

## Basic Crochet Stitches

These instructions are in UK terminology.

### Getting Started

The long end of yarn connected to the ball is known as the “working yarn”.



If you are working your crochet pattern in rows (back and forth, like knitting), start by making a normal slip knot in your yarn. Similar to a standard overhand knot, make a loop in the yarn and pull the working yarn through that loop, tightening it and creating a loop which can be tightened or loosened. Put your crochet hook into this loop.

If you are working your crochet pattern in rounds (around in a circle), start with a Magic Circle (see overleaf)

### Chain (CH)

The simplest stitch is a chain stitch. This is usually used for starting crochet worked in rows. Start with a slip knot (see Getting Started), so there is 1 loop on your hook. Grab the working yarn with your hook and pull through the loop to create one chain stitch. You will be left with one loop on the hook, and can immediately repeat the process to change direction.

### Double Crochet (DC)

Push your hook through the work, inserting it into the top of the stitch below. Grab the working yarn and pull it back through the work, you should now have 2 loops on your hook. Grab the working yarn again and pull through both of these loops. This makes one DC, and should leave you with one loop on your hook ready to start the next stitch.

### Treble Crochet (TC)

Wrap the working yarn over your hook, to create a second loop on your hook. Push your hook through the work, grab the working yarn and pull it back through. You should now have 3 loops on your hook. Grab the working yarn and pull it through 2 of these loops, this should leave you with 2 loops on your hook. Grab the working yarn again and pull it through both of these loops. This makes one TC, and should leave you with one loop on your hook ready to start the next stitch.

### Double Treble Crochet (DTC)

Similar to a TC, but start by wrapping the working yarn over your hook twice to make 3 loops on the hook in total. Push your hook through the work, grab the working yarn and pull it through to give 4 loops on the hook in total. Grab the working yarn and pull through 2 loops, leaving 3 loops on the hook. Repeat, grabbing the yarn and pulling it through 2 loops to leave 2 loops. Repeat again, grabbing the yarn and pulling it through 2 loops to leave 1 loop.

### Tripple Treble Crochet (TTC)

Similar to a DTC, start by wrapping the working yarn over your hook three times to make 4 loops total. Push through the work, grab the yarn and pull it through to give 5 loops on the hook in total.

## How to make a Magic Circle. (images from <https://sarahmaker.com/crochet-magic-ring/>)

A Magic Circle is the neatest way to start crocheting in rounds, and is very simple to do!

1. Loop the yarn around your fingers making a cross.

Make sure the short end of the yarn is pointing downwards and towards your body, then take the long end and wrap it up, over your top finger, down behind several fingers and in front again, so it ends up crossed over the top of the short end, pointing upwards, as shown.



2. Put your thumb on the cross to hold it in place, as you turn your hand over.



3. You should now see two parallel lines of yarn. Insert your hook under the yarn closest to the end of your fingers.



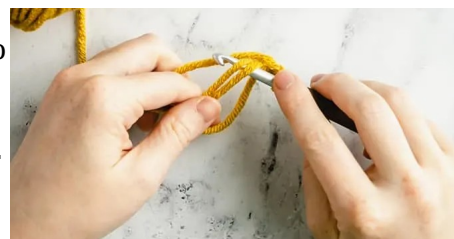
4. Grab the other piece of yarn with your hook and pull a loop under the first piece of yarn. Turn the hook towards you as you do, so this forms a loop over the hook.



5. Grab the long end (working yarn) again the the hook and pull it through the loop you just made. You can then remove your fingers from the magic circle you have made.



6. Your pattern will tell you how many of what sort of stitch to make into your magic circle to make the first round. To make these stitches, when your hook would normally go through a previous stitch, it instead goes through the magic circle, under both the circle of yarn and the short end of yarn.



Once you have made the stitches for the first round, pull the short end to close the circle. Don't forget to use a stitch marker (eg use a piece of contrasting thread) so you know where each round starts and ends!

## Simple Crochet Cat Coasters (Beginner friendly, UK terminology)

<https://www.crochet365knittoo.com/cute-crochet-cat-coasters/>

### Supplies:

- 4mm crochet hook  
(anything from 3mm – 5mm should be okay).
- 10g Double Knit yarn, or similar
- Short section of contrasting yarn  
(for stitch marker and facial features)



**Hint:** Place a piece of contrasting thread after the last stitch of each round, so you know where that round ends and the next one begins, otherwise it's easy to lose count of stitches!

