# CROCHET – BASIC STITCHES

Please note that worldwide crochet terminology is different. I have been crocheting since I was a little girl and was taught by my very special big sister. Therefore wording and techniques are my own ways other than images etc that are posted and credited.
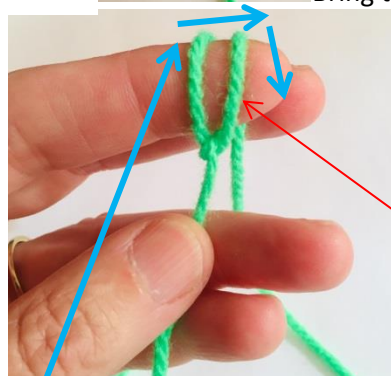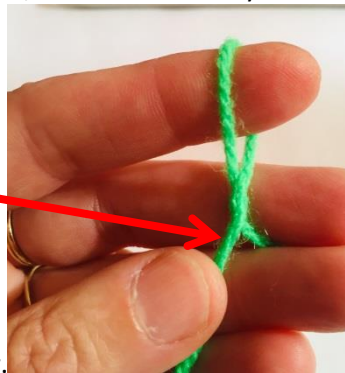
SLIP KNOT AND CHAIN (ch)

Please note that this is my own personal way of doing the slip knot, there are a variety of others.
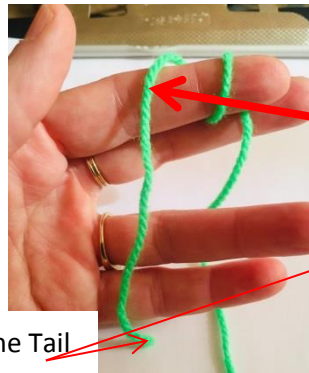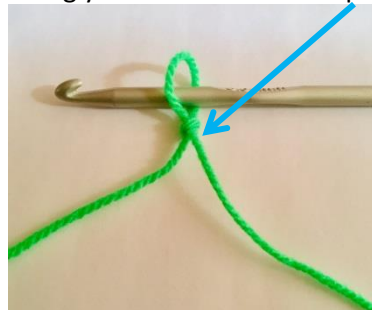

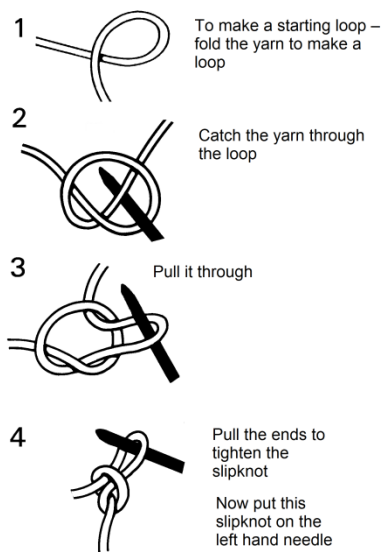
The Tail

Bring the tail over the tip of your finger.

Wrap the yarn over your finger.

Bring yarn over to form a slip knot.

Another way of doing a slip knot.

Slipknot

1 To make a starting loop – fold the yarn to make a loop

2 Catch the yarn through the loop

3 Pull it through

4 Pull the ends to tighten the slipknot

Now put this slipknot on the left hand needle
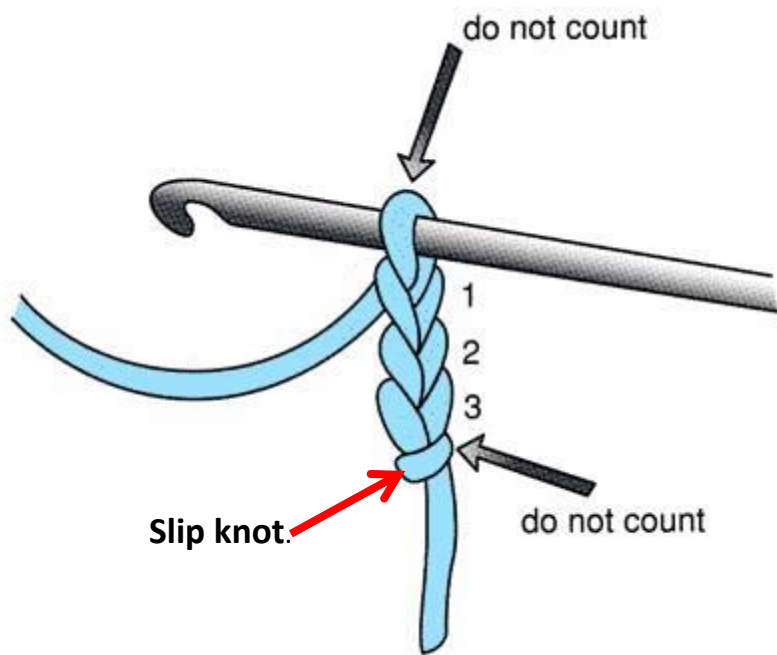
Credit Image – i.pinimg.com

