

How to crochet a 9 inch square for beginners

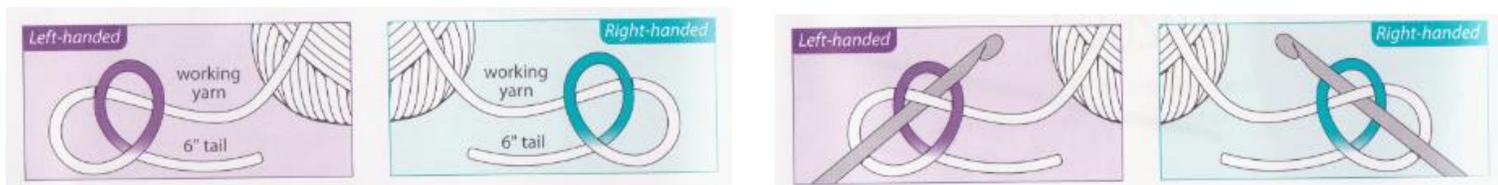
NOTE: Sometimes learning from diagrams isn't the easiest. If you would like to watch how-to videos along the way, I would suggest visiting <http://www.leisurearts.com/learn-to-crochet/>. They have instructions for right handed AND left handed people. The images are also from a resource published by Leisure Arts.

Materials needed:

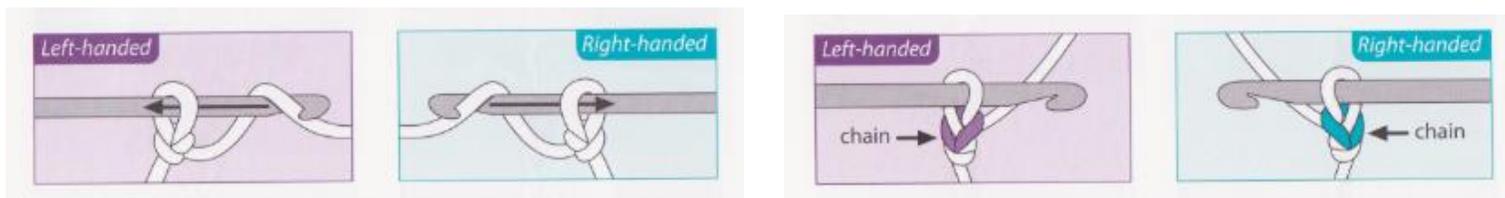
Yarn (medium weight/washable/light colored yarn makes it easier to see stitches)
Crochet hook size H/5mm
Scissors
Tape Measure

Instructions:

