

## Knot Your Average Course: Quirky Crochet is unraveling textured stitches!

This course is designed for intermediate-level crocheters. Prior familiarity with essential stitches such as single crochet, slip stitch, and half double crochet is strongly recommended. If you haven't yet mastered these stitches, we encourage you to enroll in our Introduction to Crochet (Tote-ally Quirky Tote) beginner course, also available.

Welcome to the wacky world of Quirky Crochet, where we're diving deep into the delightful realm of textured stitches! If you're tired of the same old smooth sailing in your crochet projects and craving some bumps, bobbles, and twists along the way, then you're in for a treat!

In this intermediate crochet course, we're taking a whimsical journey through an array of textured stitches that'll make your projects pop with personality. From bobbles that resemble tiny marshmallows to puffs that puff up like little clouds, we're unleashing the magic of texture one stitch at a time!

Get ready to master the art of the unexpected with our quirky crew of stitches, including the enigmatic Front Post Double Crochet (FPDC) and its mysterious counterpart, the Back Post Double Crochet (BPDC). Together, they'll have you crocheting ribbing that'll make your friends say, "How'd you DO that?!"

But wait, there's more! Ever wanted to crochet something that looks good enough to eat? Well, get ready to whip up some scrumptious Bobble and Popcorn stitches that'll have you craving a snack break between rows.

And just when you thought it couldn't get any crazier, we'll dive into the world of the Puff Stitch, where you'll learn to create fluffy clouds of crochet goodness that'll make you want to snuggle up with your project forever.

So grab your hooks, unleash your imagination, and join us for a crochet course that's as quirky as it is creative.

### Intermediate Crochet Course: Exploring Textured Stitches

#### Session 1: Introduction to Textured Stitches

- Overview of textured stitches: what they are and their importance in crochet projects.
- Common textured stitches: Front Post Double Crochet (FPDC), Back Post Double Crochet (BPDC), Bobble Stitch, Popcorn Stitch, and Puff Stitch.
- Practice swatches: Creating small swatches using each textured stitch to understand their differences.

#### Session 2: Front and Back Post Stitches

- Detailed tutorial on Front Post Double Crochet (FPDC) and Back Post Double Crochet (BPDC) stitches.

- How to incorporate FPDC and BPDC to create ribbing, cables, and raised patterns.
- Practice project: Crochet a small ribbed square using FPDC and BPDC stitches.

### Session 3: Bobble and Popcorn Stitches

- Step-by-step instructions on how to crochet Bobble and Popcorn stitches.
- Tips for achieving consistent bobbles and popcorns.
- Using Bobble and Popcorn stitches to add texture and dimension to your projects.
- Practice project: Create a textured swatch incorporating both Bobble and Popcorn stitches.

### Session 4: Puff Stitch and Combining Textures

- Guide to crocheting the Puff Stitch, including variations.
- Strategies for combining different textured stitches in a single project.
- Final project introduction: Designing a baby afghan that incorporates various textured stitches.
- Discussion on finishing techniques and blocking for textured crochet projects.

### Intermediate Crochet Pattern: Baby Afghan with Textured Stitches

Snuggle Squiggles Afghan

#### Materials:

- Worsted weight yarn in baby-friendly colors (3-4 colors)
- Crochet hook appropriate for yarn weight (Size H/5.0mm recommended)
- Scissors
- Yarn needle

#### Instructions:

1. **Foundation Chain:** Chain 100 stitches using your main color.
2. **Row 1:** HDC (Half Double Crochet) in the second chain from the hook and in each chain across. Turn.
3. **Row 2:** Chain 2 (counts as first HDC), FPDC around the next stitch, BPDC around the next stitch. Repeat (FPDC, BPDC) across, ending with a HDC in the last stitch. Turn.
4. **Row 3:** Repeat Row 2.
5. **Row 4:** Change to a new color. HDC in each stitch across. Turn.
6. **Row 5:** Chain 2 (counts as first HDC), *Bobble stitch in the next stitch, HDC in the next stitch.* Repeat - across, ending with a HDC in the last stitch. Turn.

7. **Row 6:** HDC in each stitch across. Turn.
8. **Row 7:** Repeat Row 2.
9. **Row 8:** Repeat Row 3.
10. **Row 9:** Change to a new color. HDC in each stitch across. Turn.
11. **Row 10:** Chain 2 (counts as first HDC), *Puff stitch in the next stitch, HDC in the next stitch*. Repeat - across, ending with a HDC in the last stitch. Turn.
12. **Row 11:** Repeat Row 6.
13. **Row 12:** Repeat Row 3.
14. **Row 13:** Repeat Row 2.
15. **Row 14-100:** Repeat Rows 4-13, alternating between textured stitch sections and HDC sections. End with a HDC row.
16. **Border:** SC (Single Crochet) evenly around the entire afghan, working 3 SC in each corner. Join with a slip stitch and fasten off.
17. **Finishing:** Weave in all ends and block the afghan to shape if desired.

This baby afghan pattern combines various textured stitches to create a visually appealing and tactilely interesting piece perfect for keeping a little one cozy. Feel free to customize colors and stitch combinations to suit your preferences!