Once we have done our slip knot, we start with our first chain stitch.
1. Wrap yarn over (yo) your hook. Catch with your hook and pull through the hoop – 2. You have now formed the first chain – 3.
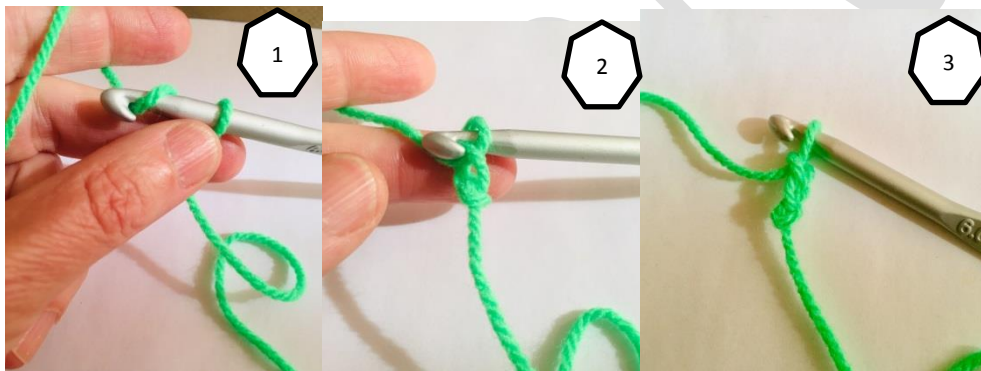
Continue this process until you have the required amount of chains, as per pattern instructions.
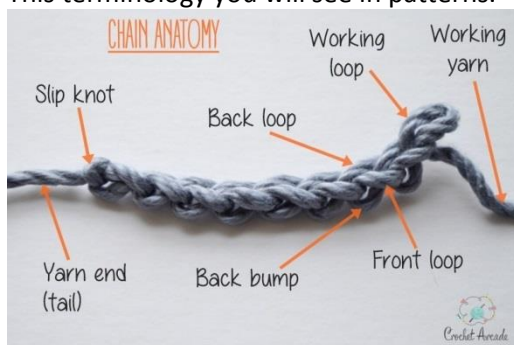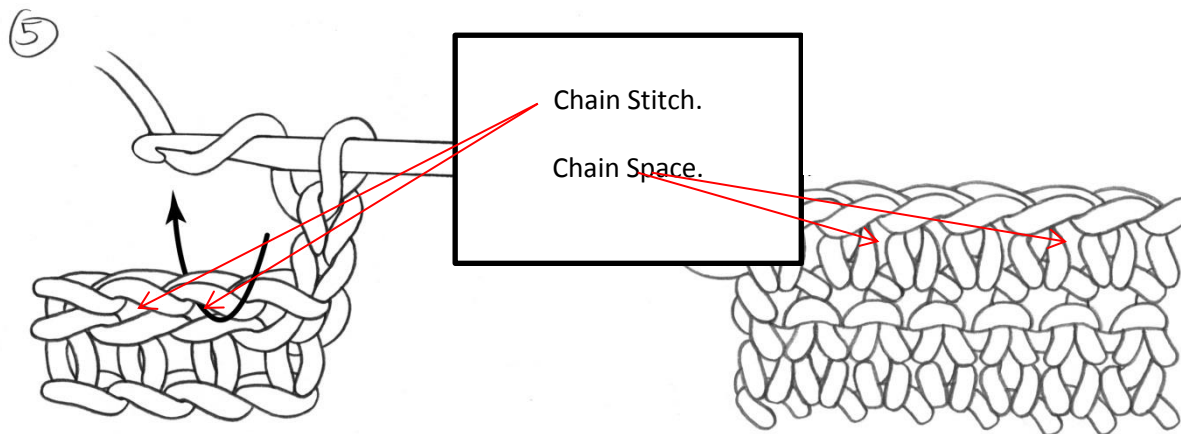
How to count your chain stitch.(ch)

do not count

1
2
3

Slip knot.

do not count

Credit Image – Raster Cap.
<u>Details of the chain stitch</u>

This terminology you will see in patterns.

CHAIN ANATOMY

Working loop
Working yarn
Slip knot
Back loop
Yarn end (tail)
Back bump
Front loop

Credit Image – Crochet Arcade

CHAIN STITCH AND CHAIN SPACE

Chain Stitch.

Chain Space.

Credit Image – Annie's Catalogue

dc worked in ch-2 space

dc worked in ch-1 space

dc worked in space between stitches

ch-2 space

ch-1 sp

space between stitches
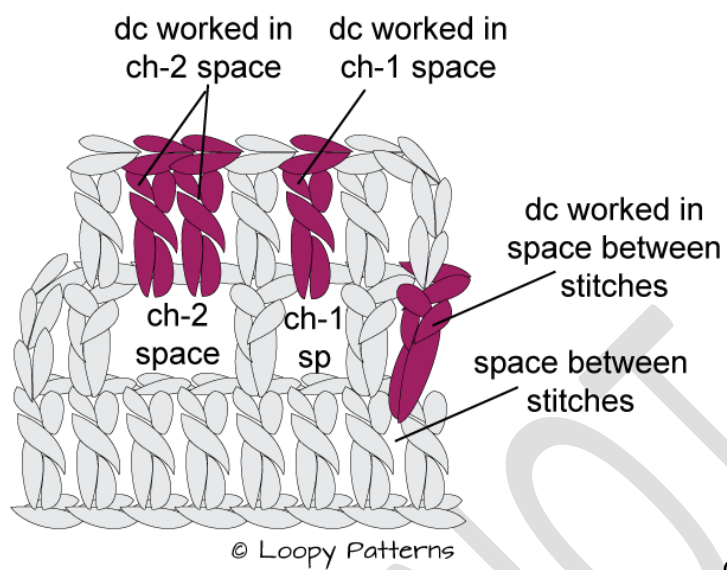
© Loopy Patterns

Credit Image – Loopy Patterns
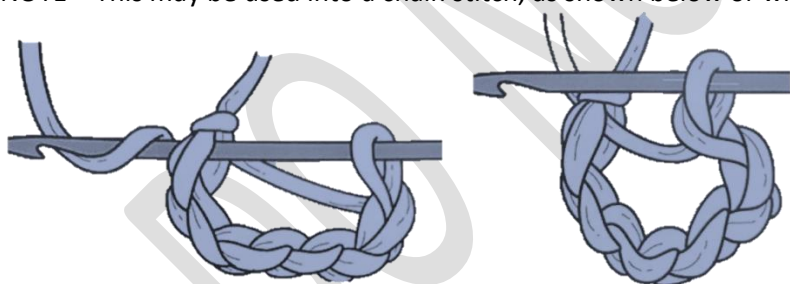
SLIP STITCH (sl st)