1. Begin by making a slip knot and tighten the loop around your hook until it fits closely but slides easily.

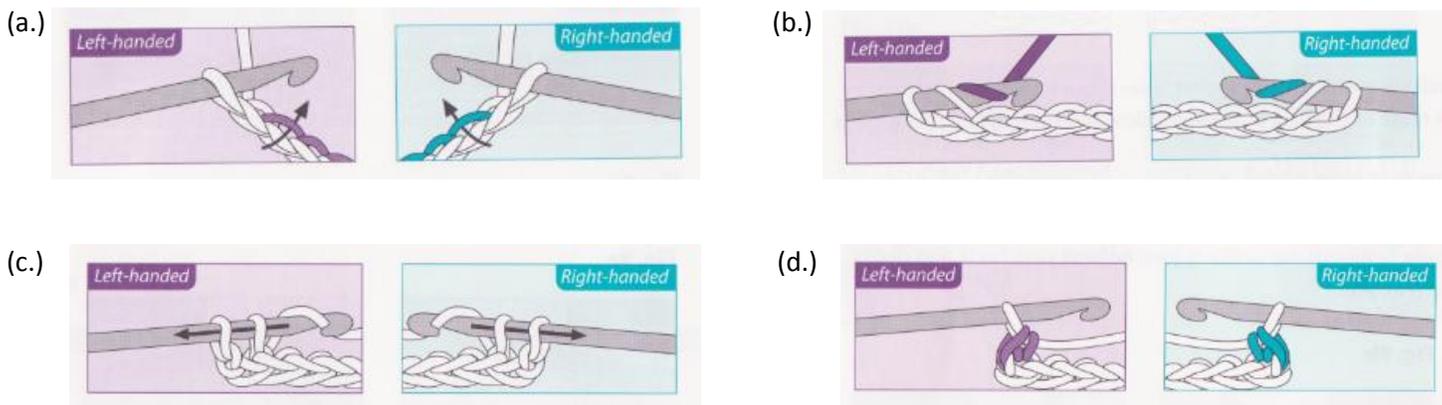


2. Chain 27-30 to start.



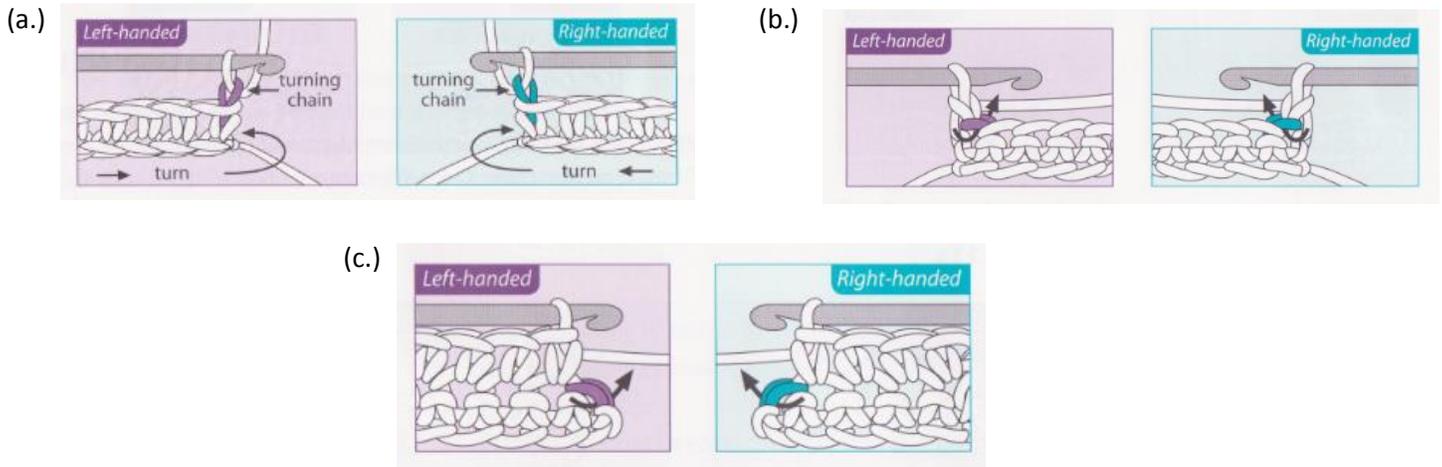
3. Being Row 1 using a single crochet by inserting your hook under the back ridge of the chain. *(Follow step by step or follow along with diagrams)*

To work a single crochet insert the hook under the back ridge of the chain (a.). Yarn over bringing the working yarn behind your hook and over the top (b.). Draw your hook back through the stitch, pulling up the loop. Yarn over again (behind and over top) and draw hook through BOTH loops on the hook (c.). You finished your first single crochet (d.!) Continue this across the entire beginning chain for a total stitch count one less than your original chain count.



