

Freeform Crochet



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What is freeform crochet?

- ◆ Open-ended, artistic, and patternless
- ◆ Often dimensional and multi-directional
- ◆ More about the process than the product
- ◆ Also called Scrumbles
- ◆ Irish Crochet (motifs & chains) can be considered freeform



- ◆ Don't worry about gauge
- ◆ Any weight yarn - mostly the same
- ◆ Variety of stitches adds interest even in single color work
- ◆ Motifs start with a circle or square, but wander off in other directions, waves, or dimensions

Getting started from the center with a magic circle/ring

- ◆ Wrap yarn around two fingers with tail to the left (right if you are left handed) and working yarn going around fingers and down to the back.
- ◆ Put hook through loop toward back, YO and pull a loop to the front.
- ◆ YO (over the loop) and chain 1.
- ◆ Work following stitches over the tail.
- ◆ Pull tight after one or two rounds are complete.



Invisible Join - replaces slip stitch

- ◆ Cut working yarn leaving a 4" - 5" tail. Pull tail through the last stitch.
- ◆ Thread yarn through tapestry needle.
- ◆ Locate the top of the first stitch after the initial chain stitches.
- ◆ Insert needle under top two loops (looks like chain) and pull toward the back.
- ◆ Insert needle down in center top (of the chain stitches) of the last stitch made.
- ◆ Tension loop to match the tension of all the other stitches.
Secure yarn tail.



Stitches to try

- ◆ Wave - sc, hdc, dc, tr, dc, hdc, sc. Double any of these in the same stitch to keep work laying flat.
- ◆ Bullion - yo hook 5 - 7 times. Insert hook into specified stitch, yo and pull up a loop. YO and pull through all loops on hook. YO and pull through loop on hook to secure.
- ◆ Popcorn - work 5 dc in next stitch. Drop last loop from hook, insert hook in top of 1st dc, through last loop (the one you dropped) and pull it through. Chain 1.
- ◆ Shell - sc, hdc, dc, hdc, sc in same stitch. Skip next stitch. Vary height by adding in treble crochet!
- ◆ Post stitches - work around stitch from front or back.
- ◆ Line - Work stitches in Back Loop Only (blo). For a sturdy stitch, work in back loop of top chain and in loop behind stitch.

Class Sample

- ◆ Begin with a magic circle and either sc or dc enough stitches to make a circle that lays flat.
- ◆ End with invisible join.
- ◆ Add new color in a stitch that is NOT where the join was worked.
- ◆ Work Wave stitches around, putting two stitches in each stitch of round below. If you run out of space to complete a wave, just end with a sc.
- ◆ End with invisible join.



- ◆ Join new yarn in any stitch and work blo sc around. Put 2 or 3 stitches in one as needed to keep work flat.



- ◆ Invisible join.

- ◆ Add new color and work any combination of stitches. Vary the stitches to make a pleasing combination. End with Invisible join.

- ◆ Add in a repeat/new color and work (popcorn, dc), spacing as needed to keep work flat.

- ◆ Invisible join. Cut ends, weave in, and celebrate.

Resources

- ◆ Craftsy - Myra Wood Freeform Crochet
- ◆ Prudence Mapstone - www.knotjustknitting.com
- ◆ International Freeform Crochet Guild
www.freeformcrochet.com (archive photos)
- ◆ Facebook - Freeform Crochet World
- ◆ Ravelry - search Freeform for inspiration

Bracelet/Bottle Band

- ◆ On wrong side, attach yarn in the round before the popcorn stitches.
- ◆ 8 sc attaching each to back side of stitches. Ch 1. Turn.
- ◆ 8 blo sc. Ch 1. Turn.
- ◆ Repeat blo sc until band is as long as needed.
- ◆ Slip stitch to opposite side in the same round as you began.