You will use this stitch regularly.
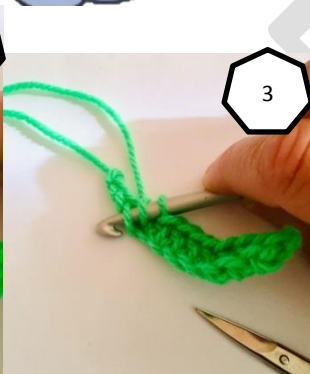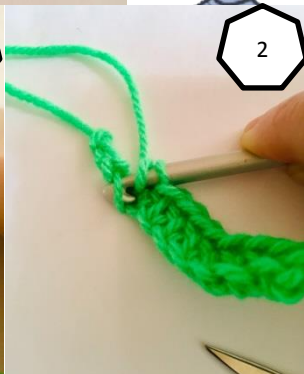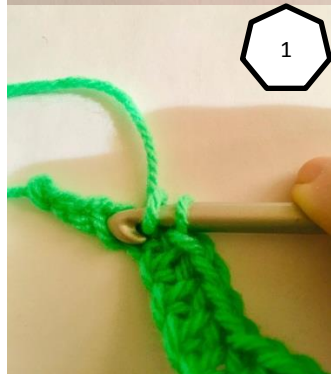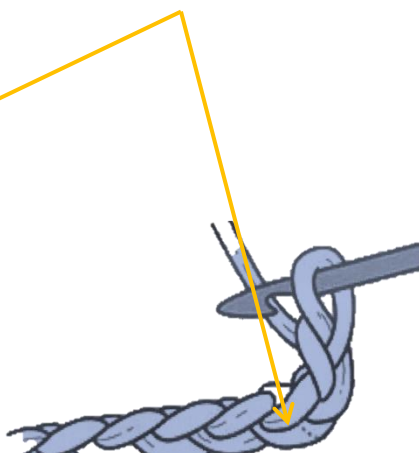
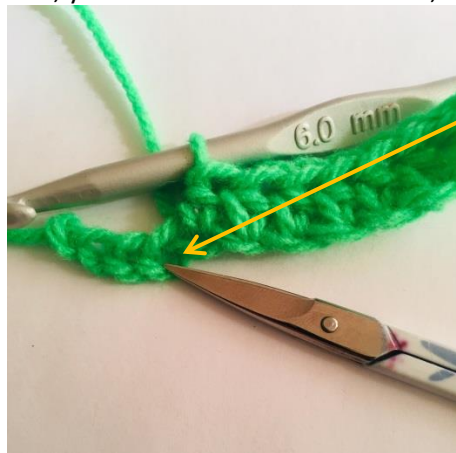Insert your hook into the required stitch.

Wrap yarn over hook and pull the yarn through the chain and stitch in one motion. You will be left with one hoop.

NOTE – This may be used into a chain stitch, as shown below or when ending your creation

## WORKING INTO THE CHAIN – you will read this a lot in nearly all patterns

I think in everything I have made the base or foundation has always been the chain stitch. When starting your first row, you will be told to count to 2nd, 3rd or 4th chain from hook.

In this example, I am doing a Double Crochet Stitch – tutorial below. Wrap yarn over (yo) hook. Insert your hook in to the chain – 1,2 & 3.
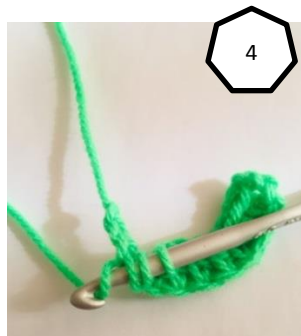
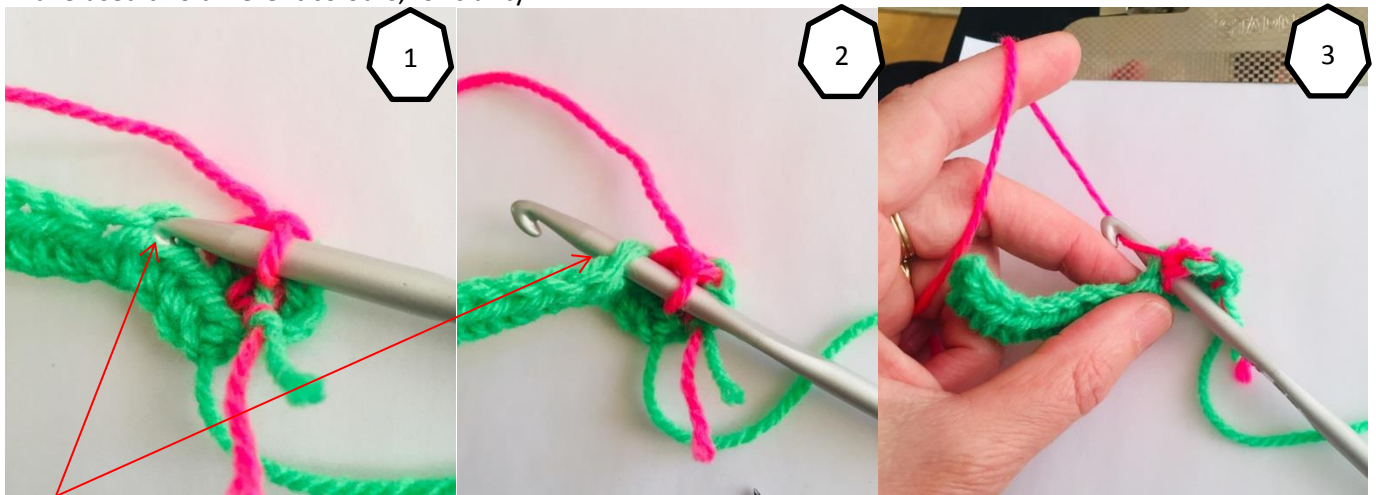Wrap yarn over (yo) hook – 4 and pull through the chain – 5.
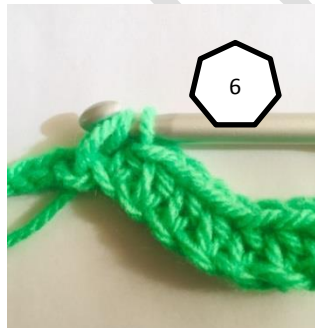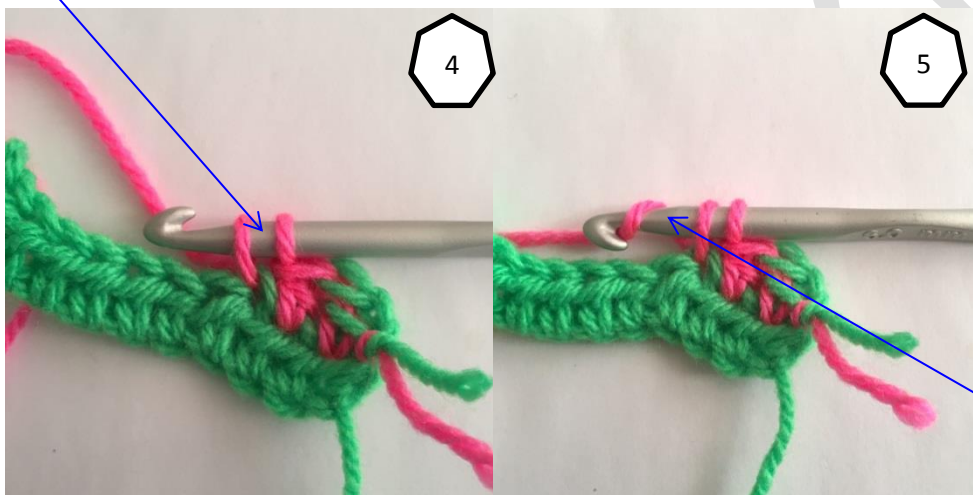
So that you know have 3 loops – 6.

