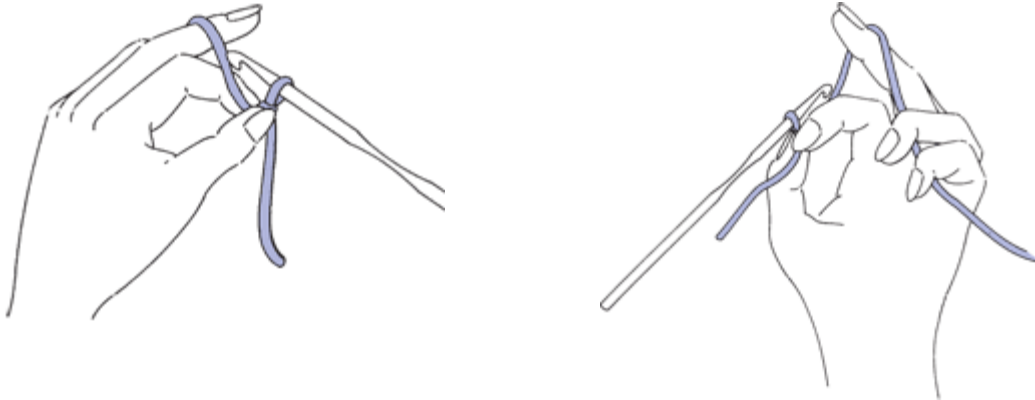


Crochet- Chain Stitch

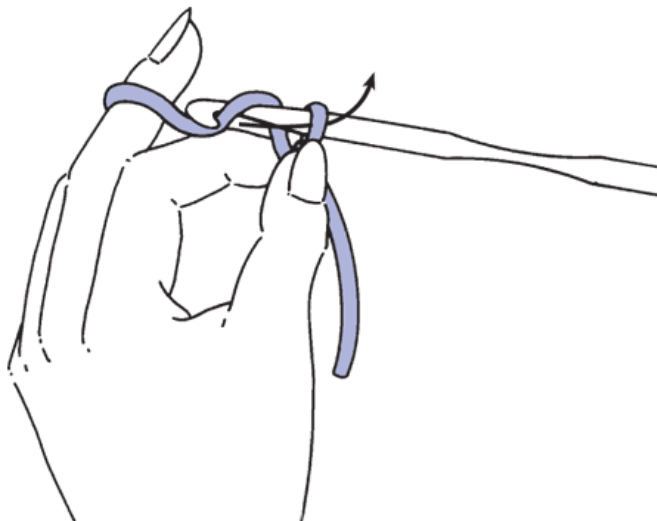
Step 1: Hold the base of the slip knot with the thumb and index finger of your left hand, and thread yarn from the skein over the middle finger and under the remaining fingers of the left hand.



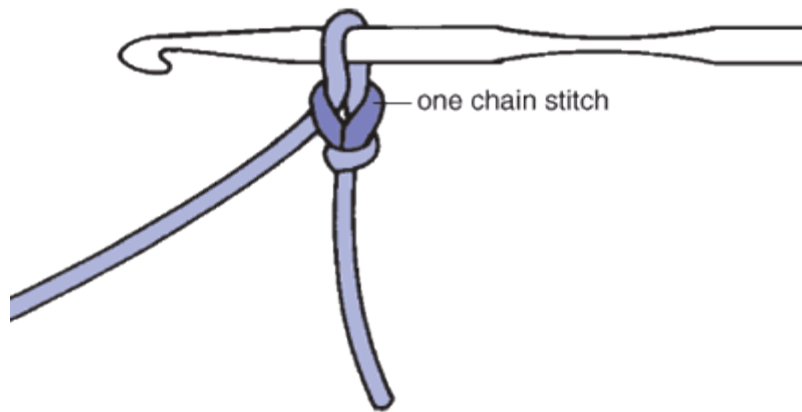
Your middle finger will stick up a bit to help the yarn feed smoothly from the skein; the other fingers help maintain even tension on the yarn as you work.

Hint: As you practice, you can adjust the way your left hand holds the thread to however is most comfortable for you.

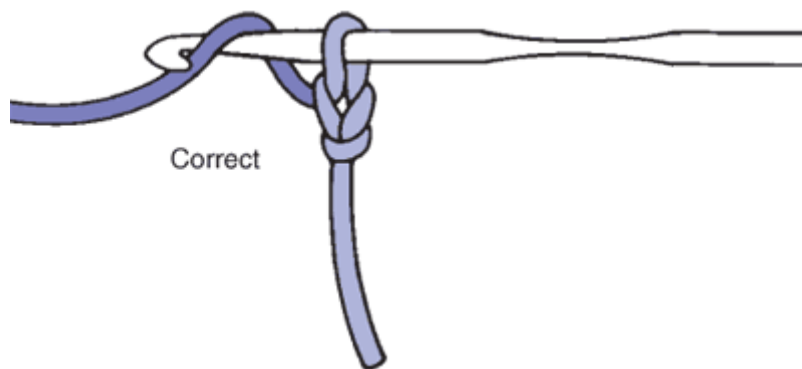
Step 2: Bring the yarn over the hook from back to front and hook it.



