamental of all stitches. A compact stitch, it creates a tight, dense fabric. You use this stitch over and over again, alone or in combination with other stitches.

To begin your first row of single crochet:

1. Make a foundation chain by doing 17 chain stitches.
2. With the right side of the foundation chain facing you and your yarn hand holding the foundation chain, insert the hook from front to back into the second chain from the hook. See Figure 4-18.
3. With your yarn hand, wrap the yarn from back to front over the hook (yo).
4. Rotate the throat of the hook toward you with your hook hand.
5. Pull the hook with the wrapped yarn through the stitch, as Figure 4-19 shows. You should have two loops on your hook.
6. With your yarn hand, wrap the yarn from back to front over the hook.
7. Rotate the throat of the hook toward you with your hook hand.
8. Draw the hook with the wrapped yarn through both loops on the hook, as Figure 4-20 shows. One single crochet is now complete, and one loop remains on your hook.

To work the next single crochet stitch and continue the row:

1. Insert your hook into the next chain stitch, as shown in Figure 4-21.
2. Repeat Steps 3 through 8 from the first single crochet stitch instructions to complete the second stitch.
3. Work 1 single crochet stitch (sc) in each chain stitch (ch) across the foundation chain. You should have 16 single crochet stitches, or one row of single crochet. See Figure 4-22.