



Feeling the itch to stitch and the urge to preserve? Then you'll love *Queen of Crafts: The Modern Girls' Guide to Knitting, Sewing, Quilting, Baking, Preserving and Kitchen Gardening* by Jazz Domino Holly. We asked her to share her crafting history with Hobbycraft readers...

**Why has crafting suddenly become cool again?** It's a sign of the times we live in. Crafting is the perfect antidote to cookie-cutter mass production and gives us a means of expressing our individuality.

**When did you start crafting?** With a punk rocker for a dad (he was the frontman for The Clash) the last thing people expect is for you to start your own chapter of the Women's Institute but the do-it-yourself craft spirit has been ingrained in me since birth. My greatest crafting icon of all time was my great-grandmother, and my fascination with making things began with her. As a child I was in awe of her rainbow-hued crocheted blankets and tapestry cushions.

**Why did you decide to start up your own branch of the WI?** Until recently the WI had a serious image problem but thanks to an influx of young blood this is changing. WI groups have a truly empowering potential to build bonds and allow communities to share common threads. It was for all these reasons that in 2007 I decided it would be an exciting idea to start up a new group in Shoreditch. The Shoreditch Sisters, as we became known, have helped reintroduce a new generation to one of the UK's most significant women's movements.

**What does crafting mean to you?** It's all about daring to be free and having the confidence to experiment, customize, play around and have fun!

*Queen of Crafts* is published by Fig Tree (£16.99)

**SPECIAL READER OFFER**

Buy *Queen of Crafts* for just £13.99, including free p&p (RRP is £16.99). To order call 0843 060 0021, quoting Hobbycraft and ISBN 9781905490752.



\* Subject to availability. Allow up to 14 days for delivery. Offer open to UK residents only.

## Five minutes with... The Queen of Crafts

*Otherwise known as Jazz Domino Holly, daughter of punk rocker Joe Strummer and uber cool crafter*

