

Lion Brand Yarn + Michael's Community Classroom

CROCHET 103

Class exercise:

Chain (ch) 18. (Beginning chain.)

Row 1: Double crochet (dc) in the 4th ch from hook and each ch across. – 15 sts.

Row 2: Ch 3, turn, dc in each stitch (st) across. [**Standard row**]

Rows 3: Ch 3, pm in the last ch, turn, dc in each st across.

Row 4: Ch 3 (**counts as first dc**), pm, turn, dc in 2nd dc below and each st across, work final dc in **top of t-ch**. – 16 sts. [**Straight Edge row**] (Marker indicates t-ch.)

Rows 5: Rep row 4 but don't pm.

Row 6: Ch 1, turn, single crochet (sc) in the **Back Loop (BL)** of each st - 15 sc.

Row 7: Rep row 6.

Row 8: Ch 1, turn, single crochet (sc) in the **Front Loop (FL)** of each – 15 sc

Row 9: Ch 1, turn, FLsc in each sc. – 15 sc

Row 10: (increase row) Ch 3, turn, **dc 2 times** in 2nd st, *dc in next st, **dc 3 times** in next st, dc in next st, **dc 2 times** in next st; repeat from * to last 2 st, dc in last 2 st. – 24 dc

Row 11: (decrease row) Ch 3, turn, ***dc2tog**, dc in the next st, **dc3tog**, dc in the next st; rep from * to last 3 sts, dc2tog. – 14 sts.

Row 12: (increase row) Ch 2, turn, **2 hdc** in 2nd st, *hdc in next st, **3 hdc** in next st, hdc in next st, 2 hdc in next st; rep from *. – 23 sts.

Row 13: (decrease row) Ch 2, turn ***hdc2tog**, hdc in next st, **hdc3tog**, hdc in next; rep from * to last 2 sts, hdc2tog - 13 hdc.

Row 14: (increase row) Ch 1, turn, sc in 1st st, ***2 sc** in next st, sc in next st, **3 sc** in next st, sc in next st; rep from * to last 2 sts, 2 sc in next st. – 22 sts.

Row 15: (decrease row) Ch 1, turn, sc in 1st st, ***sc2tog**, sc in the next at, **sc3tog**, sc in the next st; rep from * to last 2 sts, sc2tog. – 13 sts.

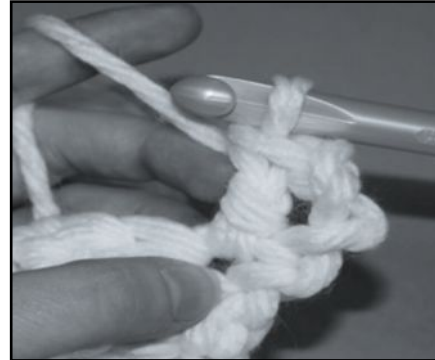
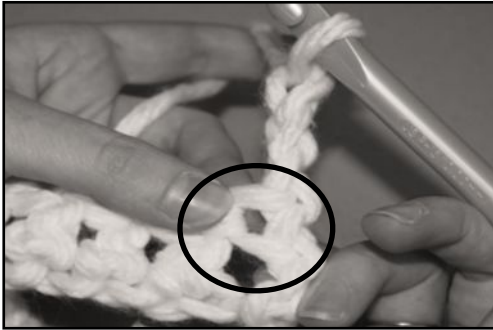
Row 16: (increase row) Ch 1, turn, sc in 1st st, ***3 sc** in next st, sc in next st, 2 sc in next st, sc in next; rep from * to last 2 sts, 3 sc in next st. – 24 sc

Row 17 & 18: Ch 3, turn, skip first 2 dc, dc in next 4 sts, 3 dc in next st, dc in next 5 sts, ***dc3tog**, dc in next 5 sts, 3 dc in next st, dc in next 5 sts, rep from * across; leave turning ch unworked.

Fasten off.

Counting the Chains: The working loop (the loop on the hook – not a chain or a stitch) equals zero, and each chain/loop shape dropping down from the hook counts as one additional chain.

A **Standard Row** is done by first chaining the height of the first stitch you plan to do and turning [this is why it's called the turning chain (t-ch)] – then working the desired stitch into every stitch space across. When counting the stitches in the row, the turning chain does not count as a stitch.

