# Five Simple Rules

## to help you follow any pattern

**Rule One:** Unless you are told otherwise you can assume you move to the next stitch. So "3 dc" is short hand for 1 dc into each of the next 3 stitches. If you are wanted to work 3 dc all in the same place, it would say "3 dc in next st".

**Rule Two:** Round brackets are used ( ) to group stitches so "(1 tr, ch 2, 1 tr) in next stitch" means the whole of the instructions inside the bracket are to be worked into the next stitch, without the brackets you couldn't be sure which of the stitches were to be worked where. They are also used for groups of stitches to be missed to avoid repeating the term miss over and over again. Eg "miss (3 dc, 1 ch-sp, 3 dc)"
Note: Round brackets are used to give different stitch numbers for the different sizes and in that case it will looks something like this 2 (2, 3, 3, 4). You select the size before you start, using the size guide and circle the right instruction for the size you are making to help you keep on track.

**Rule Three:** Crochet uses square brackets [] to include instructions that you will work a set number of times. So "[3 dc, miss 2 st] 3 times" is the same as writing "3 dc, miss 2 sts, 3 dc, miss 2 sts, 3 dc, miss 2 sts"

**Rule Four:** "*...;" for instructions that continue until you get to the point you are told to stop. So *3 dc, miss 2 sts; rep from * to end" means that you will work it over and over again to the last stitch.

**Rule Five:** If there is a number after the full stop at the end of the instructions it is a stitch count. These allow you to check you are on track.