Free Crochet Patterns for Beginners

12 easy projects + full mug cozy pattern · mardingezituru.com

These are the free crochet patterns on the site that a beginner can actually finish, put in the order we would make them: flat pieces in rows first, then simple rounds, then a first stuffed toy. Each one uses only a few basic stitches, every row or round ends with its stitch count, and most come with a printable PDF.

The first project, a mug cozy, is written out in full on this page. It takes about an hour and teaches the two things almost every pattern needs: working into a chain and turning at the end of a row.



The mug cozy: one rectangle and two buttons.

What you need to know first

- **Four stitches cover all of these patterns:** chain (ch), single crochet (sc), half double crochet (hdc) and double crochet (dc). The hats and toys add a slip stitch join and simple increases.
- **Rows or rounds:** flat pieces are worked in rows and turned; hats and toys are worked in rounds. Start with rows.
- **Yarn:** a smooth, light-colored worsted (weight 4) yarn and a 5 mm (US H/8) hook. Dark and fuzzy yarns hide the stitches.

Unsure what a line like "(sc, inc) x6 [18]" means? Read how to read a crochet pattern first.

12 beginner crochet patterns, easiest first

1. Mug cozy



One small rectangle of half double crochet with two button loops. The full pattern is below.

Quick facts: 31 stitches x 11 rows, about 8.9 x 4 in / 22 x 10 cm, about 1 hour.

Jump to the mug cozy pattern →

2. Twisted headband

One long strip of single crochet in the back loops, joined with a twist at the front. The back loops make it stretchy.

Quick facts: Worsted, 62 to 73 yd, about 1.5 hours; child and adult sizes.

Get the headband pattern →

3. Beginner scarf

Straight rows from end to end with a ridged texture and a fringe. Long, but there is nothing new to learn after the first row.

Quick facts: About 8 x 60 in / 20 x 152 cm, about 402 yd of worsted, 8 to 10 hours.

Get the scarf pattern →

4. Fingerless gloves

Each glove is one small rectangle, crocheted sideways and seamed with a gap for the thumb.

Quick facts: Sizes S, M and L, 75 to 100 yd per pair, 2 to 3 hours.

Get the fingerless gloves pattern →

5. Simple hat

Your first project in rounds: a flat circle of double crochet that grows by 12 stitches a round, then straight rounds.

Quick facts: Toddler and adult, 55 to 85 yd, 1.5 to 2 hours.

Get the simple hat pattern →

6. Ribbed beanie

Worked flat and sideways in back loops, then seamed and gathered at the top, so there is no counting of increases.

Quick facts: Four sizes from baby to adult L, 66 to 161 yd.

Get the beanie pattern →

7. Hat with a ribbed brim

The next step after the simple hat: half double crochet rounds and a brim of front and back post stitches that looks knitted.

Quick facts: Child and adult, 77 to 109 yd, 2 to 3 hours.

Get the ribbed brim hat pattern →

8. Striped blanket

Half double crochet rows from start to finish with wide stripes. The baby size is a good first big project.

Quick facts: Baby 30 x 36 in or throw 50 x 60 in.

Get the blanket pattern →

9. Crochet bow

A small rectangle pinched in the middle, a center band and two tails. Good for gift wrap and hair clips.

Quick facts: About 2.5 in / 6.4 cm wide, about 40 minutes.

Get the bow pattern →

10. Flat Christmas tree

A flat triangle in turned rows that shrinks by one stitch at each end, with a trunk and a little star.

Quick facts: About 3.5 in / 9 cm wide, about 30 minutes.

Get the flat tree pattern →

11. Round coaster

The practice piece from our pattern-reading guide: a small flat circle that shows how rounds and increases work.

Quick facts: About 2.2 in / 5.7 cm, about 30 minutes.

Get the coaster pattern →

12. First amigurumi

When you are ready for a stuffed toy: a tiny round bear, step by step with photos, in DK cotton and a 2.5 mm hook.

Quick facts: About 1.6 in / 4 cm across, about 1 hour.

Get the first amigurumi guide →

Free pattern: easy crochet mug cozy

- **Size:** about 8.9 x 4 in / 22.5 x 10 cm; fits a standard mug about 3.25 in / 8 cm across
- **Yarn:** worsted (aran / 4) cotton, about 29 yd / 26 m
- **Hook:** 5 mm (US H/8)
- **Also:** two 3/4 in / 20 mm buttons, a tapestry needle
- **Gauge:** 14 hdc x 11 rows = 4 in / 10 cm

The turning ch 1 never counts as a stitch. Count 31 stitches at the end of every row: if you have 30 or 32, the first or last stitch was missed or doubled.

Cozy

Color: start with A (sage green).

Chain 33. Row 1 goes into the 3rd chain from the hook.

- ☐ **Rnd 1:** Hdc around. (31)
- ☐ **Rnds 2–10:** Ch 1 turn, hdc around. (31)
- ☐ **Rnd 11:** Ch 1 turn, sc around. (31)

Finish: Chain 33 and work R1 into the 3rd ch from the hook; add two ch-6 button loops on one short end, sew two 3/4 in / 20 mm buttons on the other.

Button loops

1. Do not fasten off after row 11. Turn the work so you can go down the short edge.
2. Slip stitch into the end of each row down to row 8. Chain 6 and slip stitch into the same row end: this is the first loop.
3. Slip stitch down to row 3, chain 6 and slip stitch into the same row end for the second loop. Slip stitch to the corner and fasten off.
4. On the other short end, sew the two buttons about 0.5 in / 1.3 cm in from the edge, level with rows 3 and 8.

Wrap it around the mug with the loops on one side of the handle and the buttons on the other. If it is loose, move the buttons in a little; if it does not meet, chain 8 for the loops instead of 6.

FAQ

Which is the easiest crochet pattern for a total beginner?

The mug cozy or the headband. Both are a single flat piece in rows, finished in an evening.

Why do my edges go wavy or slanted?

You are adding or losing a stitch at the ends of rows. Put a stitch marker in the first and last stitch of each row and count to 31 before you turn.

Can I use a different yarn?

Any smooth worsted works. Cotton holds its shape and is easy to see; acrylic is softer and cheaper. Check your gauge on a few rows first.