

Learning crochet
is as easy as...



1.

Grasp proper holding techniques



2.

Master all the basic stitches



3.

Learn to read patterns

Make your
own gear!



Check out our *stylish*, step-by-step crochet patterns complete with photo tutorials and links to free online crochet stitch guides for additional assistance.



Our patterns include *multiple*, full-color photographs from various angles, helping you get a better sense of the project you are creating. Directions are written clearly with tutorial photos which support the pattern text.



In addition, *every pattern* includes crochet symbol charts, schematics, and stitch diagrams, making it easier to understand.

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Founder/Designer

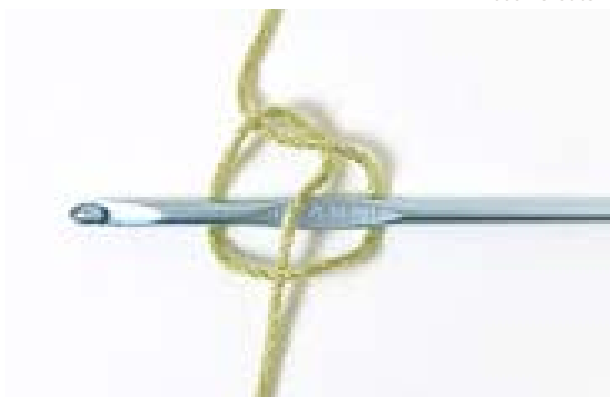
Join the Chain Gang: Learn to Chain Stitch

All crochet stitches belong to what I call, 'The Crochet Family.' The 'parents' of this family are called the 'Chain Stitches.' They are used to begin all crochet patterns and are the building blocks upon which all other stitches are made. They provide a solid foundation for other stitches, therefore it is important to make them with consistent tension. Let's look at how to begin a chain stitch.

The first step to chaining is to mount the yarn onto the hook. There are several different methods for doing this. The most popular way is to create a slip knot and insert the hook through the middle of it.

I prefer a much easier approach by twisting the yarn onto the hook two times. Check out our chain stitch video tutorial on how to begin the chain stitch (www.nexstitch.com/v_chain_stitch.html) using the twist method.

Next, wrap the yarn over the hook from back to front.



left-handed view



right-handed view

Then, bring the hook backwards, pulling the first loop through the second one.



left-handed view



right-handed view

After some practice, you will be better at holding the hook and working the yarn simultaneously. The next step is to learn how to make the 'siblings' of 'family': single, half double, double, treble, and double treble crochet stitches.