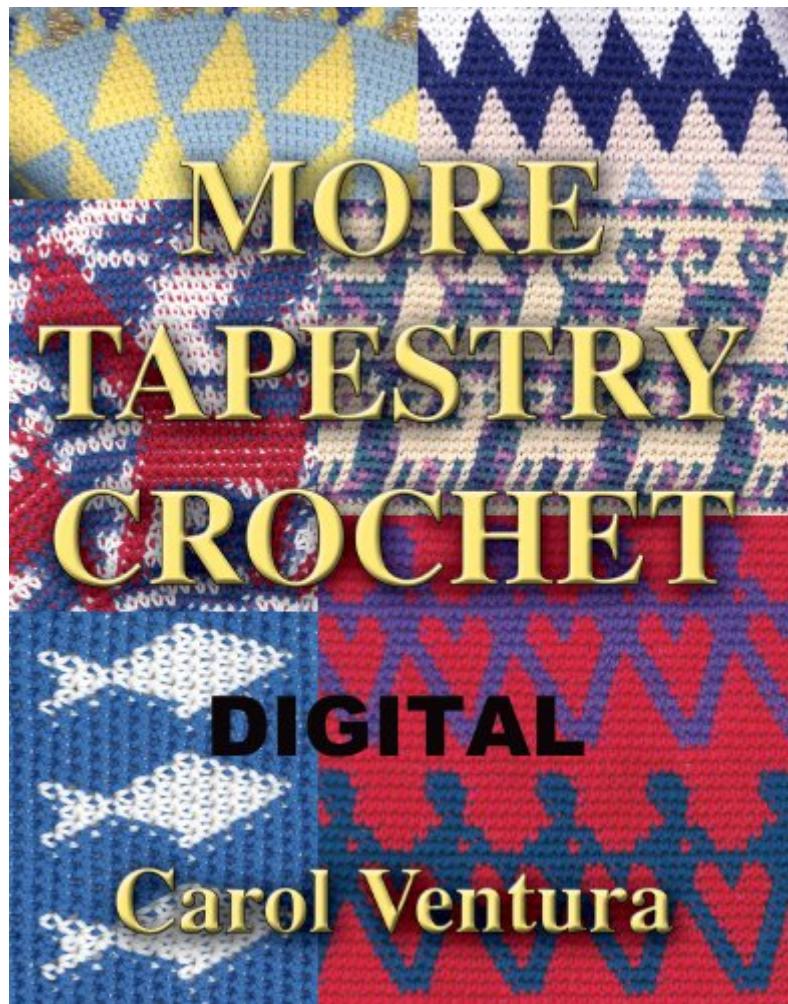


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# More Tapestry Crochet: Digital



## **Synopsis**

Tapestry crochet differs from ordinary crochet in its texture, tension, and how colors are manipulated. Two or more yarns are worked at the same time to create intricate or simple motifs. One yarn is carried while the other yarn is worked over it. Depending on the tension and number of yarns carried, the finished fabric can be stiff or supple, and may take any flat or three-dimensional form. Tapestry crochet has the flexibility and portability of crochet, but the finished pieces look woven. The tapestry crocheted shoulder bags of highland Guatemala and the hats of Cameroon inspired the wide variety of flat and three-dimensional projects in this book. Instructions, graphs, and photos are included for both right-handed and left-handed crocheters. In fact, this revised edition includes hundreds of color illustrations and photographs and links to online resources. Besides full instructions, information is shared about the history of tapestry crochet around the world and special graph papers and instructions help readers to design their own projects and motifs!

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

This is a nice book with lots of information, but not exactly what I was looking for. Actually, I have

been doing tapestry crochet for years and didn't even realize it! I have seen many beautiful tapestry bags on various Websites. What I was really looking for was how to create the gorgeous patterns that serve as the bottom of the bags. This book really did not show me how that is done. I ended up purchasing a pattern from Etsy which shows me exactly what I was looking for (and was a lot less expensive, too). I really wish there had been more color pictures - most pictures are in blank and white. The book did come with many graphs that can be used to create my own patterns which is helpful.

This book is a comfortable size, slightly bigger than A4, and sit easily on the workbench. One often thinks ring-binding is easiest because of the lie-flat aspect but with spiral binding there is the inherent danger of torn pages, so I'm happy that this book has a glued spine. There are many black and white photographs of the items and the patterns and four pages in colour, showing the given projects. There are also numerous black and white diagrams and drawings to illustrate the already-clear instructions. I had never heard of tapestry crochet and at first I found the changing-thread technique a little fiddly but Ms Ventura's encouraging style kept me practising. Dealing first with the basic stitch, she progresses us from simple, circular patterns to more complex ones and closes the book by teaching how to do tapestry crochet in flat pieces as well as in the round. There are patterns for hats, bags, little purses, baby blankets and scarves. The close-up photographs of the stitch patterns are very helpful. Ms Ventura supplies graphs for each pattern and also gives written, line-by-line instructions where there is no stinting of detail. Some might find the repetition tedious but to me it shows a real desire to be clear and complete. There is no trace of the 'do-it-until-it-looks-right' attitude. The whole book is conscientiously researched and produced. Full instructions are included for left handed people; there is not any suggestion to just use a mirror and manage as best you can. By the nature of the stitch formation, this style of crochet results in the pattern working on a slight right-hand bias. Ms Ventura explains why this happens and how to take it into account when making one's own graphs. The book includes special tapestry-crochet graph paper for both the right and the left handed student. There are also examples of how to plot a design and the pitfalls one might encounter. Interspersed between instructions are articles on the background of this craft and the production of cotton, linen and wool; there are interesting photographs of people from the Cameroons to Guatemala doing this style of crochet and of their end products. I am delighted with this book and have learned from it. It feels and is a whole-hearted effort by Ms Ventura and I offer her my thanks and congratulations.

Pros:+ Great patterns with clear instructions. The instructions are given without abbreviations, which drives me up the wall, but that's a personal-preference thing and charts are also included.+ Graph paper and techniques for charting your own designs.+ Good instructions for all of the necessary stitches, including basic non-tapestry crochet; this would be a fine book for a beginner.+ Book is organized by shape, which makes a nice natural progression for learning.Cons:- The historical and cultural tidbits are interesting, and show the author's dedication to studying different crochet traditions, but they feel very haphazard. There is little or no background given as to who the people in the photographs are or when they were taken. I feel like it would have been a stronger book with less historical and fiber-trivia information and a more thoroughly annotated bibliography so that people who want to know more can get in-depth information on whatever they are interested in.- Black-and-white pictures and charts. I realize there were cost issues, but for something this visual it really does make a difference. On the other hand, if you're color-blind and have trouble reading colorwork charts because of it this is perhaps the book for you :-)

This book is very interesting...I've made two projects from it already. The beginners will like this because you only need to learn a few basic stitches (chain, single crochet) and then follow the very complete directions to complete a project....some will take hours, some will take weeks. The advanced crocheter will appreciate the history included in the book and also learning a new technique. Creating pictures by carrying the thread across a row is different for many crocheter's as we usually use bobbins....you'll enjoy reading about the author also.

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