

### Hooking beads as you go

### Hooking Beads - Step by Step

Hooking beads onto individual stitches "as you go" is an outstanding method for those who hate to take the time and trouble to string loads of beads onto yarn before starting to knit. It is also great for spontaneous or accent beading, and also for yarns that are too delicate for the punishing strain that results from carrying a heavy length of pre-strung beads on the yarn. Beads are hooked on with a crochet hook small enough to fit through the hole of your beads. I have written many of my beaded knitting patterns using this technique and it remains my personal favorite.

Step 1: Impale the bead onto a crochet hook



Step 2: Insert the hook into the stitch loop where the bead will sit, making sure that the hook is facing you



Step 3: Pull the stitch loop through the bead



Step 4: Replace the beaded stitch onto the needle, if necessary



Hooking beads onto stitches with a small crochet hook does not require juggling skills, although it may seem that way the first few

times you try it. Since this method is so easy to learn from watching a demonstration, and so difficult to learn from words, here is a blow-by-blow description of my hooking method as it has evolved through hooking thousands of beads:

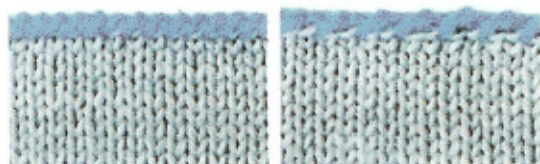
- 1) Impale the bead onto a crochet hook small enough to fit through the hole of your bead.
- 2) Insert the hook into the stitch loop where the bead will sit, making sure that the hook is facing you.
- 3) Pull the loop through the bead.
- 4) Replace the stitch loop onto the left needle if necessary.

### Crochet edging...on knitted fabric....

When working crochet edge on fronts of sweater or around armholes, top of a bag always count stitches, there should be approx. the same # of stitches around or on each side. I generally use single crochet for 3 to 5 rows on fronts of sweaters.... followed by a picot edge .... as follows ...

work \*one single crochet in each of the next 3 single crochets, then chain 5, slip stitch into first chain\*, work around.

Backwards single crochet is also another option, working from left to right, insert hook, pull out loop, yarn over pull thru 2 loops on hook. Basically this will be like doing a single crochet in the opposite direction.



Work a backward single crochet edge the same as a single crochet, but from left to right rather than right to left.

This edge, a variation of the simple backward single crochet, is worked by making a backward single crochet in one stitch, making a chain one and skipping a stitch.



1. Pull through a loop on the left edge. Chain one. \*Go into the next stitch to the right. Catch the yarn as shown and pull it through the fabric, then underneath (not through) the loop on the hook.

2. Bring the yarn over the top of the crochet hook and around as shown, then draw the yarn through both loops. Repeat from the \*.