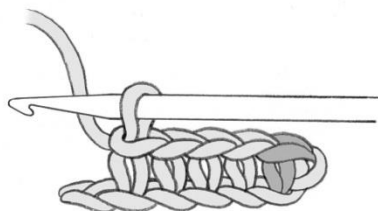Yarn over hook and pull through the 3 loops.
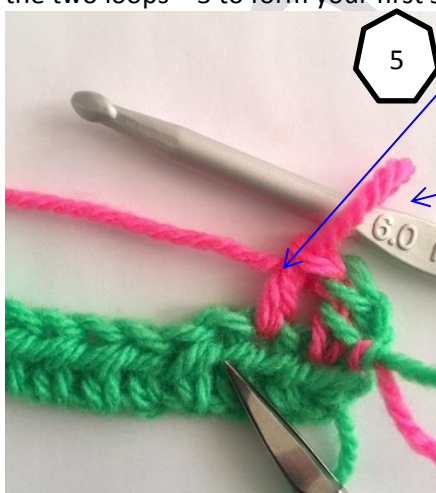
SINGLE CROCHET (sc)

I have used two different colours, for clarity.

1

2

3

Insert your hook into the chain space (ch sp) – 1, 2 & 3 (top view). Pull the yarn through and you are left with 2 loops – 4.

4

5

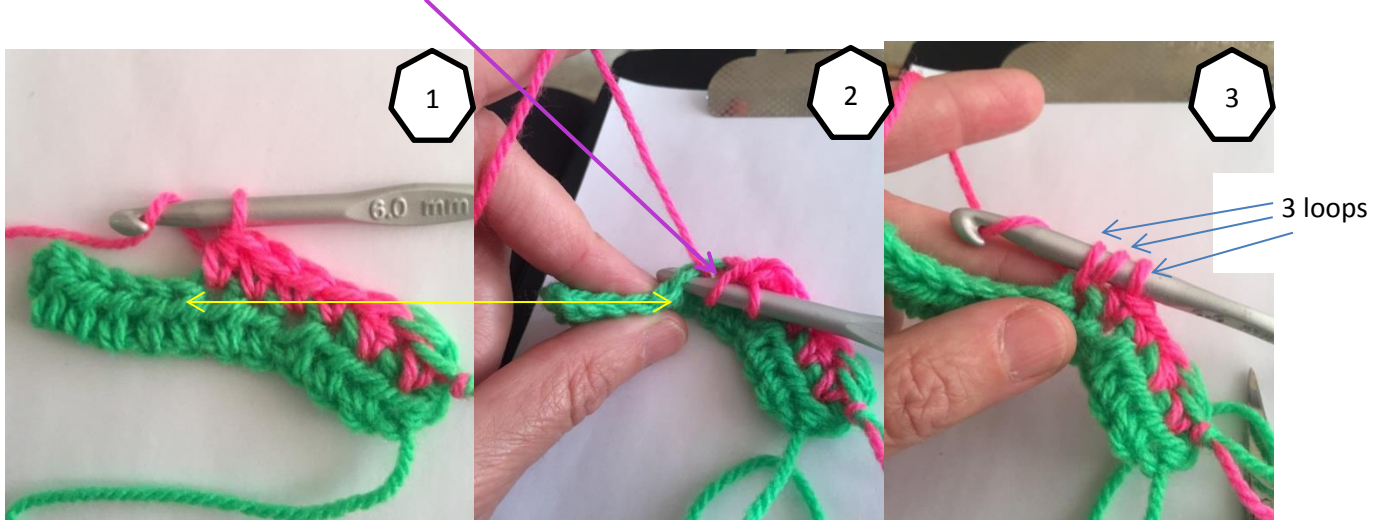Yarn over hook and pull it through the two loops – 5 to form your first single crochet (sc)

