



Crochet Master Class: Lessons and Projects from Today's Top Crocheters

Jean Leinhauser , Rita Weiss

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Crochet Master Class presents 18 crochet techniques taught by some of the world's best crochet designers and instructors. Each chapter focuses on a different technique, inviting you to dip in, experiment, and then apply your newfound skills to create a custom piece designed by these crochet luminaries. You'll learn Hairpin Lace from Stitch Diva Jennifer Hansen, discover the intricate color work of tapestry crochet from Carol Ventura, and explore free-form crochet with renowned fiber artist Prudence Mapstone. Filled with expert instruction, inspiring stories, and projects created exclusively for this book, *Crochet Master Class* is your guide to the incredible range of crochet possibilities.

Techniques include:

Filet Crochet • Hairpin Lace • Tapestry Crochet • Aran Crochet • Entrelac Crochet • Fashion Crochet • Tunisian Crochet • Woven Crochet • Double-Ended Crochet • Tassels • Bullion Stitch • Overlay Crochet • Bead Crochet • Bruges Crochet • Painted Crochet • Free-Form Crochet • Irish Crochet • Wire Crochet

Crochet Master Class: Lessons and Projects from Today's Top Crocheters Details

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From Reader Review Crochet Master Class: Lessons and Projects from Today's Top Crocheters for online ebook

Jennifer says

Somehow I thought this would be a class on learning crochet; really it is a class on learning specific crochet techniques as used by certain designers. It was too advanced for my crochet skills.

That said, I enjoyed just flipping through it. The multi-color crochet lace item featured on the cover is amazing--but the pattern would only be accessible to "expert"-level crocheters.

Jess says

This was an interesting book...but there isn't anything I particularly want to make in it. It explained thing very well. It had good pics and clear instructions. The items it featured were dated, though.

Katy M says

Good book. A worthy addition to your crochet library.

This book is a collection of illustrated mini-classes in many different techniques by several crochet Masters. One thing I like about Kindle editions of these types of books is the ability to double tap the screen and the image "blows up" to full page size, making it so easy to see the detail; then you just tap the little X in the upper right hand corner to go back to the page you were reading- at least on my Kindle, don't know how this works with the apps on non-touch devices.

Contrary to what the title seems to say, to me anyway, you don't have to be a Master to learn these techniques but it's not for absolute beginners either. There is a little "refresher" course showing various basic stitches along with a glossary of abbreviations, symbols and terminology, yarn weights, hook conversion chart, etc. in the appendix. There is the normal Kindle touch enabled table of contents as well as a comprehensive touch enabled index.

A well written, presented, formatted and edited book.

I checked this book out from the library to see if I wanted to buy it and I do. While I had no time to actually try any of the techniques in this book, and will update this review when I do, it was a delight just to read and learn about some crochet techniques I'd been curious about as well as seeing how other crocheters interpret the techniques I already use.

Julia says

Serves as an introduction to lots of advanced crochet techniques. Things are well explained generally. If I got into a particular technique, I would need to explore it further via books devoted to just that type of crochet. Still, I'd like to own it.

Anie says

A really nice introduction (including project patterns) to numerous advanced techniques in crochet. Many of the projects are not my cup of tea (as is typical for crochet pattern designs, tbh), but the discussion of techniques is generally very nice, especially for introductory discussion.

Mycala says

It's been a mighty long time since I picked up a crochet hook and completed a project. I've been poking away at various things from time to time when the mood strikes, but I haven't really had much heart in it. My oldest project is a single sock I started in 2007. I'm about halfway up the calf at this point, and if I finish, I will probably just frame them for posterity. I started the sock while I was waiting for a first date that wound up being a complete disaster. Perhaps that's why I don't pull it out of my project basket often.

But enough of the psychology of craft projects. This book inspired me. Freeform crochet -- now that's for me. Different colors, different stitches, no counting. I have died and gone to heaven. You wouldn't believe how much I've crocheted since putting this book down on Monday. I can't believe it myself.

That alone is worth four stars, but the other patterns and forms are amazing as well. There is something in here for everyone who crochets.

Laurie Sand says

Very nice overview of more advanced crochet techniques. My only complaint is that the projects were a bit on the simple side (the "Master Class" moniker seems to apply to the techniques rather than the projects themselves), but this is likely a flaw in my expectations and not in the book. I will say that the Painted Crochet technique impressed me, and I particularly loved the description from the designer of the Hearts and Roses Centerpiece: "I didn't choose to make this design; it chose me."

Rae says

While not a good beginner's book, this book provides a good overview of many crochet techniques that aren't mentioned in a lot of pattern books. If you're looking to branch out in your skills or are simply looking for inspiration, this is the book for you. In addition to covering some of the lesser known techniques, this book includes a blurb on famous crocheters of each technique and a pattern. The book won't teach you to master the skills in the articles, but it will give you an introduction to them.

This book has an articles on:

- woven crochet
- hairpin lace
- tapestry crochet

- aran crochet
 - entrelac crochet
 - fashion crochet
 - tunisian crochet
 - filet crochet
 - double ended crochet
 - tassels (really fancy ones like the kind you find for curtains)
 - bullion stich
 - overlay acrocet
 - bead crochet
 - bruges crochet
 - painted crochet (subtle color changes, not actual paint!)
 - free form crocet
 - Irish crochet
 - wire crochet
-

Magen says

3.5 stars, rounded up because it's comprehensive.