### Crochet Cat Coaster Pattern:

To start, make a Magic Circle

**Round 1:** 6 DC into magic circle (6 stitches total). Pull the Magic Circle tight.

**R2:** 2 DC in each stitch from the previous round (12 stitches)

**R3:** [DC in first stitch, 2DC in the next stitch] x6 (18)

**R4:** [DC in next 2 stitches, 2DC in next] x6 (24)

**R5:** DC in next, 2DC in next st, [DC in next 3 stitches, 2 DC in next stitch] x5 DC in the last 2 stitches. (30)

**R6:** [DC in next 4 st, 2DC in next] x6 (36)

**R7:** DC in next, 2DC in next st, [DC in next 5 stitches, 2DC in next] x5, DC in the last 4 stitches. (42)

The last round forms the ears and tail, as follows:

**R8:** DC in next 6 stitches, 2 DC in next stitch, DC in next 2 stitches

**First ear:** in next stitch work [TC, DTC, TTC, DTC, TC]

DC in next 3 stitches, 2DC in next stitch, DC in next 3 stitches

**Second ear:** in next stitch work [TC, DTC, TTC, DTC, TC]

DC in next 2 stitches, 2 DC in next stitch, [DC in next 6 stitches, 2 DC in next stitch] x2  
DC in next 6 stitches.

**Tail:** CH 20, DC in the 2nd chain from hook and into every chain back to the base of the tail.

Skip next stitch on the body of the cat and then join to the next stitch. Fasten off, leaving a long end.

### Finishing:

Use the crochet hook to weave the fastened off end back and forth through the next 5 stitches. Place the tail at a pleasing curve and use the end to attach the tail where it meets the body to secure. Weave in remaining end.

Using contrasting thread, embroider eyes, nose and whiskers as desired.



## Swirly Simple Crochet Cat Coasters (Intermediate, UK terminology)

<https://atty-s.com/2021/10/swirly-cat-free-crochet-pattern.html>

### Supplies:

- 4mm crochet hook  
(anything from 3mm – 5mm should be okay).
- 2 colours of Double Knit yarn, or similar
- Short section of contrasting yarn  
(for stitch marker)

### Additional Stitch Abbreviations:

SL = Slip Stitch

HTC = Half Treble Crochet

DC2tog = Double Crochet 2 Together

FDC = Foundation Double Crochet – insert hook, yarn over, pull through a loop, yarn over, pull through 1 loop, yarn over and pull through 2 loops.



### Instructions:

With colour 1 make Magic Circle

**Round 1:** 1CH (does not count as st), 6DC in Magic Circle

**Round 2:** (1DC, 1HTC) in first DC from round 1, 2TC in next 2 stitches, take hook out and leave long loop, join colour 2 in this same stitch with SL, (1DC, 1HTC) in next stitch, 2TC in next 2 stitches, take hook out and leave long loop.

**Round 3:** pick up loop from colour 1 and work 2TC in next 6st, take hook out and leave long loop, pick up loop from colour 2 and work 2TC in next 6st, take hook out and leave long loop

**Round 4:** pick up loop from colour 1 and work [1TC in next st, 2TC in next st] x6, take hook out and leave long loop, pick up loop from colour 2 and work [1TC in next st, 2TC in next st] x5, 1TC in next st, (1HTC, 1DC) in next st, leave long loop.

**Round 5:** pick up loop from colour 1 and work 1TC in next 3 st, DC2tog in next 2 st, turn your work and skip next 2 st, 7TC in next st, skip next 2 st, SL in next st, turn your work, 1DC in next st, (1HTC, 1TC, 1TC with 2CH and SL in top, 1TC, 1HTC) in next st, skip next st, SL in next st, skip next st, (1HTC, 1TC, 1TC with 2CH and SL in top, 1TC 1HTC) in next st, 1DC in next st, SL in next st. Cut yarn, fasten off and work away end.

**Round 6:** pick up loop from colour 2 and work 1DC in next 5 st, work 1fsc in the same st as last st, now work 1fsc in the foundation of previous stitch 9x, now while working the next FDC, you are not only inserting your hook through the foundation of previous st, but also through a stitch on the cat's body, work 1FDC in the foundation of previous stitch 3 more times. Cut yarn, fasten off and work away end.