5

Credit Image – Lion Brand – Single Crochet
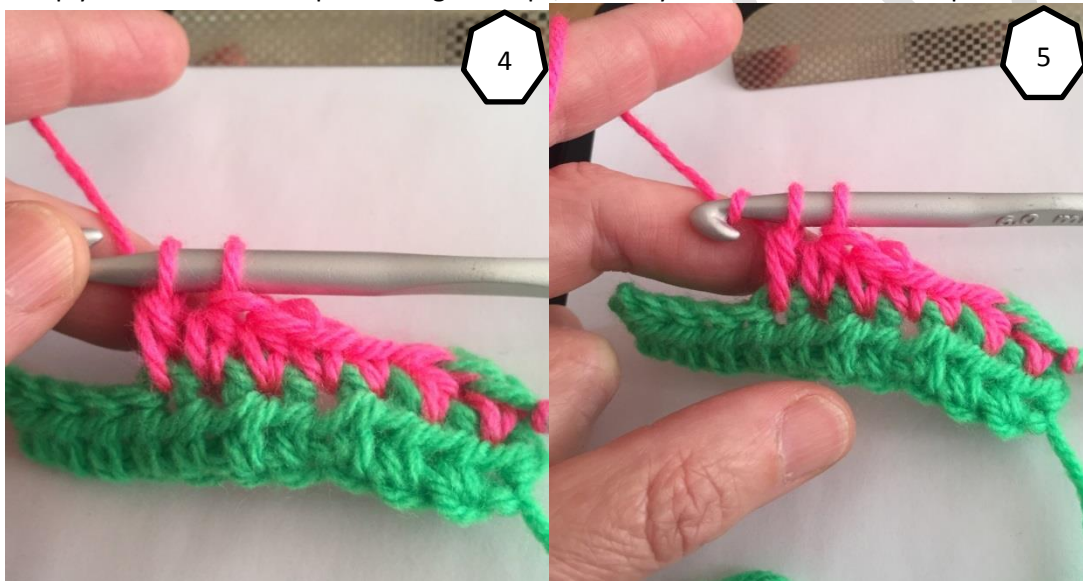
DOUBLE CROCHET (dc)

You will notice that the basic crochet stitches are very similar, the main difference is how many times you put the yarn over the hook. (Please note that there plenty more different crochet stitches)

We start with wraping the yarn over hook – 1. Insert your hook into the required stitch – 2. (top view). Pull yarn through, so that you know have 3 loops.
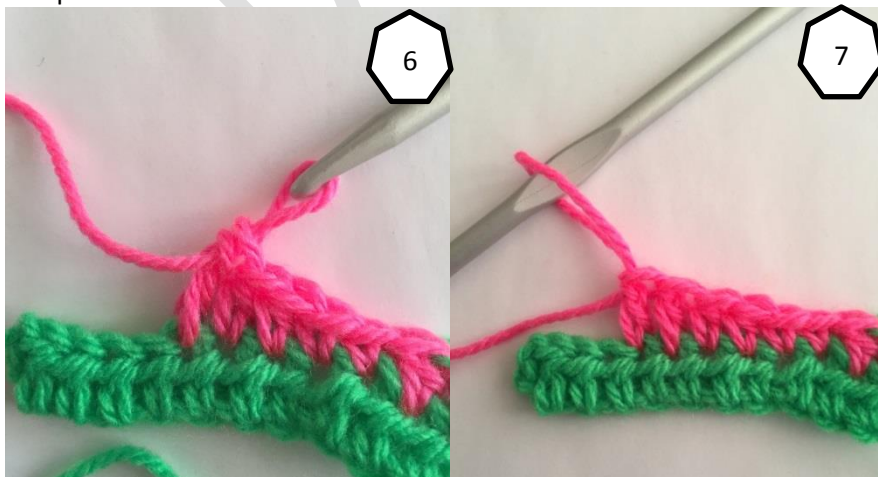
NOTE – YOU WILL HAVE TWO LOOPS BEFORE INSERTING YOUR HOOK THROUGH THE STITCH.

3 loops

Wrap yarn over hook and pull through 2 loops, so that you are left with two loops. – 4.

Wrap yarn over hook again and pull through the final two loops – 5, so that you are left with one loop and your completed double crochet. – 6 & 7.
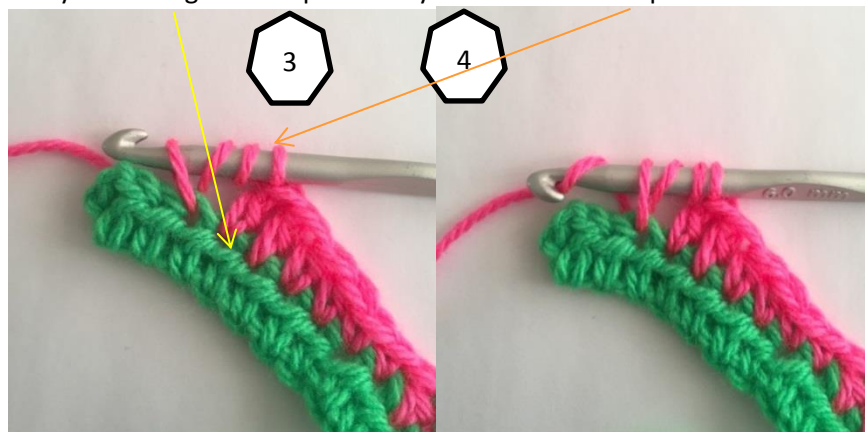
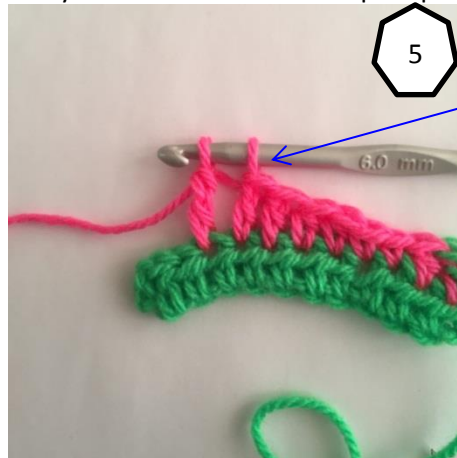## TRIPLE CROCHET (ALSO KNOWN AS TREBLE CROCHET) (trc)

