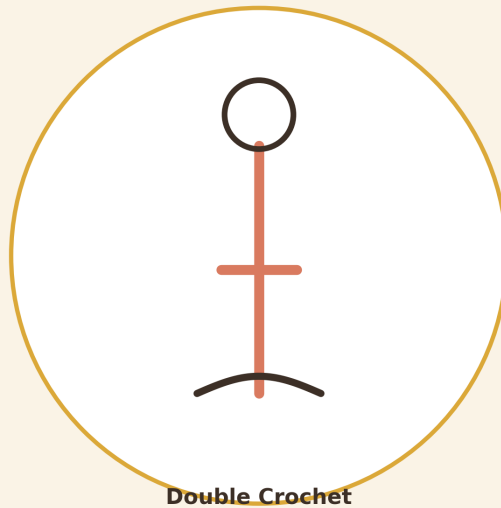


A STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE FOR BEGINNERS

How to Double Crochet

Learn one of crochet's most useful stitches, one loop at a time



Double Crochet

Skill Level	Absolute beginner
Abbreviation	dc (US terms)
You'll Need	Yarn, a crochet hook, scissors
Good First Project	A simple practice swatch

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Getting Started

The **double crochet** (abbreviated **dc** in US terms) is one of the most common crochet stitches — taller than a single crochet, quicker to work up, and used in everything from blankets to sweaters. If you can already make a chain and a single crochet, you're ready for this.

What you'll need

- Any smooth, light or medium-weight yarn (avoid fuzzy yarn while learning — it's harder to see your stitches)
- A crochet hook sized for your yarn (check the yarn label for a suggested hook size)
- Scissors and a yarn needle for weaving in ends

Before you begin

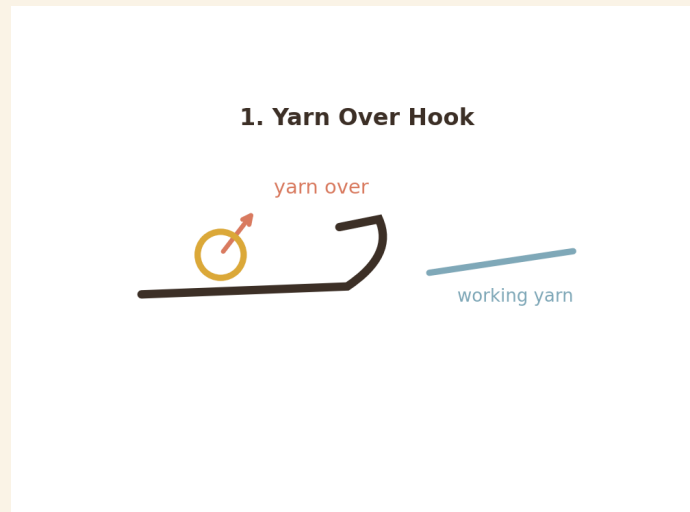
Start with a slip knot on your hook, then chain about 15 stitches to make a practice foundation chain — that's plenty of room to practice several double crochet stitches in a row.

*A double crochet is always built the same way, no matter what stitch you're working into: **yarn over, insert your hook, pull up a loop, then pull through two loops twice.** The next five pages break that down one motion at a time.*

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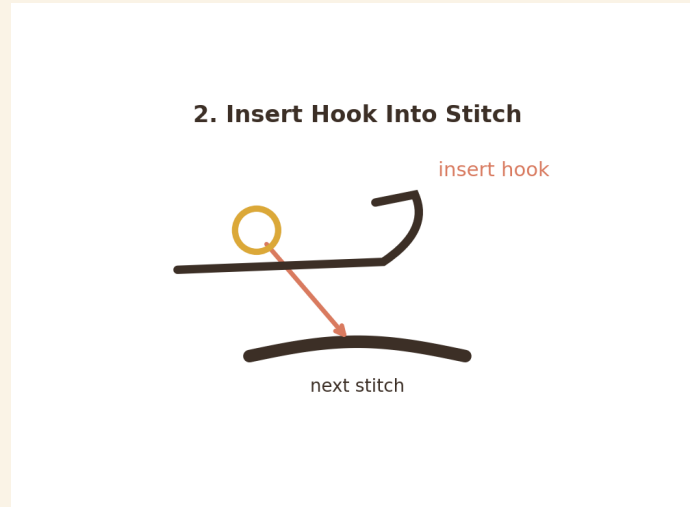
The Double Crochet, Step by Step

Work through these five steps for every double crochet you make. At first you'll want to look at each step; after a little practice, your hands will find the rhythm on their own.



Step 1 — Yarn over

Wrap the working yarn over your hook from back to front, just like you would before a single crochet, but this is what makes the double crochet taller.



Step 2 — Insert the hook

Insert your hook into the next stitch (or, for your first row, into the correct chain), going under the top two loops of the stitch.

3. Yarn Over, Pull Up a Loop

3 loops
on hook

**Step 3 — Yarn over and pull up a loop**

Yarn over again and draw the yarn back through the stitch toward you. You should now have three loops sitting on your hook.

4. Yarn Over, Pull Through 2 Loops

yarn over,
pull through
first 2 loops



2 loops
remain

Step 4 — Yarn over, pull through two loops

Yarn over once more and pull through just the first two loops on your hook. This leaves two loops remaining.

5. Double Crochet Complete!

complete!
pull through
last 2 loops



1 loop remains — stitch complete!

Step 5 — Yarn over, pull through the last two loops

Yarn over one final time and pull through the last two loops. One loop remains on your hook — your double crochet is complete!

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Try It: A Practice Swatch

Ready to put the five steps together? This simple swatch gives you a full row of double crochet to practice on, plus a second row so you can feel how it works into an existing row of stitches, not just a chain.

Foundation

Chain 16.

Row 1

Work your first double crochet into the **4th chain from your hook** (the skipped 3 chains count as your first stitch). Continue working 1 dc into each chain across. Turn. (14 dc total, including the starting turning chain.)

Row 2

Chain 3 (this counts as your first stitch of the new row and is called the "turning chain"). Skip the stitch at the base of that chain, then work 1 dc into each stitch across. Turn.

Keep going

Repeat Row 2 for as many rows as you like. Once you can work a full row without checking this guide, you've got it — double crochet will become one of your go-to stitches.

It's normal for your first few rows to look a little uneven. Consistency comes with repetition, not with starting over — keep going rather than ripping back.

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Common Beginner Mistakes

Losing your turning chain

If your rows keep getting narrower, you're probably forgetting to work a stitch into the top of the previous row's turning chain (the ch-3 from the start of the row). Count your stitches at the end of each row against your starting count to catch this early.

Working into the wrong chain

On your very first row, it's easy to work into the wrong starting chain. Remember: skip 3 chains from the hook and work your first dc into the 4th one.

Tension too tight or too loose

If you're fighting to get your hook into stitches, try loosening how firmly you hold the yarn. If your fabric looks loose and holey, try tightening it slightly. Both improve with practice.

Splitting the yarn

Make sure your hook goes under both loops at the top of a stitch, not through the middle of the yarn strand itself — splitting makes stitches hard to find later.

That's the double crochet! From here, you can combine it with chains and single crochets to start following almost any beginner pattern — happy stitching.

This is an original beginner's guide meant to be shared freely. Feel free to pass it along to anyone learning to crochet.