

Test Your Tech Editing Instinct

Below is a simple (but real) crochet pattern. Using the knowledge you have, work through the pattern and see if you can find the errors. Then head to page 2 to for the solution and explanation of what a tech editor looks for!

BASIC DISHCLOTH

YARN-Lily Sugar'n Cream Super Size Yarn, one ball

MATERIALS-

US H/8 (5.0mm)

Yarn needle

DIFFICULTY-Begginer

FINISHED SIZE-5½" x 6¼"/14cm x 16cm

GAUGE-13 sc x 15 rows = 4"/10cm square

ABBREVIATIONS-

ch(s) - chain(s)

sc - single crochet

st(s) - stitch(es)

NOTES-This is a super-easy begginer pattern to make one dishcloth. This pattern is suitable for learn to crochet classes.

PATTERN

Ch 22.

Row 1; Sc in second loop from hook. Sc to end of row. 24 sts.

Row 2: Ch 1 (ch1 does not count as st), sc to end of row

Repeat row 2 for 18 total rows.

FINISHING

Cut yarn. Fasten off. Weeve in ends.



Here's the solution to the test.

As a tech editor, we read over the pattern, checking for spelling, grammar, math, and other types of errors.

Are you a fan of grammar? The spelling, punctuation, and sentence structure that you learned as a child in school? Did you spot the four places this pattern could use a spelling or grammar polish?

1. Here are two spelling mistakes on the first page:

Yarn needle
DIFFICULTY-Begginer **Beginner**
FINISHED SIZE-5½"x 6¼"/14cm x 16cm
GAUGE-13 sc x 15 rows = 4" /10cm square
ABBREVIATIONS-
ch(s) - chain(s)
sc - single crochet
st(s) - stitch(es)
beginner
NOTES-This is a super-easy **begginer** pattern to make a dishcloth. This pattern is suitable for learn to sew classes.
PATTERN

2. Here's another under the "Finishing" section:

FINISHING
Cut yarn. Fasten off. **Weeve** in ends.
Weave

3. Looks like this line of instruction needs a period at the end:

sc to end of row. 24 sts.
sc to end of row.

How about math? Did you spot the numerical error in the pattern?

1. Only one major "oops" with the numbers. If we sc in the 2nd ch from the hook, we need to subtract one from the original ch count for our sc count:

21 sts. 22-1=21 sts.
Sc to end of row. **24** sts.
(st), sc to end of row.

Do your eyes quickly spot inconsistencies? Things that aren't uniform throughout the pattern?

1. We have a semi-colon used instead of a colon after the row number:

2. We have a "ch1" with no space, whereas the first "Ch 1" has a space between the abbreviation and number:

PATTERN
Ch 22. **Use : for consistency.**
Row 1; Sc in second loop from hook. Sc to end
Row 2: Ch 1 (ch1 does not count as st), sc to
Repeat row 2 for 18 total rows.
ch 1 (for consistency)
FINISHING

Lastly, how are you at spotting places in the pattern that could be improved for the crocheter's ease of use? Or catching places with missing instructions?

1. The yarn in this pattern could use additional info:

Needs more info such as fiber content, yardage, meterage,
BASIC DISHCLOTH
YARN-Lily Sugar'n Cream Super Size Yarn, one ball
MATERIALS-
US H/8 (5.0mm)

2. Instructions are missing from both these lines of instructions to "turn work" at the end of the row.

21 sts. 22-1=21 sts.
end of row. **24** sts. **Turn work.**
c to end of row. **Turn work.**

Well, how did you do? Did you spot all of the errors in the pattern? If you think this would be a career you would enjoy, check out the Learn to Tech Edit Crochet course on The Tech Editor Hub!