Crochet Stitches

The Basic Stitches

The foundation chain (or base chain)
Almost all crochet starts with a foundation (or base) chain. This is the equivalent of 'casting on' in knitting. The base chain is a series of chain stitches, which normally begin with a loop secured by a slipknot.

Making a slip knot
Follow instructions given for 'Making a Slip Knot'.

Chain stitch (ch)
1. Wrap the yarn over the hook in an anticlockwise direction (or hold the yarn still and manoeuvre the hook) (Fig.83).
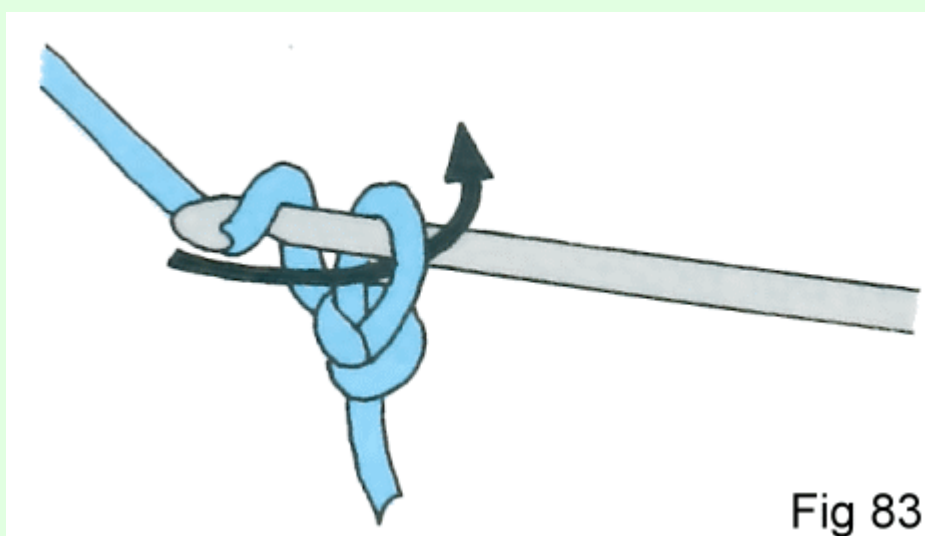

Fig 83

2. Draw the yarn through to form a new loop without tightening up the previous one (Fig.84).
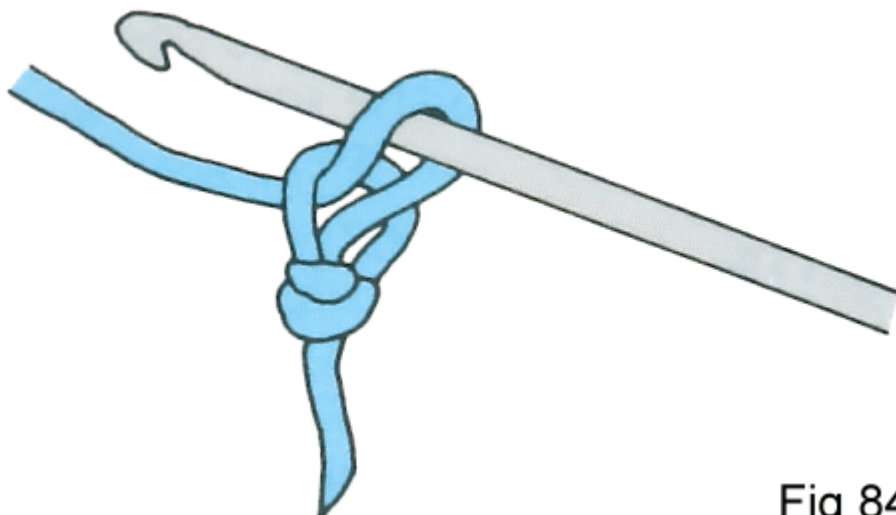
Crochet Stitches

Fig 84

Note: Unless otherwise specified, always wrap the yarn this way round. To make a length of base chain, make as many chains as required. Keep shifting your left hand position up close to the hook every couple of stitches or so; this is easy, if you use a right hand finger tip to hold down the loop on the hook, while you do so. To count chains correctly as you make them, do not count the initial slip loop as a chain. To count them afterwards, first make sure that they are not twisted and that you are looking at the 'front' (see Figs 85 and 86), then count back, but ignore the loop still on the hook.

