

Who knew?

June 12th, 2011

From Carol Ventura's Tapestry Crochet blog

This spring I was fortunate enough to talk with Carol Ventura about tapestry crochet. When I mentioned that I had made my own graph paper, because my slant was different, she was quick to notice that I wrapped my pattern yarn around the hook differently, from the bottom instead of from the top, as she does, and as it is generally taught.

Two both of our surprise, this does make a difference. I have captured the explanation from her blog, because it is so clear. I hope that it is useful.

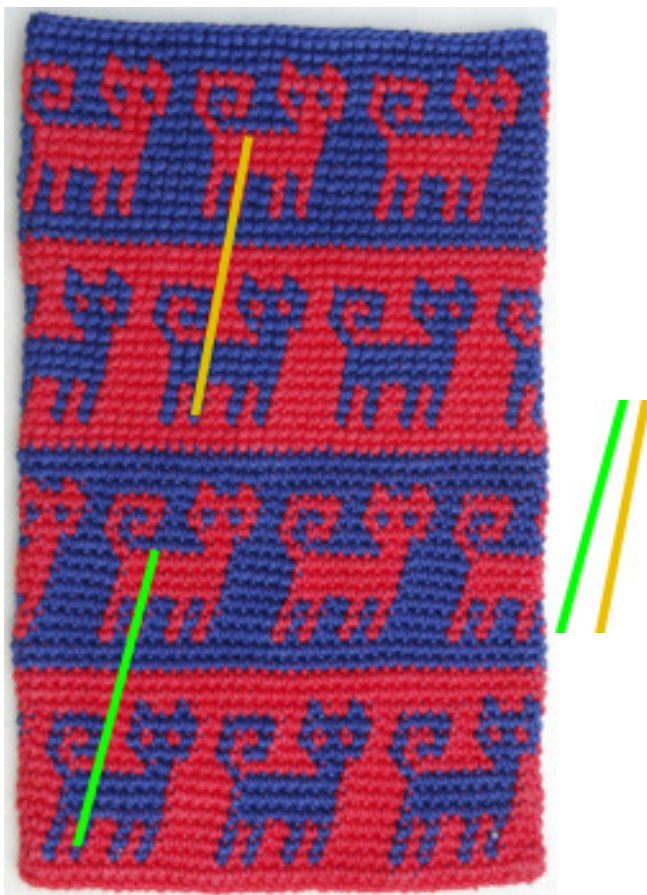
Esther



Yarn under the hook using Esther's method . . .



. . . or yarn over the hook as usual?



Who would have thought that grabbing the yarn from the front or the back would make a difference?

The top two rows of cats were crocheted with the yarn under technique while the bottom two rows of cats were crocheted with the usual yarn over method. The stitches under the stripes were crocheted one over the other.

Comparing the stripes from the above example, the cats that were tapestry crocheted with the yarn under technique slant slightly less.

Not only does the design slant less with the yarn under technique, but there's a sharper color transition. Less of the carried color is seen (especially where colors are changed) in the top two rows of cats. Why is that? Perhaps because the yarn twists slightly differently when yarning under.

If only I had paid closer attention in Guatemalan so many years ago! I always wondered why the motifs on their tapestry crocheted fabric slanted less than mine.

So now there's a subtle additional tapestry crochet design choice! For tapestry crocheting zig-zags or the bottoms of hearts (where more of a slant is desired) then yarn over the hook. For less slant, yarn under!

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