It would have been 4 stars, except it's light in teaching the techniques. With these advanced techniques, it would have been useful to have step by step instructions for the new stitches over a brief explanation. If you are looking for a book to teach you each technique in detail, this book is not for you. If you are an advanced crocheter than can pick up most techniques with concise instructions and a pattern example, this is a great book. If you're interested in seeing a variety of new techniques and aren't an advanced crocheter, this is a great book. If your an intermediate crocheter that can figure out a lot from a pattern and explanation, but not necessarily things which don't quite build on your previous skills, you'll probably find parts of this book frustrating. The patterns in this book are nearly all very complicated and complex, though they don't necessarily all need to be. I found learning about the techniques interesting and it was surprised to find how many of them, with quite a bit of practice, are truly within my reach since those are heavily based on basic stitches. I will need to seek extra help on learning any of these techniques outside this book, but it was definitely worth the read and sparked a lot of ideas.

Claire says

The most interesting chapter in the book for me was the one on Clones lace crochet (one of the last chapters) because it includes a history of how that particular crocheting technique was used. When I borrowed this (e)book from the library, I was hoping for more information on crocheting techniques and methods; I wasn't expecting a couple of pages of biography about the crocheter, one or two "tips", and then a pattern. It's not necessarily a failing of the book - just my expectations didn't match what I found in the chapters.

That being said, for anyone looking for really different and/or advanced crocheting patterns, there's quite a variety in this book.

Marie Segares says

Crochet Master Class is one of the few crochet books I have seen recently that has really excited me. The structure of the book includes a bio of each master crocheter with her or his "crochet biography" as well as a description of the specific connection to a particular technique or skill.

For me, the book works on many levels. First, it introduces you to many skills (which I promise to outline below). Second, it introduces (or reminds you of) many masters. Third, it presents some great photos and a sample project for each skill/technique.

I've been crocheting for about 27 years and teaching crochet for the past four years. At this point in my own crochet life, I'm not as psyched by following patterns. I'm a bit more intrigued by design. What I like about this book is that there is a pattern for each skill/technique, but there is also some discussion about how to do the technique in case you are more interested in learning the skill than you are in reading a pattern collection. I have already used it in my crochet classes and whenever it is passed around, the students get very excited about the possibilities of crochet.

Here is a list of chapters and the relevant skills and masters:

- * Woven Crochet with Jenny King
- * Hairpin Lace with Jennifer Hansen
- * Tapestry Crochet with Carol Ventura
- * Aran Crochet with Jane Sneedeen Peever
- * Entrelac Crochet with Joyce Wyatt
- * Fashion Crochet with Margaret Hubert
- * Tunisian Crochet with Julia Bryant
- * Filet Crochet with Hartmut Hass
- * Double-Ended Crochet with Darla J. Fanton
- * Tassels with Nancy Nehring
- * Bullion Stitch with Bonnie Pierce
- * Overlay Crochet with Melody MacDuffee
- * Bead Crochet with Lydia Borin
- * Bruges Crochet with Tatyana Mirer
- * Painted Crochet with Ferosa Harold
- * Free-Form Crochet with Prudence Mapstone
- * Irish Crochet with Maire Treanor
- * Wire Crochet with Nancie Wiseman

As many of the reviewers have already mentioned, the book doesn't provide you with enough detail on each topic to master the skill (particularly if you are a beginner crocheter). Instead, this book introduces you to many of the creative things you can do with crochet which aren't generally featured in the standard pattern books. By introducing you to a master in each field, you are also given some hints about where you might find further information (e.g., on the master's website).

This is definitely a book that can bring your crocheting to the next level, or give you a creative "kick in the pants." I recommend it to crocheters of all levels. Beginners will get to see all that you can do with crochet, intermediates will be introduced to some interesting techniques and patterns to walk them through the technique, and experts will get to see some beautiful crochet pieces and learn more about the inspiration of

many great designers. I consider it a "must-have" for any serious crochet book collection.

Beth says

Interesting to look at and see further possibilities in crochet with a small introduction to various advanced techniques. The profiles of various designers are interesting as well. However, while there are photos of many designs for each type of crochet there is only one pattern given for each type. This book is more of an inspiration book or a good explanation of techniques that you may have seen used in other books. Nothing in it I want to actually make.

Cindy says

Sometimes I check out a stack of books from my library for inspiration (also because library budgets are determined by circulation, at least in part, and I want my library to have a large budget) - anyway, this book is full of fun inspiration. Lots of designers in different areas of crochet tell their stories - how they came to their specialty, why they love it, etc. and then a pattern or two from each designer. Cool techniques covered - overlay, bead crochet, wire crochet, hairpin lace, to name only a few - and good clear instructions.

Grace says

This was a completely different kind of crochet book for me. Within the pages, I learnt more about a certain designer that is popular for a special kind of technique. For example, in the section on Tartan plaids, there was a very brief blurb about Jenny King, who specialises in this technique. This blurb about the designer is followed by a short, two page tutorial on how to do the technique, then a "pattern". This pattern, on several of them, are difficult for me to read. Some of them are written out really well, and others I had to look at several times to realise it was even a pattern.

If you are into learning more than patterns, and don't mind a challenge when you set your hooks to work, this book may be for you. I'm certainly finding it interesting to learn about the 18 different techniques that are picked out and compiled into this book, but I'm definitely not going to become proficient with these directions. I think of it as good fuel for the creative fires, instead.

Lauren says

Enjoyable techniques, and helpful.
