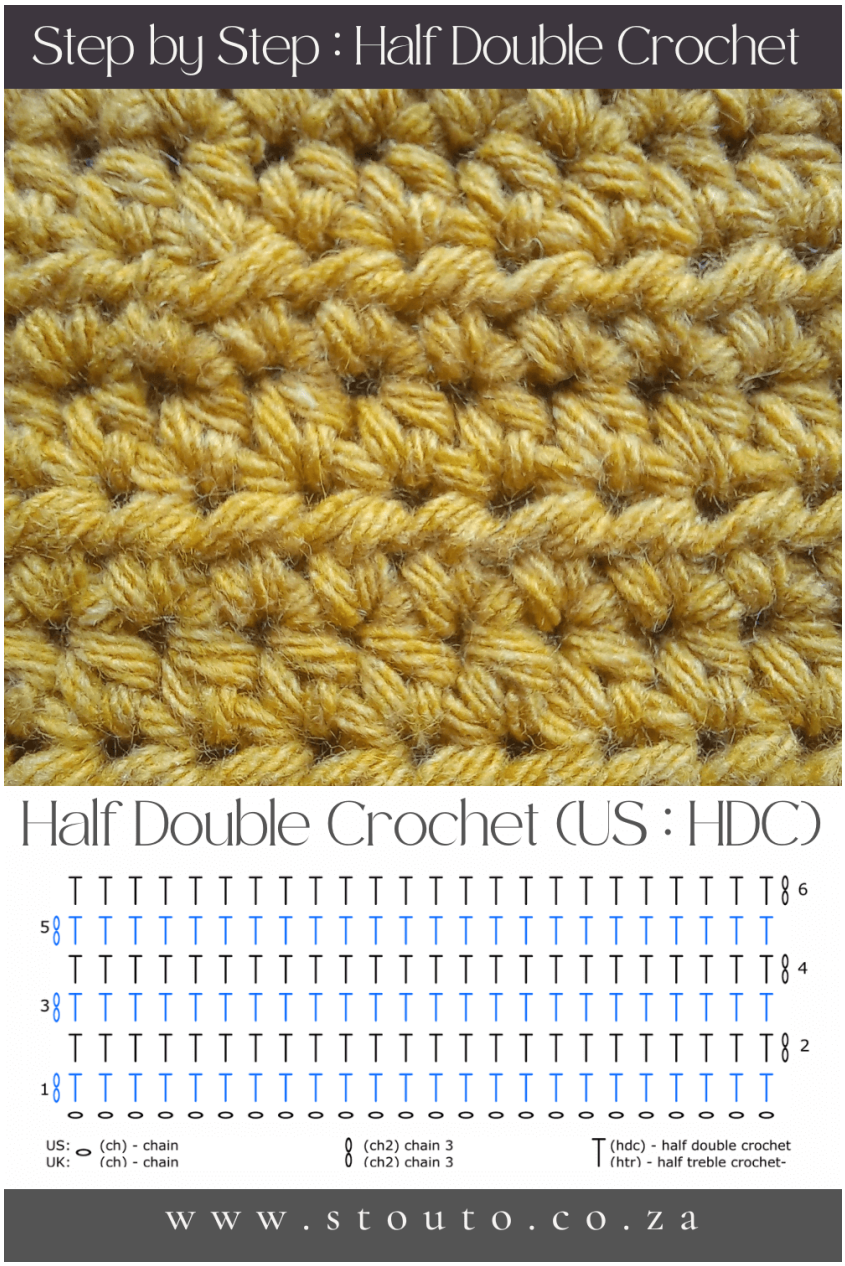
Half Double Crochet



Half Double Crochet

The half double crochet stitch (hdc) is simple, quick, and beautifully textured. It bridges the gap between single and double crochet, offering endless creative possibilities for all types of crochet patterns. Mastering the HDC stitch will open the door to countless projects and stitch combinations.

Half Double Crochet Stitch (HDC) - Step-by-Step Guide for Beginners

The half double crochet stitch (HDC) is the perfect next step after learning the single crochet. It’s taller, softer, and works up faster while still keeping a solid texture. Whether you’re making a blanket, scarf, or cozy sweater, the HDC stitch gives your crochet projects beautiful drape and warmth.

What Is a Half Double Crochet Stitch?

The half double crochet stitch, abbreviated hdc, is a versatile stitch that sits between a single crochet and a double crochet in height. It’s made with one extra yarn-over step compared to single crochet, which gives it a bit more height and flexibility.

In UK crochet terms, the HDC stitch is called the half treble crochet (htr).

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Common Mistakes to Avoid

- Forgetting to yarn over before inserting the hook: This will turn your stitch into a single crochet.
- Skipping stitches at the beginning or end of rows: Count your stitches to keep edges straight.
- Pulling the yarn too tight: A looser tension gives a softer fabric and makes stitching easier.

Tips for a Perfect HDC Stitch

- Ch 2 at the start of each new row to match stitch height (unless the pattern says otherwise).
- Mark your first stitch of each row to prevent losing count.
- Use a smooth, medium-weight yarn (like worsted weight) and a comfortable hook size (5–6mm) for practice.

Why You'll Love the HDC Stitch

The half double crochet is a favorite among crocheters because it combines speed, texture, and softness.

You'll find it in:

- Crochet blankets and throws
- Baby clothes and hats
- Sweaters and cardigans
- Market bags and totes
- Textured dishcloths and scarves

The HDC stitch creates a lovely balance between structure and drape, making it ideal for both home décor and wearable projects.

Abbreviation

Crochet Stitch Method

1. Yarn over.
2. Insert hook into next stitch and pull up a loop (3 loops).
3. Yarn over and pull through all 3 loops.



Step by Step

Step-by-Step Instructions (US Terms)

Here's how to make a half double crochet stitch:

1. Yarn over (yo) — wrap the yarn over your hook before inserting it into the next stitch.
2. Insert the hook into the indicated stitch (under both top loops unless your pattern says otherwise).
3. Yarn over again and pull up a loop — you'll now have three loops on your hook.
4. Yarn over once more and pull through all three loops on your hook.
5. You've completed one half double crochet stitch (hdc)!

Crochet Stitch Practice Example

Practice Row Example

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To practice, try this simple exercise:

1. Chain 13 (this will give you 12 stitches in your first row).
2. Yarn over and insert your hook into the third chain from the hook.
3. Make your first HDC stitch.
4. Continue making HDC stitches across the row (12 stitches total).
5. Chain 2 and turn your work to start the next row.

Repeat this process to create a soft, textured swatch perfect for practicing tension and stitch height

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