

The 4 ***Biggest*** Mistakes You Are Making When Reading a Crochet Pattern.

1. You didn't learn or don't understand the jargon.

Did you know that crochet has its own language?

- In order to successfully read crochet patterns, you must know and understand the various abbreviations, symbols, & terminology that are used in each pattern.
- Don't know that dc2tog means that you need to double crochet two together? Then you will be lost and confused if the pattern you are using has this type of terminology.

2. You don't know the origin of your pattern.

What? Why is this important?

- Although most crochet terminology is universal, occasionally countries do use different crochet abbreviations and/or symbols. This is particularly common when comparing British & American patterns.
- If you only know American crochet terminology and don't know that you are using a British pattern, you will be stumped and not know what crochet stitch to do when you come across a British abbreviation.
- Thus, you should know where your pattern came from and know how to convert between American & British (or Australian) terminology in order to be a successful crochet pattern reader.

FYI: British patterns are extremely prevalent in the U.S. so this is a particularly important point.

3. You didn't follow the sentence structure properly.

Crochet patterns generally have a specific overall structure and the symbols & abbreviations are strung together to create "sentences".

- Just like in every language, you have to be able to follow the sentence structure in a crochet pattern in order to read and execute it properly.
- This can be the most difficult part of reading a crochet pattern and if you don't do it properly you will become frustrated and fail at your crochet project.

4. You picked a pattern above your skill level.

Okay, so this isn't technically a mistake you make when you are reading a crochet pattern, but is a huge mistake that can cause you not to be able to read a crochet pattern correctly.

We are all at various places in our crochet journey.

- If you are the beginning of yours, it will only confuse and frustrate you if you choose a pattern that is designed with advanced crochet stitches.
- Not only will working the stitches be difficult for you, but also reading the pattern will be a nightmare! There may be abbreviations, symbols, & terminology you are not yet ready for and the sentence structure could be quite complicated.
- Most crochet patterns denote the skill level needed to successfully complete the project. So, be sure to choose a pattern that is appropriate to your experience level.



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