Wrap yarn over hook twice – 1. You will have 3 loops. Insert your hook into the required stitch – 2. (top view)

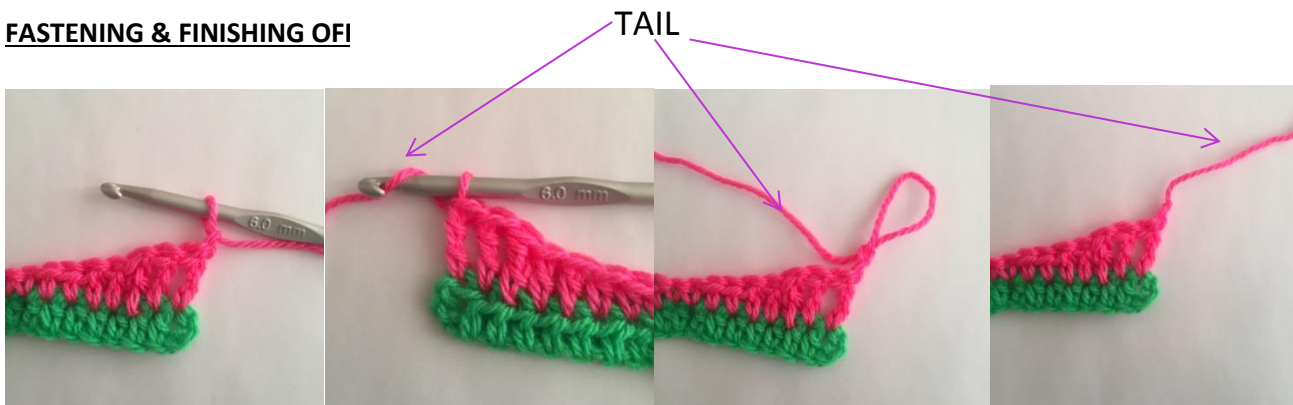Pull yarn through chain space and you now have 4 loops – 3.

Yarn over hook and pull through 2 loops – 4 and you will be left with 3 loop. Repeat this process again – yarn over hook and pull through two loops- 5.
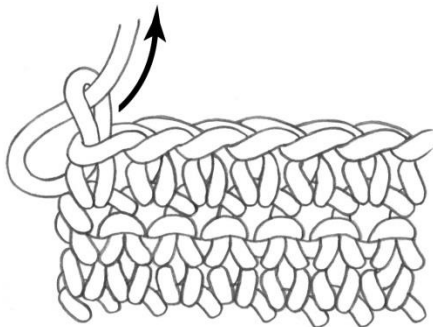
Wrap yarn over hook and pull through final two loops to be left with only one loop – 6.

You have now created a Tripe/Treble Crochet stitch.

FASTENING & FINISHING OFI

TAIL

When you have completed your creation, cut a 15 cm length of yarn from hook. Wrap yarn over hook (TAIL), pull it through the final chain, remove the hook and tighten.


Once you have completed your pattern, cut off your 15 cm yarn/wool length, we will do the final process and that is to hide the excess yarn/wool. This is always done on the "wrong/back/under side" of your crochet project. There are a variety of ways of doing this and you can use a yarn/wool needle or crochet hook or both.

1. With a yarn needle, you will weave the tail through the stitches to hide, cut off any excess.
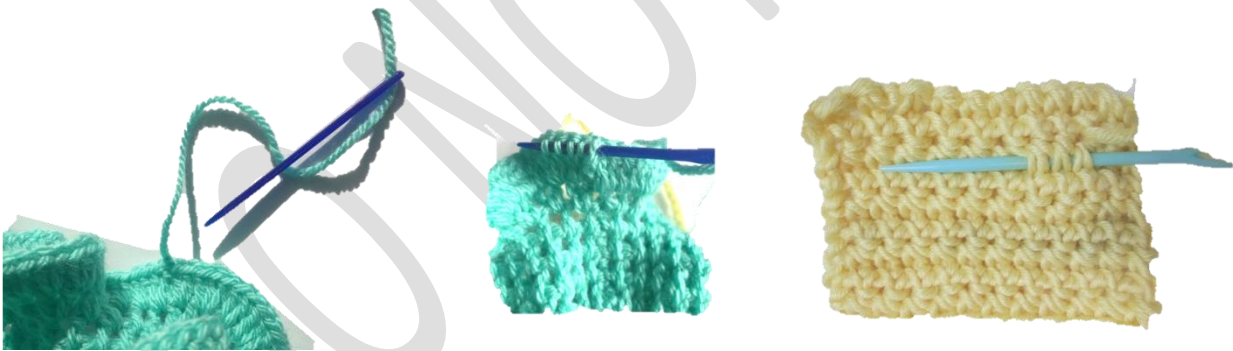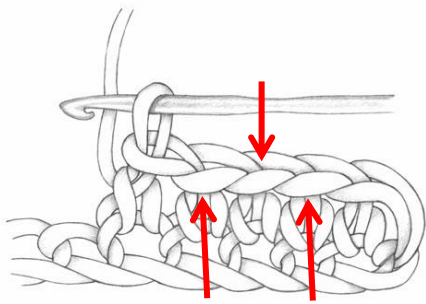