Crochet Stitches
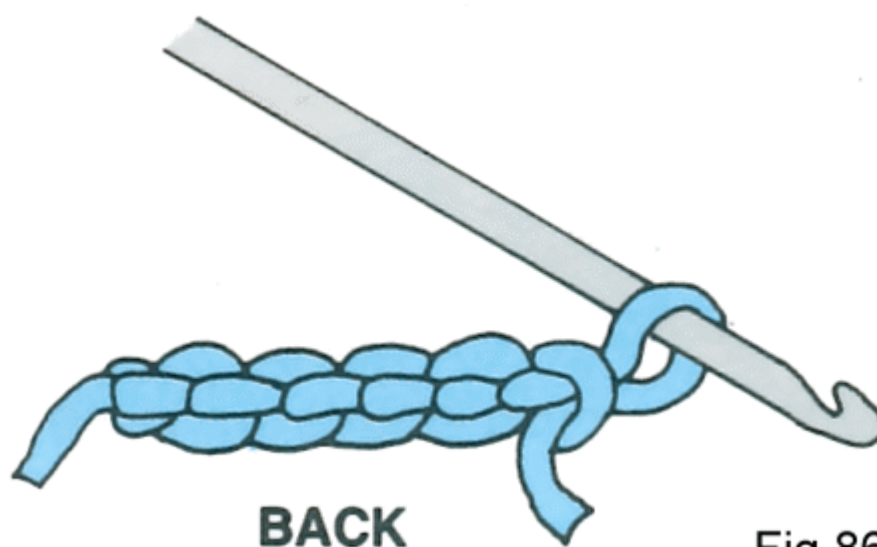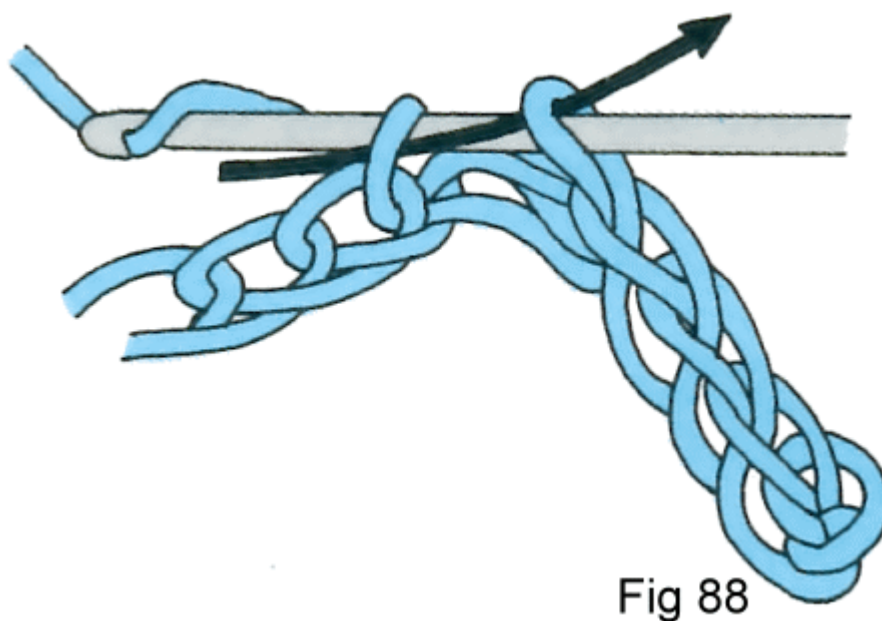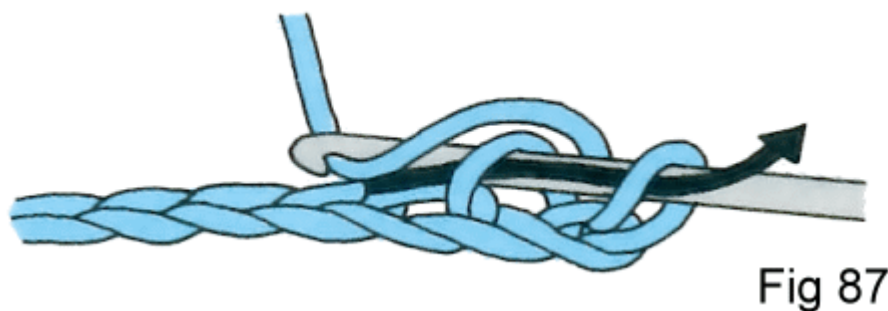