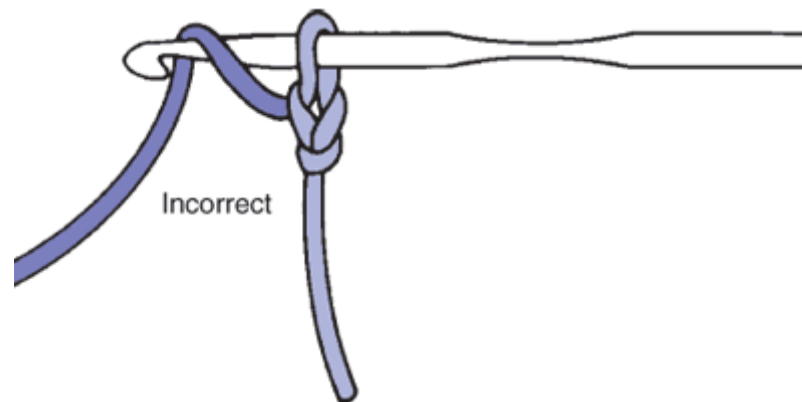
Draw hooked yarn through the loop of the slip knot on the hook and up onto the working area of the hook; you have now made one chain stitch.



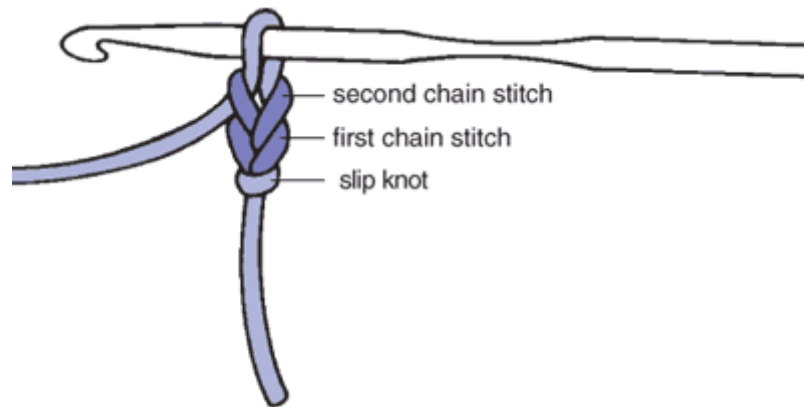
Step 3: Again bring the yarn over the hook from back to front.



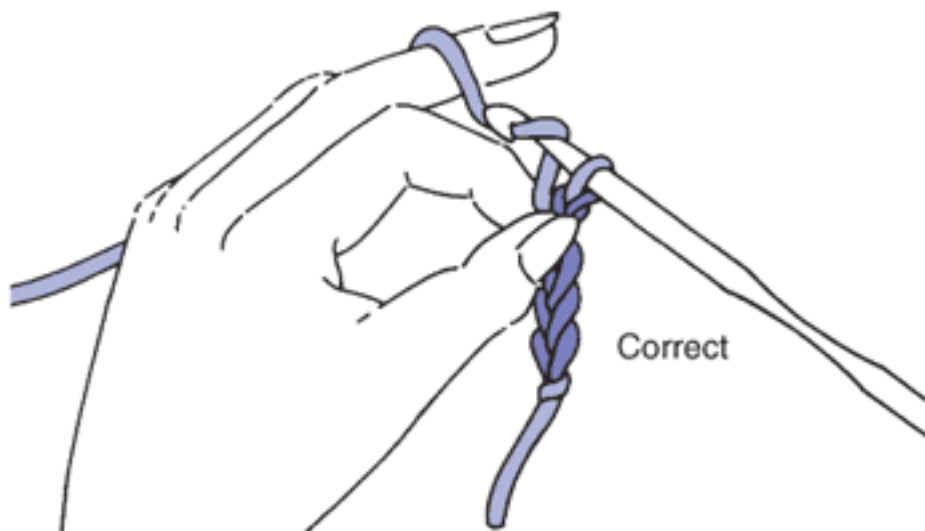
Note: Take care not to bring yarn from front to back.



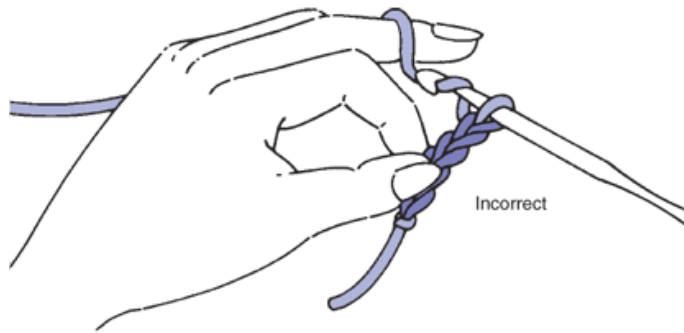
Hook it and draw through loop on the hook: You have made another chain stitch.



Repeat Step 3 for each additional chain stitch, being careful to move the left thumb and index finger up the chain close to the hook after each new stitch or two.



This helps you control the work. **Note:** *The figure below shows the incorrect way to hold the stitches.* Also be sure to pull each new stitch up onto the working area of the hook.



The working yarn and the work in progress are always held in your left hand.

Practice making chains until you are comfortable with your grip of the hook and the flow of the yarn. In the beginning your work will be uneven, with some chain stitches loose and others tight. While you're learning, try to keep the chain stitches loose. As your skill increases, the chain should be firm, but not tight, with all chain stitches even in size.

Hint: As you practice, if the hook slips out of a stitch, don't get upset! Just insert the hook again from the front into the center of the last stitch, taking care not to twist the loop.