2. This is called a whipstitch weave.
Using your yarn/wool needle (or if you prefer a crochet hook), you weave your yarn/wool over and under alternating as you go along. The Whipstitch is used in joining pieces of crochet – granny squares, clothing and so forth.
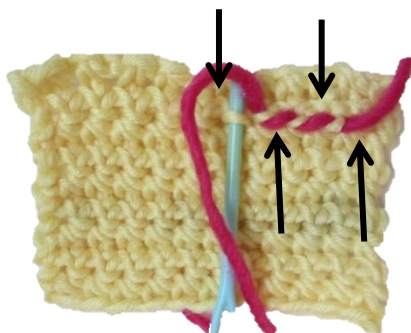
Credit Image – My Bluprint.com

As you can see in this image, follow the arrows and weave under and over the chain stitch

You can fasten off down the side of your project or along the row of stitches.
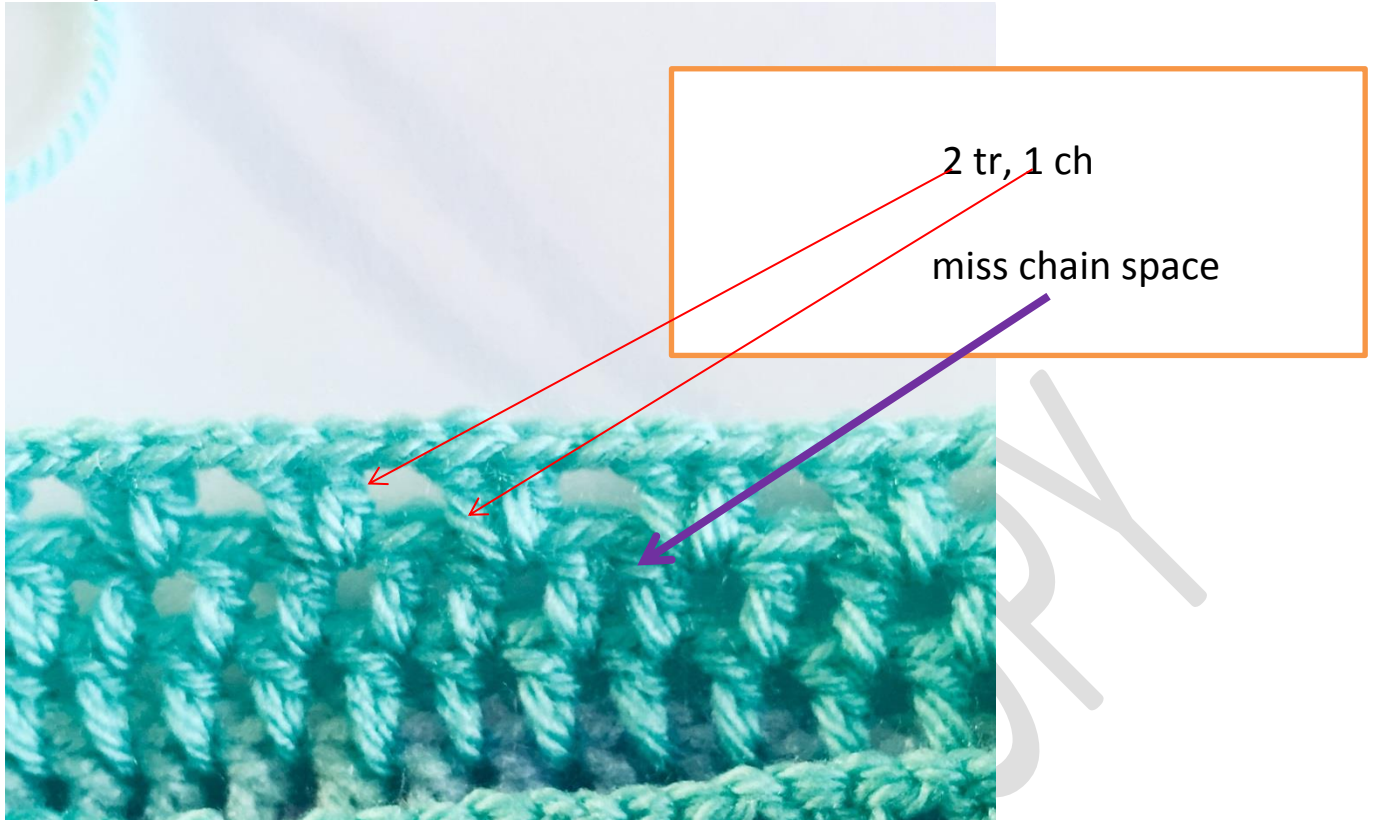

Credit Image – Crochet Spot.

Credit Image – Crochet Spot.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
Chain space

2 tr, 1 ch

miss chain space

These gaps can be used to thread your rope/ribbon/crochet rope, for the drawstring.

INCREASING AND DECREASING

Increasing

To increase a crochet stitch (regardless of which stitch it is), you will crochet two of the same stitch in to one chain space.

Decreasing

There are two ways to decrease crochet stitches:

1 – Missing a crochet stitch (not commonly used)

Missing a stitch

And crochet a stitch on either side.

