# Crab Stitch Border



# **Materials Needed & Measurements:**

- Suggested Yarn: Worsted/Aran weight yarn (use a contrasting color for effect)
- Yarn Measurements: Approx. 30-50 yards (for baby blanket border)
- **Hook Size:** 4.0mm 5.5mm (match your main project)
- Finished Border Width: Around 1/4" to 1/2"
- Other Tools:
  - o Scissors
  - Yarn needle
  - Stitch markers (optional)

# **Abbreviations Used:**

- $\mathbf{Ch} = \mathbf{Chain}$
- $\mathbf{Yo} = \mathbf{Yarn} \ \mathbf{Over}$
- **Rsc** = Reverse Single Crochet (also known as Crab Stitch)
- Sl st = Slip Stitch

- $\mathbf{St} = \mathbf{Stitch}$
- $\mathbf{Sp} = \mathbf{Space}$
- $\mathbf{Sc} = \mathbf{Single}$  Crochet

# **Step-by-Step Instructions for Making the Crab Stitch Border Pattern:**

### 1. Starting the Crab Stitch (rsc)



- **Ch 1** (does *not* count as a stitch).
- Turn your work so you're working from left to right (instead of the usual right to left).
- **Insert hook** into the next stitch to the **right** (the stitch before your hook).
- Yo (yarn over) and pull up a loop (you'll have 2 loops on the hook).
- Yo again and pull through both loops to complete the reverse single crochet (rsc).

### 2. Continuing the Border



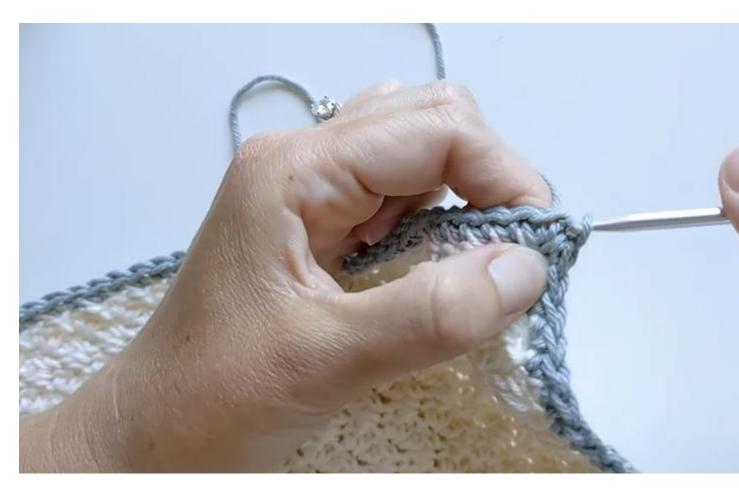
- Move to the next stitch to the **right** and repeat the rsc.
- **Keep tension even** if too tight, the border will curl; if too loose, it may look sloppy.
- For straight edges: Work 1 rsc in each stitch along the side.

# **3.** Working Corners (for Square/Rectangular Projects)



- When you reach a **corner stitch**, work:
  - o 2 rsc in the same corner stitch (for a gentle curve) OR
  - o 3 rsc in the same stitch (for a sharper corner).
- This prevents gaps and keeps the border flat.

# 4. Joining & Finishing



- When you return to the starting point, sl st into the first rsc to close the round.
- Cut yarn, leaving a 6" tail, and weave in ends neatly with a yarn needle.

# **Troubleshooting & Pro Tips**



### **✓** Struggling with the backward motion?

• Try rotating your project **180 degrees** so you're still crocheting "forward" but in the opposite direction.

### **✓** Border too tight?

• Switch to a larger hook or loosen your tension slightly.

#### **✓** Want extra texture?

• Work **2 rounds of crab stitch** for a bolder edge.

### **✓** Using a slippery yarn?

• Place a **stitch marker every 10 stitches** to keep track.

#### **Variations & Creative Ideas**



- Color Block Border: Alternate colors every few stitches for a fun effect.
- Combination Edging: Pair crab stitch with a row of picots or shells for a fancier finish.
- Lace Crab Stitch: Use a lighter yarn (fingering weight) and a smaller hook for delicate projects.

### **Final Thoughts**



The crab stitch border is a small detail that makes a **big impact**! It's perfect for:

- Baby blankets
- Kitchen towels (adds durability)
- Sweater cuffs/hems
- Bags and pouches (reinforces edges)

Practice a few stitches on a swatch first soon, you'll love the **twisted, professional look** it gives your work!