

# PATTERN TESTING CHECKLIST

## AMERICAN CROCHET ASSOCIATION

### 15-POINT CHECKLIST FOR PATTERN TESTING

	SECTION	WHAT TO LOOK FOR	WHAT TO INCLUDE IN YOUR NOTES
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Yarn</b>	Check for yarn weight, brand, and quantities needed. If the designer is requesting your input about how much yarn you needed, include this information with your notes. Colors used in the sample are very helpful and will help customers who would like to replicate the project.	Include the yarn brand you used and the quantity or weight of yarn used.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Materials</b>	Double check for hook size and any necessary notions. Common examples are yarn needle, scissors, stitch markers, and measuring tape. Less common examples are safety eyes, buttons (with size), polyester stuffing, thread, etc.	Is anything missing?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Difficulty Level</b>	Beginner, Easy, Intermediate, or Advanced.	What rating would you give this pattern? Beginner, Easy, Intermediate, or Advanced. Do you agree with the designer's difficulty level?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Size and Measurements</b>	Are appropriate measurements included?	Does your finished size agree with the pattern specifications? Note any inconsistencies in sizing.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Gauge</b>	Is gauge listed?	Did you need to adjust your hook to meet gauge? Note hook used.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Stitches</b>	Make sure each stitch abbreviation used in the pattern is included in the "Abbreviations" at the beginning of the pattern. Are the standard crochet abbreviations from the Craft Yarn Council used?	Is anything missing?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Special Stitches</b>	Are the definitions clear?	Did you need to look at a YouTube tutorial to figure out the stitch? If so, the written directions may need to be adjusted.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Notes</b>	Check for any pertinent notes.	Is there anything else that would really help somebody to make it through the tough areas of this pattern?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Instruction Section</b>	Check that Rounds and Rows are used appropriately. Check for concise instructions. Patterns should not be overly "wordy".	Was any section confusing?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Accurate Stitch Counts</b>	Are stitch counts included? Do they make sense?	Do your actual stitch counts match the stitch counts in the pattern? Note any inconsistencies.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Grammar Check</b>	Look for any misspellings, autocorrect errors, double words (the the), etc.	Note any inconsistencies.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Punctuation</b>	A designer should be consistent with their punctuation. If they normally end each row with a period, check that it is consistent throughout. Some designers use ( ) to include the stitch counts at the end of the row. Again, double check for consistency.	Note any inconsistencies.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Consistency</b>	Check for consistencies in formatting, headings, spacing, stitches, abbreviations, punctuation, grammar, etc.	Be extra picky!
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Finishing and Assembly Instructions</b>	Check for clarity and concise instructions.	Could you figure it out? Was it clear?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Photo Tutorials</b>	If included, does it help? Or does it just add pages to the pattern? Are photos clear?	Did you need to look at the tutorial to figure out a section?

Pattern testing is a unique opportunity in the crochet world to interact with pattern writers, learn the trade, strengthen crochet skills, and learn pattern writing techniques. Writers depend on testers to help proof instructions, and work up samples, before a pattern can be published; they need to know if their instructions make sense, and double check for any errors; always have someone else proof your work!

Sometimes the payment for testing a pattern is the final edited copy of the pattern. Sometimes, in addition to the pattern, a designer will gift you another pattern from their shop. Sometimes, designers pay in gift cards, yarn, or money. Whatever the reimbursement, each pattern test that you complete helps to further your crochet knowledge, expertise, and experience. If you have the time, pattern testing is a great experience.