

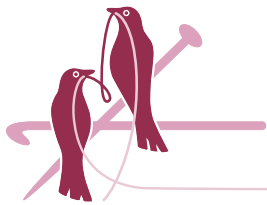
Back and Front loops

In order to get different effects when working crochet stitches, you may be asked to work either into the front or back loop of a stitch, rather than through the whole 'chain' of a stitch in the usual way. You may be asked to consistently work into the back loop of a stitch or the front loop, or you might be asked to work a combination of front and back loop stitches.

This piece of double crochet (right) is worked in rows and not rounds. Some rows have been worked into the back of the stitches with the right side of the work facing, whilst other rows have been worked into the front of the stitches with the wrong side of the work facing. See how the appearance of the stitch changes depending upon whether the right side or the wrong side of the row is right side facing.



- *Working into the front loop of a crochet stitch*
- *Working into the back loop of a crochet stitch*
- *Working into the reverse of a stitch*



Working into the front loop of a crochet stitch

JANIE CROW

The front loop of the stitch is the side of the chain nearest to you – regardless of whether you are working on the right side or wrong side of the work and regardless of whether you are working in rows or rounds..



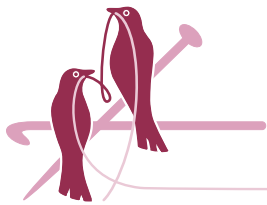
Quick reminder: This image shows a hook inserted through both loops of a double crochet stitch in the 'usual' way.

Step 1: Insert your hook into the nearest side of the chain that runs along the top of the stitches. This will open up the stitch and make it seem quite loose.

Step 2: Work the crochet stitch specified as you if you were working into both loops.

Note

That in the images (above), the stitches prior to the stitch being worked into the front loop have been worked in the 'usual' way, i.e through both loops of the chain.



Working into the back loop of a crochet stitch

JANIE CROW

The back loop of the stitch is the side of the chain furthest away from you – regardless of whether you are working on the right side or wrong side of the work and regardless of whether you are working in rows or rounds.



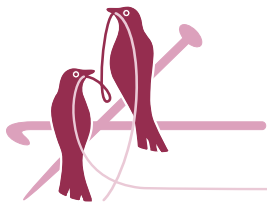
Step 1: Insert your hook into the far side of the chain that runs along the top of the stitches. This will open up the stitch and make it seem quite loose.



Step 2: Work the crochet stitch specified as you if you were working into both loops.

Note

The back of the loop can be a bit tricky to see. It is a good idea to tilt your work slightly and look down directly onto the top of the chain rather than look at your piece of crochet face on.



Working into the reverse of a stitch

JANIE CROW

Sometimes you might be asked to work into the reverse of a stitch – this is different to working into the back loop of a stitch. To work into the reverse of a stitch you need to make a stitch into the loop of yarn that has created the ‘bump’ on the reverse side directly behind the stitch.



The reverse of the next two stitches have been outlined in blue. Look down onto your work from above to see the loops.



Step 1: Insert your hook down through the ‘bump’ at the back of the stitch, through the yarn loop from top to bottom.



Step 3: Make your stitch in the usual way. Notice how the chain remains intact and the new stitches sit along the row so that it looks like two rows of chain have been created.

Note

Getting your hook through the back loop can be a little tricky – if you struggle, try using the sharper ‘hook’ part of your crochet hook to get through the bump.

In the image to the right you can see how working the green yarn into the reverse of the stitch preserves the chain of the light brown and makes a feature of it. The chain looks raised in comparison to the stitches around it.

