

# Lesson 6: Half Double Stitch

*How to crochet for absolute beginners*

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## Half Double Stitch

While the Half Double is the second stitch you're learning to crochet, this is the first time you'll be working in rows and following a basic crochet pattern!

- ❖ About the Half Double
- ❖ Half Double Anatomy
- ❖ Pattern reading + symbols
- ❖ Tips

## About the half double

### Half Double Stitch

- ❖ Yarn over hook,
- ❖ insert hook into next stitch,
- ❖ yarn over hook,
- ❖ pull through stitch,
- ❖ yarn over hook,
- ❖ pull through 3 loops on hook

### Half Double Stitch

#### Tips:

- ❖ Hook should be facing downward (not sideways or up; it will not move through loop)
- ❖ Hold last chain or stitch before creating the next

## Decoding the format

Crochet patterns can look like a foreign language. Let's break down the acronyms, symbols and formatting to get a better understanding!

### Acronyms

Crochet patterns include acronyms to shorten stitches that we use frequently to write patterns. To learn these stitches only, we will not use any acronyms.

- ❖ Chain = CH
- ❖ Half Double = Hdc

## Symbols

Crochet patterns can be written with words, and they can be offered in diagram form, using symbols.

Crochet diagrams are a universal language, helping to show each stitch and technique a pattern calls for.

Let's start with the two stitches we've learned so far: Chain (the circle shape), Half Double (the T shape).

- ❖ O = Chain
- ❖ T = Half Double

## Diagram

A diagram is a collection of symbols used together to represent a series of instructions. Read this pattern from the **bottom** up, starting on the **Left** side.

## Formatting

Crochet can be worked in rows and rounds. A pattern uses these terms to share how a pattern is worked, and to help with counting: Row 1, Row 2...

Rows consist of stitches that are not joined at the end of each line of instruction: like this stitch swatch!

## Tips:

- ❖ Use stitch markers as indicated in the pattern; helps to identify the top of your first stitch, and to count stitches made.
- ❖ Once you work a stitch into a marked stitch, remove stitch marker.
- ❖ Count stitches after every row; do not move on until your stitch count is correct.

## What's Next?

**Homework:** Practice the Half Double stitch!

- ❖ Follow the homework pattern completely at least 5 times.

**Next...** Lesson 7: Double Stitch