

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 ¼" to ½"
- **Other Tools:**
 - Scissors
 - Yarn needle
 - Stitch markers (optional)

Abbreviations Used:

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

- **St** = Stitch
- **Sp** = Space
- **Sc** = 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:
 - **2 rsc in the same corner stitch** (for a gentle curve) **OR**
 - **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!