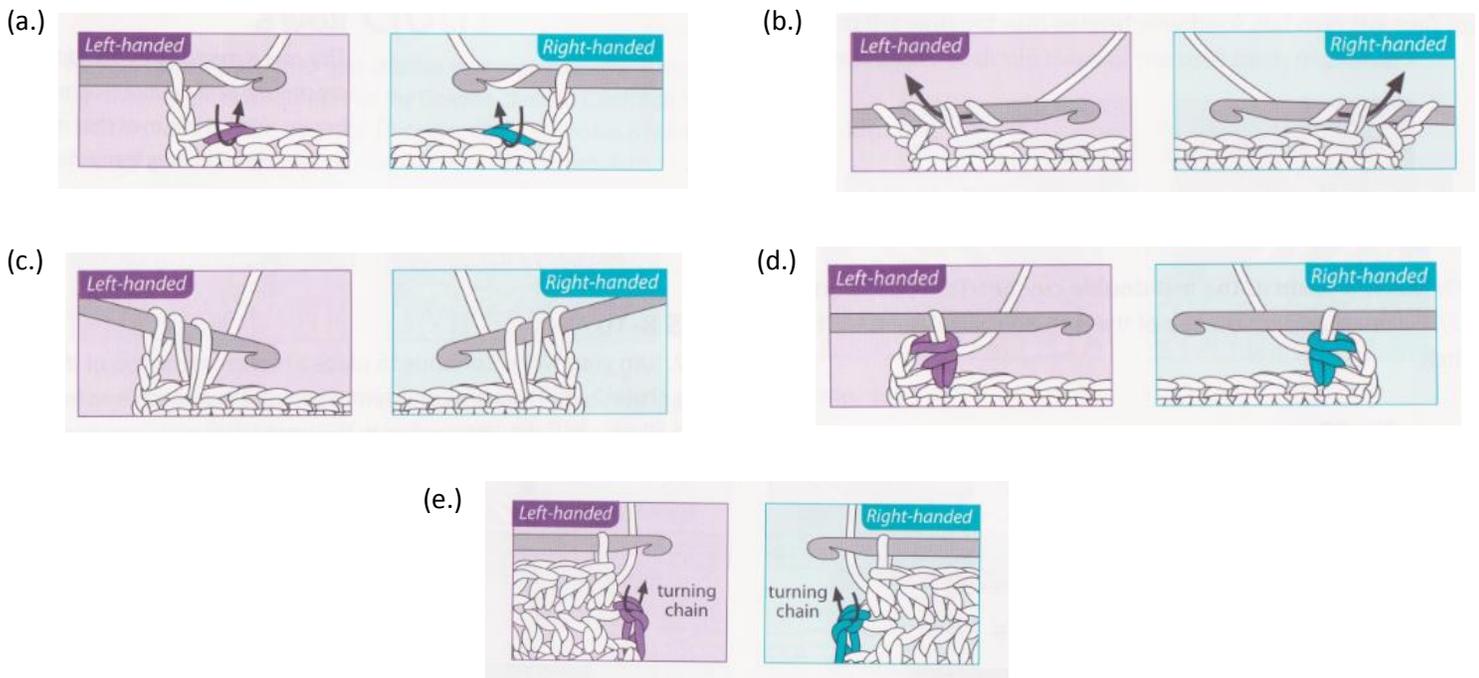
4. Crochet Rows 2-5 with singles crochets.

When you hit the end of your first row, Chain 1 and turn your work (a.). Continue to work a single crochet in each since crochet across (b.). Be sure to count your stitches to have the same total as row 1. Notice the third diagram shows you to be sure you crochet into the final stitch of the row before doing the turning chain (c.).



5. Row 6, we will begin a half double crochet to make the stitch a bit taller.

When you reach the end of row 5, chain 2 and turn your work. To work a half double crochet, begin in the next stitch. Yarn over, insert the hook under both top loops (a.), yarn over and draw your hook back through the stitch (b.). You should have 3 loops on the hook (c.). Yarn over and draw your hook through all 3 loops on the hook to complete the half double crochet (d.). Continue doing this method across stitching equal number of stitches as the previous rows (e.).