Or

2 – Start your first stitch, yarn/wool over hook (**red**) and draw through loop, you will have two loops left, in the next chain space, do another stitch (**green**), yarn over hook and pull through two loops , you will left with 3 loops. Final yarn over hook and pull through 3 loops to create 1 stitch. (Example stitch used is double crochet) This method can be used for any crochet stitch
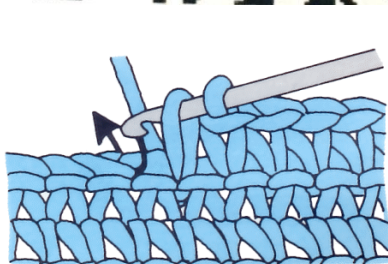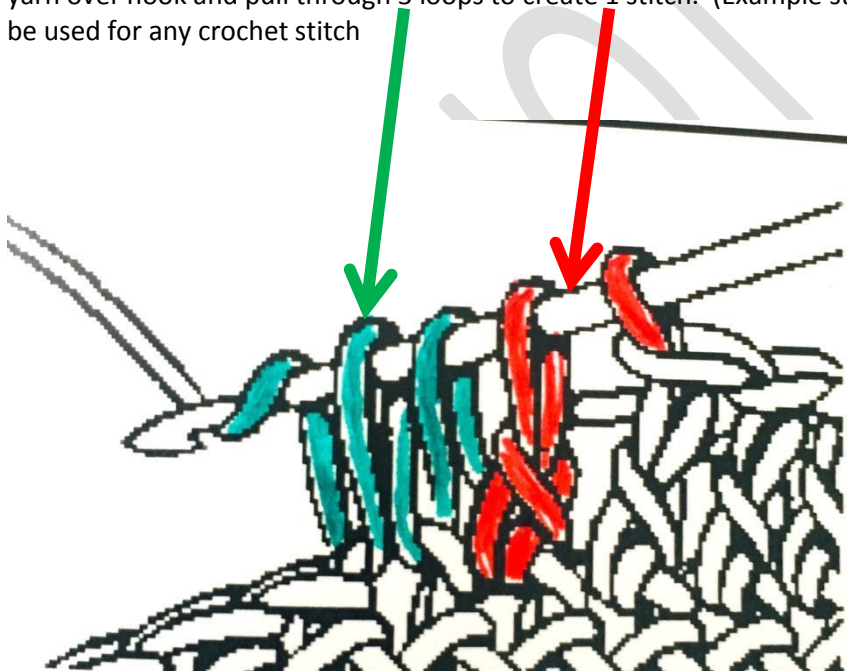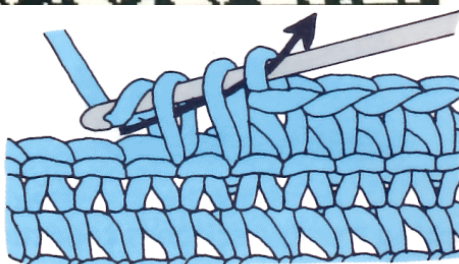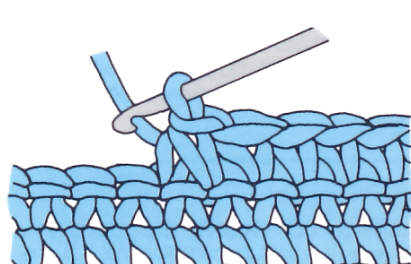

Fig 132   Fig 133   Fig 134

Blue image crochet decrease – credit http://www.learn2knit.co.uk/crochet

The pattern will guide as to when to increase or decrease.
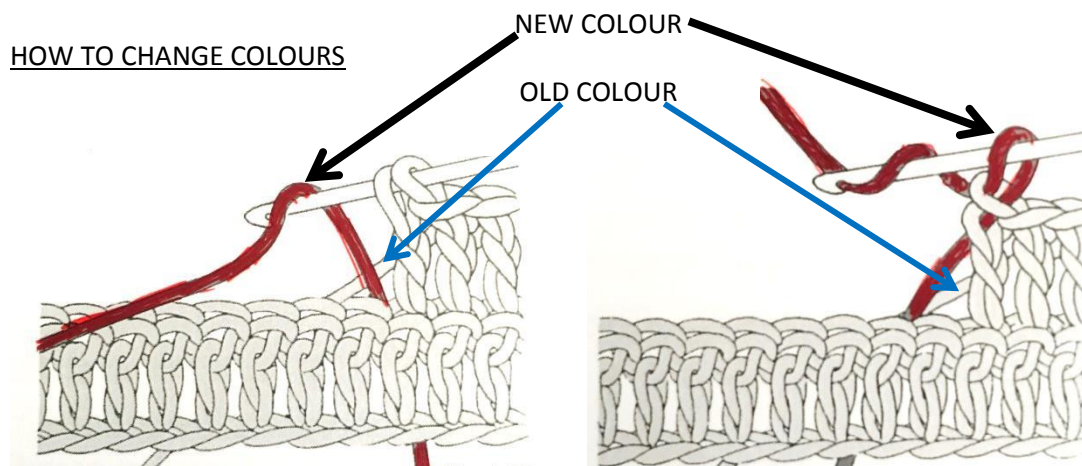
HOW TO CHANGE COLOURS

NEW COLOUR

OLD COLOUR

Image Credit – Wool n Things

Changing colours is simple. Before completing your last stitch of the one colour, you put the new colour yarn/wool over your hook and pull it through your loop/s and then continue with the new colour. Leave a long tail for both colours, so that you can weave the ends in and personally I tie a knot into the same colour crochet stitch.
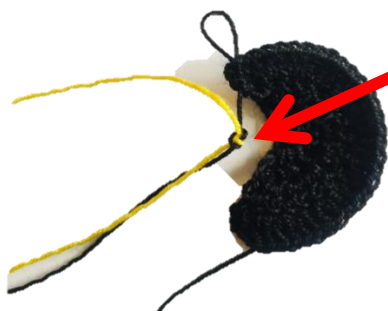
TIP: - Creating the last crochet stitch in last chain.