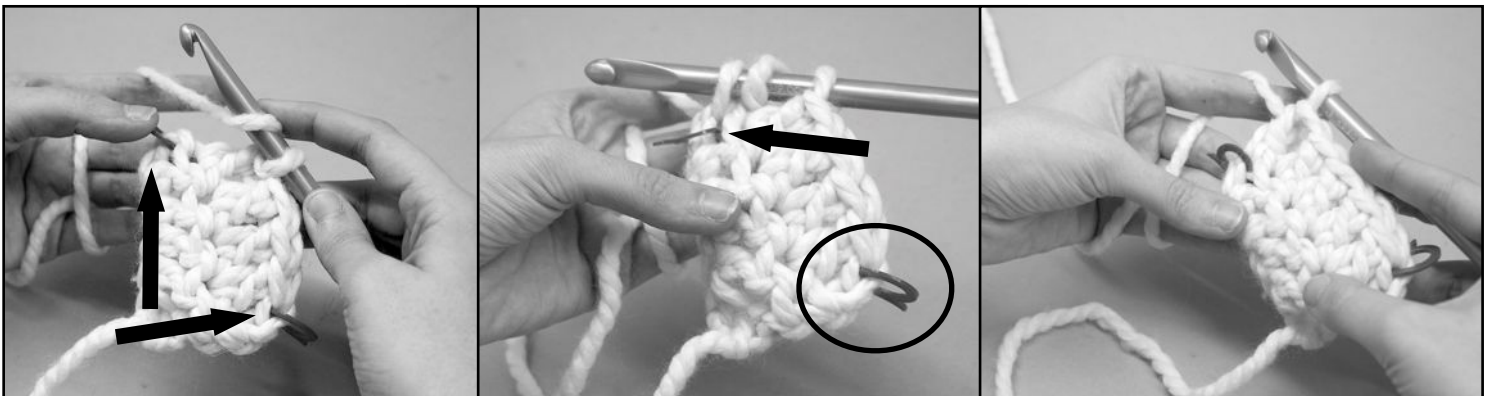


FIRST STITCH SPACE AT THE BASE OF THE TURNING CHAIN (notice the bump on the edge)

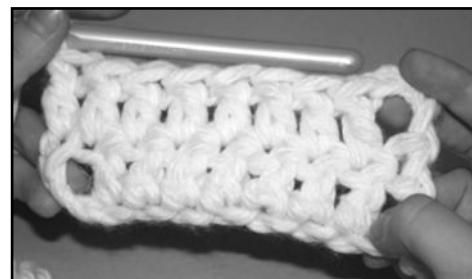
STRAIGHT EDGE ROW

When you count your **turning chain** as the **first stitch**, it eliminates the bump - creating a straight edge. This means that the *stitch space* at the base of the turning chain is considered occupied, so the first stitch space you work into is the second from the edge. The Straight edge row method can only be done with stitches larger than a single crochet, as the chain 1 cannot act as the first stitch of a row.

***Note:** Placing a **stitch marker (sm)** in the top chain of your **turning chain (t-ch)** is recommended when working **straight edge rows**. Stitch markers will both help you access the space (since it can shrink once you begin crocheting), and remind you that it's the last stitch to work into at the end of the row. In patterns, the instruction abbreviation is “**pm**” for “**place marker.**” At least 2 stitch markers are recommended for straight edge rows; one for the start of the row on each side of the fabric.



Placing the marker



Completed Straight Edge row



Working in the Back Loop



Working in the Front Loop

INCREASING

The only way to increase in crochet is to **work more than one stitch into a space**. In patterns, increases are generally written one of three ways. For example, if the next direction is to do 2 single crochet stitches in the next space, the pattern may read:

- sc 2 times in next st
- 2 sc in next st
- inc in next st

Note: "Inc" is used under the assumption that the "1 stitch in each space" standard is understood, so "inc" means adding one additional stitch. For larger increases, "inc by" will be used, followed by the amount to be increased. For example, if the direction is to do 4 single crochet stitches in the next space, the pattern would read "inc by 3." The "inc" direction is rarely used, and often for patterns using only one stitch.



