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## Answered by the Editor

I SHOULD like to learn some of the stitches in wool, used for sweaters, etc. I understand plain knitting and crochet, but know none of the fancy stitches. Please tell me how to do the afghan- and pineapple-stitch, in crochet.—Mrs. B. N. P., New York.

(Our yarn advertisers have books illustrating and describing all the old favorites, as well as the newest stitches, together with every sort of garment, both knitted and crocheted. It will pay you to get in touch with them—and continue the association. For plain afghan-stitch, commence with a chain of required length; using a hook with long, straight handle, insert hook in first stitch of chain, counting from you, take up wool and draw through, and repeat until you have taken up every stitch of the chain and have the loops all on the needle; this is called working up. To work off, and complete the row, take up the wool and draw through the end stitch on needle, or the last loop worked up; then take up wool and draw through two stitches, continuing until you have but one stitch remaining on the needle and have worked off all the loops. You now have a straight, narrow strip with little perpendicular bars across it, produced by working off the stitches of last row. Insert the hook under first of these little bars, take up wool and draw through, and repeat until you have again the original number of loops, not forgetting the end stitch; work off as before. For pineapple-stitch make a chain of required length, turn. Pull up the stitch on needle to a length of about three-eighths inch (or miss three stitches of chain, as preferred), (take up wool, insert hook in 1st stitch of foundation chain, take up wool and draw through) three times, making seven loops on needle; take up wool and draw through all, and chain one as tightly as possible to close, completing a cluster. \* Miss one stitch of foundation chain, draw up a loop through next, (over, draw up a loop in same place) three times, draw through all, as before, make a tight chain to close the cluster, and repeat from \* to end of row. Then make a chain of three stitches to turn, and make a cluster between each two clusters of preceding row; again pull up the loop on needle, and make a cluster between each two clusters.)

I HAVE several very pretty pieces of crochet-work which I should dearly love to share with Needlecraft's friends—as I feel we all are. So far as I know, they are original; at least, I have never seen anything like them printed. Does Needlecraft pay for such contributions? If so, how much. If not, I shall send them just the same, but would be glad of something to reimburse me for postage and writing directions.—Miss A. J. B., Illinois.

(Thank you. "Needlecraft's way" is to help contributors sell their work by referring to them all orders and inquiries, giving their name and address to those who ask, and putting them also on a list of workers, the name and address of each of whom is given in its turn to ladies wanting work, other than contributed articles, done to order. By this plan a great many have established a "home-work" business, small at first, but gradually increasing until, as not a few have written me, they have all the orders they can attend to. Work well done, as promptly as possible, and at reasonable price, cannot fail to bring more work. What the price is to be must be agreed upon by the worker and her customer. If preferred, original articles submitted for possible publication may have the price at which the contributor is willing to allow them used marked plainly. We have no "usual rates" of payment.)

I HAVE heard that tatting can be made with a common sewing-needle. I saw a handkerchief trimmed with rings, and when I said: "what a pretty tatted edging," the owner laughed and said it never saw a shuttle, but was made with a needle. But she either could not or would not tell me how it was done. Can you?—Miss L. F. A., Rhode Island.

(I can try, surely! "Needle-tatting," as our grandmothers called it, is far easier to do than describe intelligibly without an "object lesson." To learn, it will be well to take a rather long darning-needle, and a length of coarse thread or smooth twine. Thread the needle with the twine. Hold the needle in left hand, and pick up the long end of twine between forefinger and thumb of right hand.

Make a loop of the thread, turning it to the left, and slip it on the needle, drawing up evenly; this forms one half the double knot. Make a second loop, turning the thread to the right and slip over the needle for the last half of knot. Or, if you can get the "knack" more readily so, take this description: Carry the end of thread up over the needle, then back under it, through the loop, for first half of knot; under the needle, back over it and through the loop for the last half. For a ring make, say, four of these double knots; then leave a little space of thread for a picot. Continue until you have made three picots, then make three double knots and first half of fourth—which will give a better closing—pull the needle carefully through the knots, drawing them down on to the thread, insert point of needle in 1st stitch made and draw up snugly. Unthread the needle and thread on the other end; holding the finished ring between forefinger and thumb, and the needle close to it, make four double knots, as directed, insert needle in last picot of preceding ring, put on the next four double knots, and continue as with first ring. A little practise will enable you to make this sort of "tatting" quickly, and it is a very desirable edge where a simple finish is wanted. I knew a small maiden who made "yards and yards" of it for trimming her own wee handkerchiefs.)

I AM enclosing some designs clipped from another fancy-work publication, which I wish you would reproduce in "our paper," with Needlecraft's explicit directions. I cannot work from any others without getting all mixed up; that is, I cannot understand them, while with those in Needlecraft I have no trouble.—Mrs. A. L. P., New Hampshire.

(First let me thank you for the implied compliment to Needlecraft! I regret that your request cannot be complied with; we do not intentionally reproduce work from other publications. The best way would be to get in touch with the contributors of the pieces you are unable to work out, and ask help about them. Or, if you prefer, I shall be glad to make you acquainted with one or more of my own good workers on receipt of request, with self-addressed, stamped envelope.)

### Directions for Stitches in Crochet

**CHAIN:** A series of stitches or loops, each drawn with the hook through the stitch preceding.

**Slip-stitch:** Drop the stitch on hook, insert hook in work, pick up the dropped stitch and draw through. This is used as a joining-stitch where very close work is wanted, or for "slipping" from one point to another without breaking thread.

**Single Crochet:** Having a stitch on needle, insert hook in work, take up thread and draw through work and stitch on needle at same time. This is often called slip-stitch, for which it is frequently used, and also close chain-stitch.

**Double Crochet:** Having a stitch on needle (as will be understood in following directions), insert hook in work, take up thread and draw through, thread over again and draw through the two stitches on needle.

**Treble Crochet:** Thread over needle, hook through work, thread over and draw through work, making three stitches on the needle, over and draw through two, over and draw through remaining two.

**Half treble or short treble crochet:** Like treble, until you have the three stitches on needle; thread over and draw through all at once, instead of working them off two at a time.

**Long treble crochet:** Like treble until you have the three stitches on needle; thread over and draw through one, (thread over, draw through two) twice.

**Double treble:** Thread over twice, hook in work, draw through, making four stitches on needle; (over and draw through two) three times.

**Triple treble crochet:** Thread over three times, hook in work and draw through, making five stitches on the needle; work off the stitches two at a time, as before directed. For quadruple treble put thread over four times, and proceed in the same manner; other longer stitches the same.

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