



CROCHET INSTRUCTOR

Private Instruction 101



CROCHET INSTRUCTOR



Learn to TEACH crochet!

You already know how to crochet! However, there is a gap between knowing how to do something, and being able to clearly articulate and teach your knowledge in an effective way.

In this lesson we'll cover:

1. What is a Private Instructor
2. Lesson Foundations
3. Answer FAQ
4. Action Steps

WHAT IS A PRIVATE INSTRUCTOR?



Private Crochet Instructors:

- Give private lessons
- Have a syllabus
- Follow universal standards
- Motivate

WHAT IS A PRIVATE INSTRUCTOR?



Private Instruction

Because crochet is an intensive, hands-on, visual, trial-and-error type of skill, you will be most successful in teaching only 1 student at a time. However, we do encourage paired learning (student + 1 friend).

Once a student learns the basics (Easy level + pattern reading), they can move on to group workshops.

Group workshops are NOT private lessons.

WHAT IS A PRIVATE INSTRUCTOR?



Private instructors use a syllabus!

What will you teach, in how much detail, and in what order.

A great syllabus will separate you from other “instructors”; A syllabus replicates successful learning environments & experiences.

WHAT IS A PRIVATE INSTRUCTOR?



Every lesson follows a structure:

- Prepare: Lesson samples ready, content rehearsed
- Assess: Review homework for accuracy; stitch / row counting
- Don't Overwhelm: Tell > Show 2x > Work Together
- What's next: Motivate student
- Questions: Always ask if your student has questions

WHAT IS A PRIVATE INSTRUCTOR?



A coach will help you to succeed!

Anyone can master crochet! But, becoming a confident and successful instructor (coach) means you are:

- Prepared: Informed, and well versed in lesson content.
- Patient: Crochet takes time to master; understanding is different than execution!

Why should students come to you instead of YouTube?

Because they want a coach!

LESSON FOUNDATIONS



Everyone learns differently...

Quick & slow learners, left-handed, beginner & children. A fantastic lesson foundation is one that works for you and your student, equally:

- Universal Standards
- Skill Assessment
- Assuring students have the right tool kit
- Teaching in the best environment
- Using reasonable time frames

LESSON FOUNDATIONS



CROCHET SKILL LEVELS



Level	Skill	Description
1	Beginner	Projects for first-time crocheters using basic stitches. Minimal shaping.
2	Easy	Projects using basic stitches, repetitive stitch patterns, simple color changes. Simple shaping and finishing.
3	Intermediate	Projects using a variety of techniques; basic lace or color patterns. Mid-level shaping and finishing.
4	Experienced	Projects with intricate stitch patterns, techniques and dimension; non-repeating patterns, multi-colored techniques, fine threads, small hooks. Detailed shaping and refined finishing.

Follow universal standards in crochet!

ACA lesson plans follow the characteristics outlined in each skill level.

Every lesson, and project, will outline a characteristic to learn and master each skill level in crochet.

LESSON FOUNDATIONS



Skill Assessment

Your syllabus will outline every private crochet lesson you teach.

Asking potential students questions will identify what they've learned, and where their lessons can begin (where to focus or skim).

- Left or Right handed?
- Have you ever crocheted before?
- Why do you want to crochet? What do you want to make?



LESSON FOUNDATIONS



Student Tool Kits

Make crochet as easy as possible with a starter kit for new students (include with class fee), and provide all materials needed per lesson.

Crochet is an investment of time and money. Make the commitment as easy as possible by providing exactly what they need to be successful.

LESSON FOUNDATIONS



We recommend just enough to begin the basics. Lesson 1 & 2 concentrates on crochet stitches:

- Yarn: Weight 5, light color, minimal ply / texture
- Hook: Give 1, match yarn
- Stitch Markers: At least 2

LESSON FOUNDATIONS



Teaching Environments

This will make your lessons awesome, or awful:

- Neutral location; no distractions, (people, phones), soft music or ambiance: Yarn Shop, Library, Cafe
- No children
- Comfortable seats, table, bathroom nearby
- Tell student to bring water, snacks



LESSON FOUNDATIONS



Reasonable Time Frames

Crochet requires mental & physical learning together, and both can be a lot for a new student.

- Quick: Lessons should not exceed 1.5 hours; 1 hour is perfect!
- Precise: Stick to your syllabus for learning objectives; test execution time



FAQ...



Left-handed students

Nearly all crochet patterns are offered in right-handed instructions. If you have a left-handed student, try to teach them right-handed (crochet is awkward to learn anyway)!

However, left-handed crocheters can follow right-handed patterns that are symmetrical; asymmetrical patterns do not translate from right to left.



Slow Learners

It's more important to keep your lesson time under 1.5 hours than it is to jam in all the learning objectives.

Slow learners may only be able to learn and apply 1 learning objective, where the “average” student may be able to learn and apply 3.

Adjust accordingly to assure your student is having fun, motivated, and feels accomplished!



First Projects

Crochet requires knowledge and skill to learn, develop, and feel comfortable. There is a specific progression within our syllabus that will effectively teach crochet in a meaningful way.

Follow our suggested syllabus so you don't overwhelm your students before they have a chance to learn the basics.



Teaching Children

There is not a specific age that children will be more susceptible to learning. Instead, children will be ready to learn crochet when they are: interested, can sit still for at least 30 minutes, have a desire to practice.



This is a job

We often teach others to crochet so we can share our love of the craft, and even make new friends. That is wonderful, and we strongly encourage this mindset!

An effective instructor is one who stays on script to pass along knowledge in a meaningful way.

Some of my most successful students are now my very best friends. Just be sure you are providing a learning environment if this is your profession.



How much should I charge?

Crochet instruction is one-on-one training that is very focused and intensive. This work is allowing you to charge for your knowledge, and that is worth a fair wage.

As a starting suggestion, charge 2x the minimum wage amount in your area + materials.

ACTION STEPS



Get a friend to help...

Find 1 or 2 reliable friends to be your test students throughout this process!

Your test students will help you apply all homework and action steps from this course, and help you find confidence in teaching.



Thank you for joining this class!

*Join us on Facebook to spark a conversation on this subject,
or to offer some feedback!*