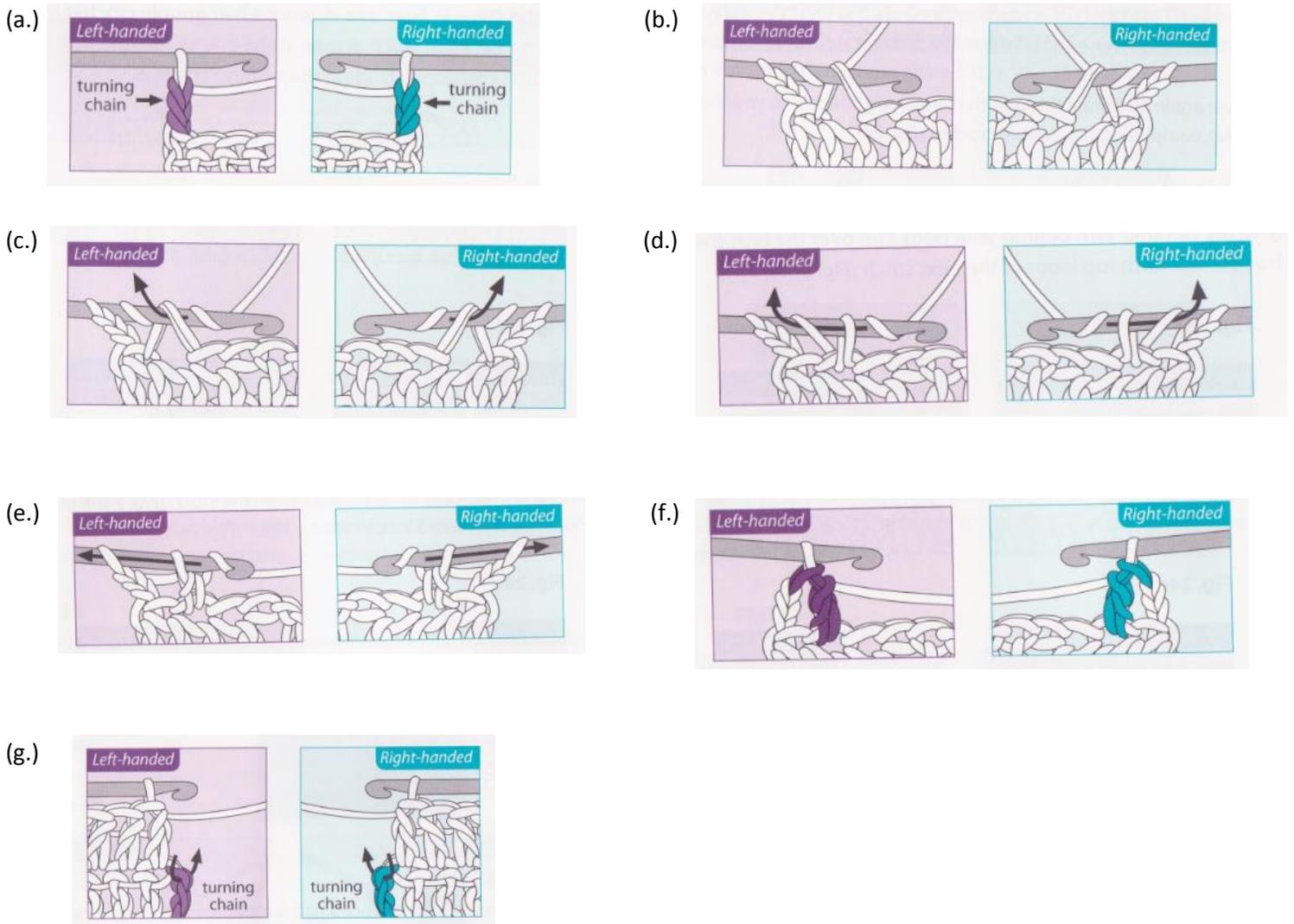


6. Crochet rows 7-10 with half double crochets.

When you reach the end of row 6, chain 2 (counts as first hdc) and turn your work. Continue the same method as row 6 for half double crochets.

7. Row 11 will be made up of double crochets to make an even taller stitch.

When you reach the end of row 10, chain 3 (counts as first dc) and turn your work (a.). Begin in the next stitch by yarning over, inserting the hook under both loops of the next stitch (b.), yarn over again and draw your hook back through the stitch (c.). You should have 3 loops on the hook. Yarn over and draw your hook through 2 loops on the hook (d.). Yarn over again and draw the remaining 2 loops on your hook to complete the double crochet (e. - f.). Continue this across the entire row making the same number of stitches as your previous rows. Be sure to match the same number of stitches as previous rows.



8. Rows 12-15 stitch using the double crochet stitch.

When you reach the end of row 11, chain 3 and turn your work. Continue the previous steps as row 11. Be sure you are counting your stitches to make equal length rows.

9. Rows 16-19 crochet with a half double crochet. Be sure you only chain 2 at the end of each row beginning at the end of row 15.

10. Rows 20-23 crochet with a single crochet. Be sure to only chain 1 at the end of each row beginning at the end of row 19.

Use a tape measure to check your measurements to be sure you have a 9 inch by 9 inch square. YOU DID IT!