



Basic Crochet Bookmark

By Jen Lucas

Want to learn crochet basics? Try this easy and adorable crochet bookmark. While it is worked with a small hook and thin yarn, it's actually easier than you might think. A small number of chain stitches are created, and the bookmark is then worked using single crochet stitches. With this pattern you will learn the very basics of crochet and have a great foundation to go forward and try other projects and stitches.



Finished Measurements

1.25" [3.25cm] wide & 5" [12.75cm] long

Materials

- 20 yards [19m] of 100% cotton Size 10 Crochet Thread
- 1.75mm steel crochet hook or size needed to obtain gauge
- Tapestry needle
- Small scissors

Optional Materials for Stiffening Bookmark

- Craft or Wood Glue
- Warm Water
- Plastic cup (for mixing glue & warm water)
- Plastic spoon or another mixing tool
- Plastic plate or tray
- Flexible Tape Measure

Gauge

10 sc sts & 10 sc rows = 1.25" [3.25 cm]

Gauge is not critical for this pattern; however, a different gauge will affect the finished size of the bookmark as well as the amount of yarn needed to complete the project.

Notes

This bookmark is worked in single crochet stitches. For detailed explanations on the stitches used for this project, see the Techniques Section.

Once your bookmark is complete, you can simply use it as is. The finished fabric does have some drape, so you may want to stiffen the bookmark. See the Techniques Section for instructions on how to stiffen a bookmark with a mixture of glue and water.

Abbreviations

ch: chain
sc: single crochet
st(s): stitch(es)

Instructions for Basic Crochet Bookmark

Foundation Ch: Ch 11.

Row 1: Starting with the second ch from hook and working into the bottom of the ch, sc into each ch across, turn – 10 sc sts.

Rows 2 - 40: Ch 1, sc into each sc across, turn – 10 sc sts.

Fasten off. Trim yarn and weave in yarn tails. If desired, stiffen bookmark (see Techniques Section).

Techniques

Crochet Chain:

To make a crochet chain, make a slip knot and place on hook (the slip knot does not count toward number of chains).



Create each chain by working a yarn over (from back to front) and pulling the yarn through the loop – one chain is created. If a pattern calls for working a chain in the middle of a row, you will follow this same step for the desired number of chains.





This process is repeated until the desired number of chains are achieved.



Single Crochet:

On the first row, when working into the chain, you will work into the back or bottom bump of the chain, bringing the hook from front to back



On subsequent rows you will work under both legs of the stitch, bringing the hook from front to back.



Once hook is inserted, yarn over (from back to front) and pull the yarn through the stitch (2 loops on hook)



Yarn over once more (from back to front) and pull the yarn through both loops (1 loop on hook – single crochet stitch is complete).



Stiffen Bookmark:

Wet bookmark with lukewarm tap water. Once completely wet, gently squeeze out water so that item is damp.



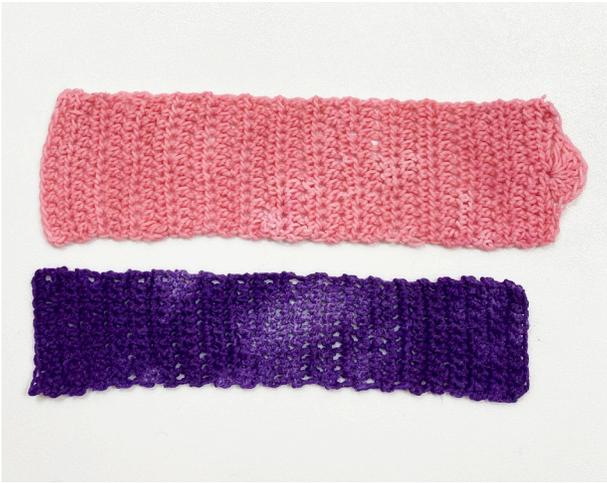
In plastic cup, mix 1 part glue and 1 part warm water. Use plastic spoon or another mixing tool and stir thoroughly until a homogenous solution is achieved.



Place bookmark in glue mixture, making sure the item is completely submerged. If necessary, use mixing tool to carefully push bookmark into glue mixture.



Remove bookmark and gently squeeze out all the excess glue. Do not wring or twist the bookmark. Place on plastic plate or tray and shape to desired shape (finished measurements listed at beginning of pattern).



Allow bookmark to completely dry (this may take up to 24 hours). Remove bookmark from tray and enjoy using your creation in your next book!