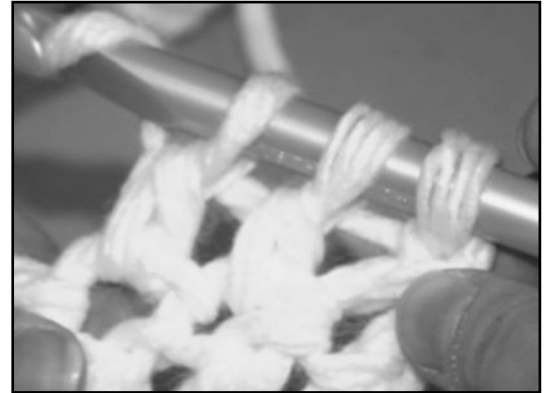
DECREASING

There are two ways to decrease in crochet: you can either **skip stitches/spaces/chains**, or **work fully fashioned decreases**. Skipping stitches (or spaces, or chains) is the easier decrease and is often done unintentionally. Fully fashioned decreases, while a little trickier to maneuver, are used instead of skipping stitches because they:

- are less visible
- leave no holes
- maintain consistent texture of the crocheted fabric

To complete a fully fashioned decrease you will work each stitch of your decrease to the last yarn over, then yarn over and pull through all loops on the hook to finish them as one stitch. To decrease **one** stitch you need to work **two** stitches together. These decreases have special abbreviations that begin with the abbreviation for the height of the stitch, followed by the number of spaces to work into, and end with “tog” (for “together”).

DC2TOG: (Yo, insert hook into next st and draw up a loop, yo and draw through 2 loops) twice.
Yo, draw through 3 loops on the hook.
– 1 stitch decreased.



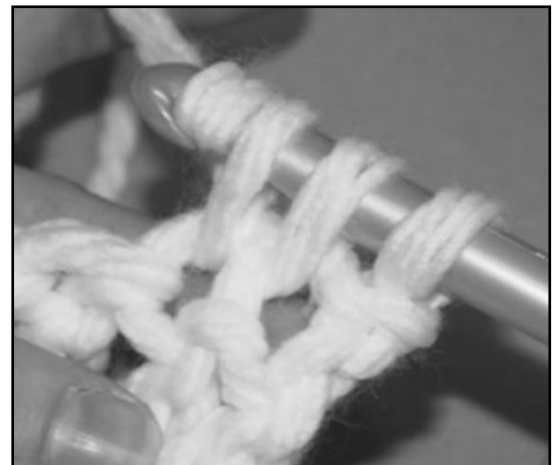
DC3TOG: (Yo, insert hook into next st and draw up a loop, yo and draw through 2 loops) 3 times.
Yo, draw through 4 loops on the hook.
– 2 stitches decreased

HDC2TOG: (Yo, insert hook in next stitch and draw up a loop) twice, yo and draw through 5 loops on the hook.
– 1 stitch decreased.



HDC3TOG: (Yo, insert hook in next stitch and draw up a loop) 3 times, yo and draw through 7 loops on the hook.
– 2 stitches decreased.

SC2TOG: (Insert hook in next stitch and draw up a loop) twice, pull through 3 loops on hook
– 1 stitch decreased.



SC3TOG: (Insert hook in next stitch and draw up a loop) 3 times, yo and pull through 4 loops on hook
– 2 stitches decreased.

COMMON CROCHET ABBREVIATIONS:

Beg – Beginning

BL – Back Loop

FL – Front Loop

Ch – Chain

T-Ch – Turning Chain

Ch-sp – Chain space

Sc – Single Crochet

Hdc – Half Double Crochet

Dc – Double Crochet

Tr/Tbl – Triple/Treble Crochet

Yo – Yarn Over Hook

Lp(s) – Loop(s)

WS – Wrong side

RS – Right side

FP – Front Post

BP – Back Post

Patt – Pattern

Sk – Skip

Rep – Repeat

Rnd – Round

Tfl – Through front loop

Tbl – Through back loop

Sl st – Slip Stitch

St(s) – Stitch(es)

Foll – Follow(s)(ing)












Dec – Decrease

Inc – Increase

Tog – Together

* or () – Repeat instructions between asterisks or inside brackets as many times as instructed.

Crocheting with a chart

Legend	
Symbol	Explanation
	An arrow points to the beginning of a row or round if it is not apparent.
	Chain
	Single crochet
	Half double crochet
	Double crochet
	Treble crochet
	Double treble crochet
	Slip stitch
	Slip ring
	Work in the single front strand of the stitch below. This symbol will appear underneath the stitch symbol.
	Work in the single back strand of the stitch below. This symbol will appear underneath the stitch symbol.