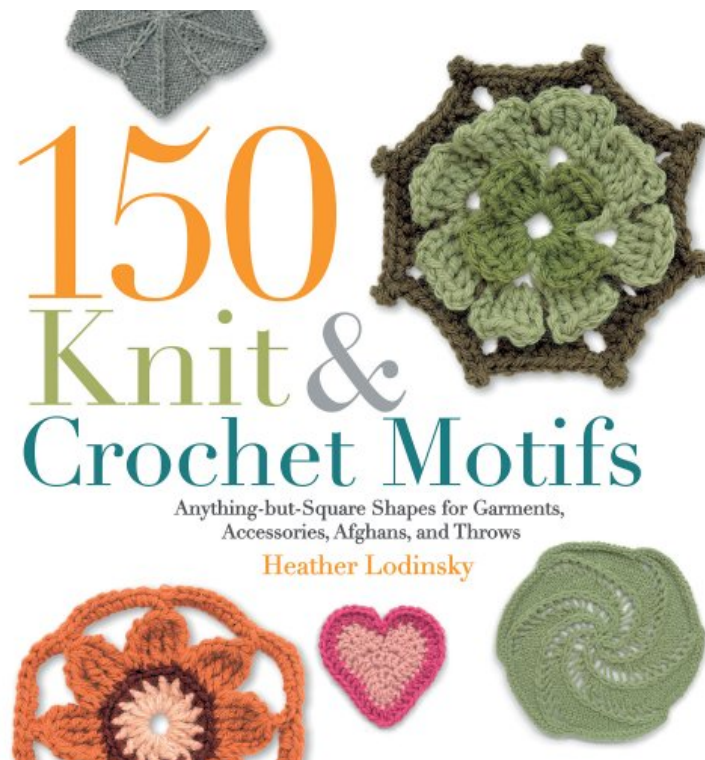


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## 150 Knit and Crochet Motifs: Anything-but-Square Shapes for Garments, Accessories, Afghans, and Throws

Heather Lodinsky

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**Heather Lodinsky : 150 Knit and Crochet Motifs: Anything-but-Square Shapes for Garments, Accessories, Afghans, and Throws** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised 150 Knit and Crochet Motifs: Anything-but-Square Shapes for Garments, Accessories, Afghans, and Throws:

26 of 26 people found the following review helpful. Excellent Starter Collection of "Anything-But-Square" Blocks for Decorations and Projects By Lynne E. The subtitle of this book says it all: "Anything-but-Square Shapes for Garments, Accessories, Afghans, and Throws". Included are directions for making a wide variety of knitted and crocheted blocks (circles, squares, triangles, hexagons, octagons, pentagons, snowflakes, stars, flowers, hearts, shells, leaves) that can be used individually to decorate garments and accessories, or combined into afghans and throws. A very nice feature is the book's illustrated table of contents, set up as a "motif gallery" with a small photo of each block design above a page number for the pattern instructions. This makes it easy to pick and choose favorite designs from the book's entire collection of patterns. The book includes a discussion of techniques for fitting odd-shaped blocks together, for arranging blocks with or without spaces between them, and for working half or quarter motifs. Also included are directions for "connector" blocks that can be used to join individual blocks. The knitted blocks (73 designs) have written-out instructions, and the crocheted blocks (77 designs) have both charted and written-out instructions. Symbols on the pattern pages indicate each pattern's difficulty level (novice, intermediate, expert). As a knitter, I was

particularly intrigued by the designs for the two-tone pinwheel circle, the knit ribbed diamond, the tilted square, the hexagons, the five-pointed starfish, and the reverse stockinette heart. As a crocheter, I loved the square made of connected circles, the open trefoil, the pretty snowflake, and the sweet heart. This is an excellent starter collection of attractive designs for shaped knitted and crocheted blocks. I awarded it 4 stars rather than 5 stars because (1) the instructions for joining motifs are somewhat general and not as clear as I would like them to be; and (2) other collections that focus on knitted blocks or crocheted blocks have more designs. For crocheters, two very good sources of additional shaped block designs are *Beyond-the-Square Crochet Motifs: 144 circles, hexagons, triangles, squares, and other unexpected shapes*, and *300 Classic Blocks for Crochet Projects*. For knitters, a good new book with creative block designs (mostly squares) is *Knitting Block by Block: 150 Blocks for Sweaters, Scarves, Bags, Toys, Afghans, and More*. 8 of 8 people found the following review helpful. Beautiful but...By Susanthis is a lovely book with a great selection of patterns. The big downside is that unless you are a very experienced crocheter, you won't understand the instructions. I have spent more time trying to understand the instructions than I have trying the stitches. There is a stitch dictionary at the back of the book but it doesn't explain every stitch used. I guess if I had more experience it would all be obvious, but for someone who spends more time knitting, I find much of this book a mystery. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. excellent instructionsBy Kelley BlaiseI have had this book almost 2 weeks, and I am extremely pleased with it. It is organized very well. all the motifs are arranged by shape, which makes it easy to find what you need I also like that there are examples of how to combine different motifs and shapes to make an original pattern. I have never used charts to crochet, but this book does an excellent job teaching you how to read and use charts or written directions to build a motif. I have tried about 12 different motifs so far, and I found even the most complex patterns are explained very well so they are easy to follow. This book is good for a beginner or experienced crocheter. If the author is looking for items to include in the next edition, I would include some pictures of basic stitches and techniques to help out the novice.

Don't be square! Break out of the box with 150 creative motifs for knit and crochet! *150 Knit and Crochet Motifs* is a fun and eclectic mix of patterns in both crafts, with shapes that go beyond the traditional square. Geometric and circular shapes are featured along with asymmetrical motifs like shells, stars, and even paisleys. The patterns include colorwork, texture, dimension, and interesting outline shapes for innovative applications. The motifs are presented in a directory of different shapes and textures. The book also includes smaller blocks to join them together, and edging ideas to add finishing touches. Get suggestions for mixing and matching the motifs, and learn how to knit and crochet them together to create one-of-a-kind functional and decorative pieces. With interesting, colorful shapes, *150 Knit and Crochet Motifs* is a design resource full of endless possibilities.

"Odd Shapes, Unique Terrific are my three descriptions of this book. Don't be a square as Heather Lodinsky says on the back of the book. Certainly, there are no squares in this book." - All Free Crochet.com "Heather has provided so many great ideas within this book that you are drawn into the book and realize the potential for what you can use some of the shapes for. It certainly creates excitement for both knitters and crocheters alike. This is a fabulous book for your collection when you are stumped for ideas on what to do next." - AllFreeCrochet.com "For anyone who loves motifs and motif work, this can be a handy reference to have at ones' fingertips." - CrochetInsider.com