

Crochet style as an input to enrich the clothes supplements to serve the small-scale industries

Introduction:

In Egypt, there are a lot of traditional heritage arts and crafts that are about to disappear. One of these crafts is crochet which prevailed in some governorates like Luxor, Aswan, The south of Sinai, and the north coast. Crochet is a good source for learners and researchers who consider those arts and crafts a way to increase the national economy. (Soraya Nasr: 2002-113)

Crochet is one of the hand crafts that has been prevailed among people practically despite the fact that there is a lack of specialized curriculums that could elaborate this art theoretically. Therefore, the researcher thinks that crochet should be maintained through using it in supplementary clothes in order to enhance this industry. As a result, new fields could be opened for small industries which works in with the government trends. Supplementary clothes is related to fashion which has been developed lately to satisfy different tastes, creations, and the quick changes in clothes designing. Therefore, supplementary clothes is considered the final touch for the appearance which makes it unique. Using crochet in this supplementary clothes is considered a kind of contribution in developing, maintaining, and prevailing this art. Using crochet in this art could satisfy customers taste who seek uniqueness, in addition to its cheap prices due to the abundance of its raw materials. Hence, the government encourages these arts and crafts as a way of contribution to the national economy. Increasing the productions of these crafts could open new fields which may help in solving the problem of unemployment.

The following questions sum up the main points of the research:

1. What is crochet?
2. What is the technical way used in crochet as one of the hand crafts?
3. What is the possibility of using crochet in making accessories and supplementary clothes?

4. What are the different kinds of supplementary clothes?
5. What is the possibility of using crochet in creating supplementary clothes that could be used in the field of small industries?
6. What are the opinions of the specialists in supplementary clothes and accessories made of crochet?

The goals of the research:

1. Knowing how to make crochet and its artistic characteristics.
2. Knowing the different kinds of supplementary clothes.
3. Knowing the small industries and their different kinds.
4. Knowing if the specialists, customers, and owners of shops are going to accept supplementary clothes made of crochet and to which extent.
5. Renewing, prevailing, and maintaining the art of crochet.
6. Finding new ways in designing and making accessories and supplementary clothes made of crochet.
7. Focusing on the importance of crochet as one of the local crafts that may be developed to compete the international industries.

The importance of the research:

1. The final results for this study are considered important in the field of hand crafts as they provide the learners with what they need to know about this craft.
2. Enhancing the field of small industries made of crochet.
3. Maintaining the special techniques of crochet.
4. A good contribution to the Arab libraries in general and the specialized libraries in specific.

5. Making use of this study in finding job opportunities for new graduates which contributes in solving the problem of unemployment, in addition to increasing the national income.
6. Enhancing the supplementary clothes made of crochet in order to satisfy customers taste, and to go on with fashion.
7. Making a collection of supplementary clothes made of crochet to fulfill the Arab marketing needs in general and the Egyptian marketing needs in specific.
8. Filling the gap in the field of hand crafts which the technical faculties, in addition to the specialized faculties are in need of.
9. Contributing in enhancing the technical as well as the economic tastes for the small industries.
10. Lack of researches and studies about the art of crochet.
11. This study works on with the government trends in order to increase the national income.
12. This study contributes in documenting the heritage of this traditional craft.

The method of this research:

It follows the practical method which describes the style of crochet and how to make use of it in different supplementary clothes and accessories in order to go on with fashion.

The results:

1. To answer the first question (What is crochet?)

It is a French word which means needle.

Crochet could be used in all kind of clothes for men, women, and children as well as all the supplementary clothes such as scarves, hair accessories, necklaces, handbags, shoes In addition to all kind of furnishings such as curtains, napkins, carpets, pillows, etc.

1. To answer the second question (What is the technical way used in crochet as one of the hand crafts?)

A special needle is used to make crochet. This needle could have different shapes and could be made of different materials. There are four main stitches to make any piece of the supplementary clothes.

1. To answer the third question (What is the possibility of using crochet in making accessories and supplementary clothes?)

The researcher has made a collection of accessories and supplementary clothes made of crochet.

1. To answer the fourth question (What are the different kinds of supplementary clothes?)

Supplementary clothes are divided into two parts: connected and disconnected. This study focuses on the disconnected one. The disconnected supplementary clothes are like scarves, accessories, artificial flowers, belts, gloves, handbags, shoes.

