# TUTORIAL – LEARNING TUNISIAN CROCHET

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We will start with a swatch so you can learn how to do Tunisian Crochet AND to determine the right hook size for your yarn choice all at once. Try to crochet loosely and take your time when learning the stitch before you continue on to the blanket! Your hook needs to be 1-3 sizes larger than the recommended size on the yarn label. You MUST make a swatch to determine exactly what size your personal crochet tension requires.

## **SWATCH**

### YOUTUBE LINK:

Right handed: <a href="https://youtu.be/P\_OALxap\_Dc">https://youtu.be/P\_OALxap\_Dc</a>
Left handed: <a href="https://youtu.be/XyPuy\_FRIgo">https://youtu.be/XyPuy\_FRIgo</a>

## TUNISIAN SIMPLE STITCH (TSS)

#### **ROW 1 THE FOUNDATION ROW**

A Tunisian Row will have a Forward pass AND a Return pass.

#### **FORWARD PASS**

Chain 11, but NOT too tightly. Turn the chain sideways so you are able to work on the backside. You should see a small bump in the middle of each chain stitch. You will insert your hook in the first bump behind the hook, do not skip a chain.

Insert hook and pull up a loop. You will have 2 loops on the hook now.

Repeat for all 11 stitches across. You will have 12 loops on the hook.

#### **RETURN PASS**

Yarn over (YO) and pull through one loop, this is your chain 1 to get the height for your row. The remainder of the Return Pass you will YO and pull through 2 loops across the piece, until you have 1 loop remaining on your hook, which is your working loop for starting the next row.

THIS IS THE STANDARD FOUNDATION ROW AND IS THE BEGINNING OF ALMOST ANY TUNISIAN PROJECT.

## **ROW 2 AND FURTHER**

Look for the vertical bars, these are actually your stitches. You *ALWAYS* skip the first bar on the edge. You will pick up the second bar from right to left.

Use only the bar on the front side of your work.

Repeat this for all stitches **EXCEPT** the last one!

To get a tidy border edge you need to pick up **the front and back vertical bars** at the end of the row, YO and pull up a loop (12 loops on the hook). Make the Return Pass.

















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Repeat this for a few rows. Be careful that you do not crochet too tightly. This is an example of work that is crocheted too tight. It will curl a lot. This curl cannot be removed by blocking or a border.

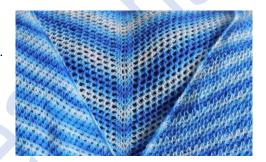
This swatch is correct: your swatch should look like this. It will curl a bit, but that is completely normal and will be resolved by making the border.

You can make your swatch as short or as long as you like, but no need to make a scarf out of it. Make about 8 to 10 rows to get the feel of it.

THE MOST IMPORTANT THING IS TO FIND THE RIGHT SIZE HOOK FOR YOU!!!



When your hook is (too) large you will get larger holes in it, perfect for a shawl or wrap, but not for a blanket that needs to warm and cosy. The photo shows a part of my less-is-more shawl. I used a 8.0mm hook and a stitch that creates an open pattern.



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