1. To answer the fifth question (What is the possibility of using crochet in creating supplementary clothes that could be used in the field of small industries?)

The researcher could make use of crochet in producing new accessories and supplementary clothes which may be used in small industries.

1. To answer the last question (What are the opinions of the specialists in supplementary clothes and accessories made of crochet?)

Through making a survey about the ability of accepting the specialists, young people, owners of shops for using accessories and supplementary clothes made of crochet, the researcher finds a great encouragement and acceptance for these crochet products.

The theoretical framework of the research

The meaning of crochet:

It's a French word which practically means manual knitting. The real meaning here is the needle.

The tools used in crochet:

- Crochet needle
- Crochet yarn
- Patron

First: The needles:

There are many types of crochet needles. Some are made of stainless steel or metal whereas others are made of plastic or wood. These needles have different sizes to fit the required piece of crochet. The available sizes of needles are from 0 to 14.

Second: Crochet yarns:

These crochet yarns vary according to its usage, color and the required material. They could be thin, thick or very thick to fit the required piece of crochet.

The types of crochet yarns:

- Natural yarns like wool, silk, cotton.
- Synthetic yarns like nylon.

The types of crochet:

It's divided into two main types:

- The three-dimensional crochet.
- The plane crochet.

First: The three-dimensional crochet:

It's the crochet that has three dimensions (length – width – height). It could be used in making (baskets, boxes, bags, accessories, etc.)

Second: The plane crochet:

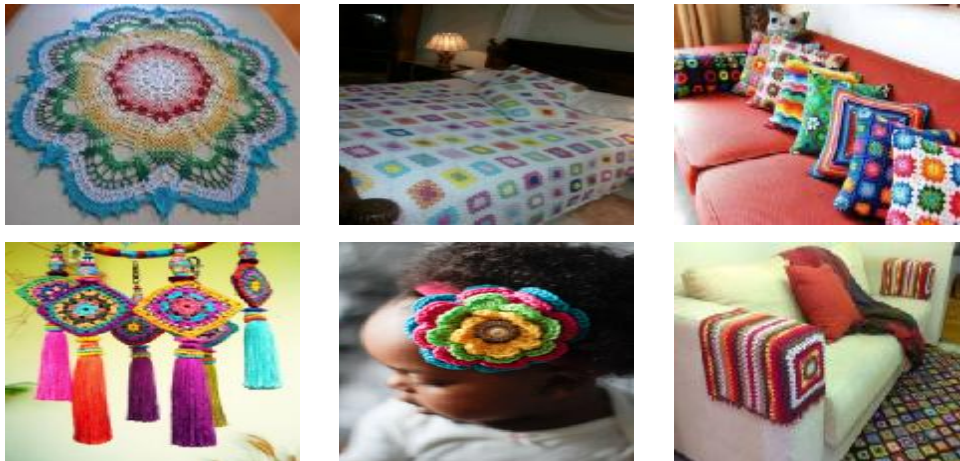
There are different types of plane crochet, some of them are familiar whereas others are non-familiar.

The types of plane crochet:

Tunisian crochet, Irish crochet, free form crochet, fingers crochet.....

There are a lot of products that could be made of crochet:

- Women, men, kids' clothes.
- Scarves, hair accessories, bags and shoes (complementary clothes)
- Napkins, curtains, carpets, pillows.



Unfortunately, the researcher could not be able to find any former documented studies about crochet. The researcher could only find some books and magazines that do not fit the academic studies. Although there are some scientific researches that were made about crochet, yet they were somehow superficial, lacking the theoretical information about crochet, its types, its tools, etc. As a result, the researcher was encouraged to continue her study in this field for the insisting need of this kind of study in libraries and practical colleges.

The complementary clothes:

They are divided into connected complementary clothes and non-connected complementary clothes.

The researcher will only deal with the non-connected complementary clothes. The complementary clothes were recently associated with fashion to fit different tastes, creation and quick change of fashion designing. Therefore the complementary clothes became an important art in the field of designing where fashion experts succeeded in creating a lot of different shapes and types of them.

The practical framework of the research:

The researcher has made some complementary clothes and accessories that goes along with modern fashion and it has been made of different materials like using silk, cotton and wool yarns.

The target of these practical applications:

- 1- Using the art of crochet.
- 2- Make use of crochet in making some accessories and complementary clothes that could be used in small industries and goes along with the quick change in fashion.