FRONT

5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1

Fig 85

BACK

Fig 86

Slip stitch (sl st)
1. Insert the hook into 2nd chain from hook, wrap the yarn over the hook, draw the yarn through the chain and the loop on the hook in one movement - 1 sl st made (Fig.87).
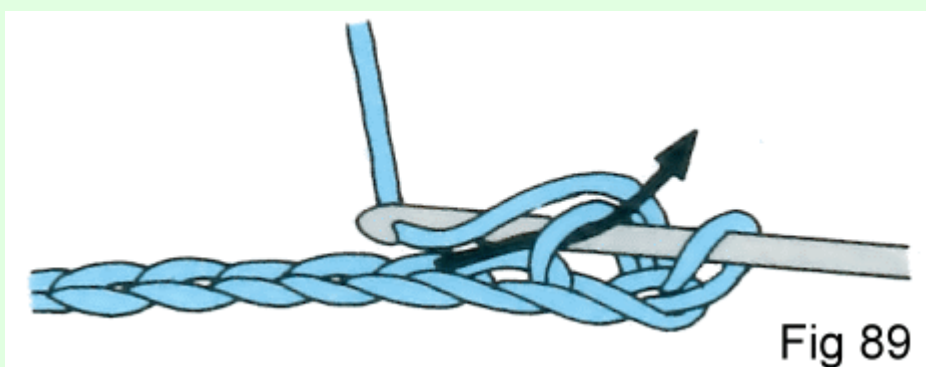
Crochet Stitches
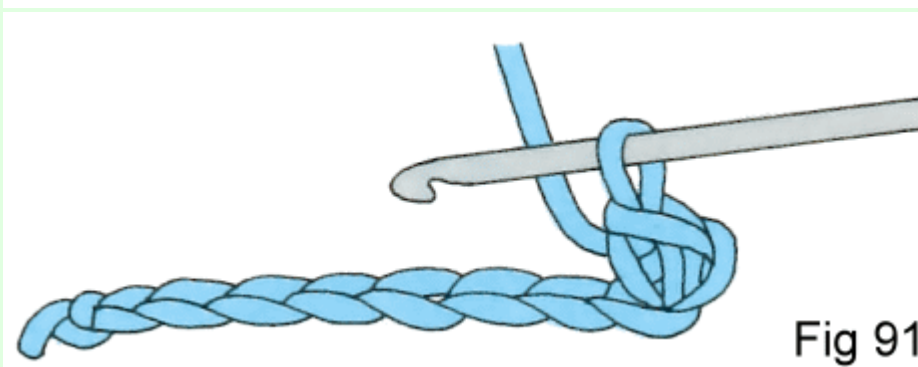

Fig 87

Fig 88

2. Repeat this last step (Fig.88).

Double crochet (dc)
1. Insert the hook into 2nd chain from hook, wrap the yarn over the hook and draw the yarn through the chain only (Fig.89).
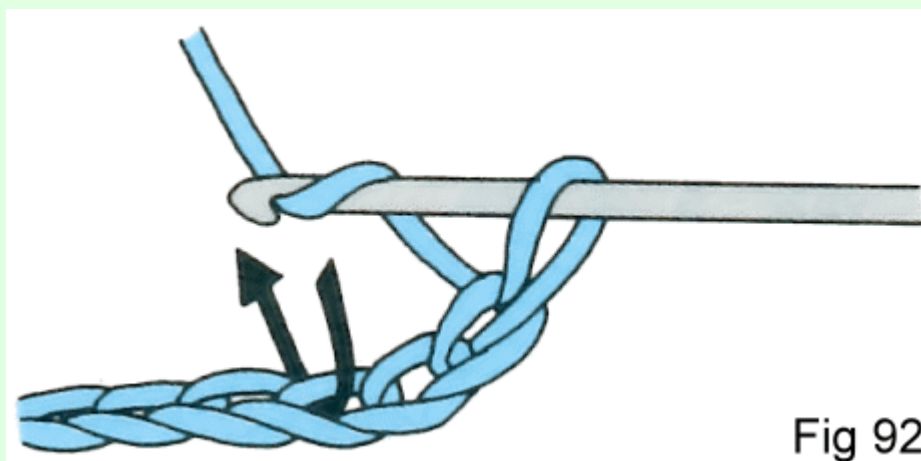

Fig 89

2. Wrap the yarn again and draw the yarn through both loops on hook (Fig.90) - 1 dc made (Fig.91).

Crochet Stitches

Fig 90

Fig 91

Half treble (htr)
1. Wrap the yarn over the hook and insert the hook into 3rd chain from the hook (Fig.92).

Fig 92

2. Wrap the yarn over the hook, draw through the chain only and wrap the yarn again (Fig.93).

3. Draw through all 3 loops on hook - 1 htr made (Fig.94).
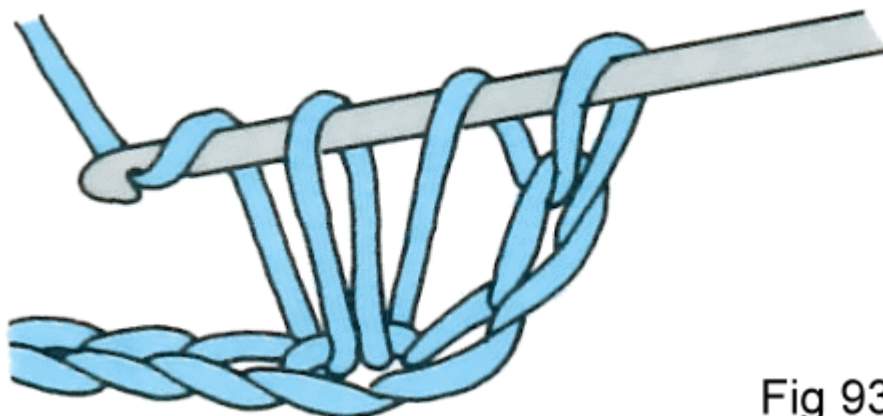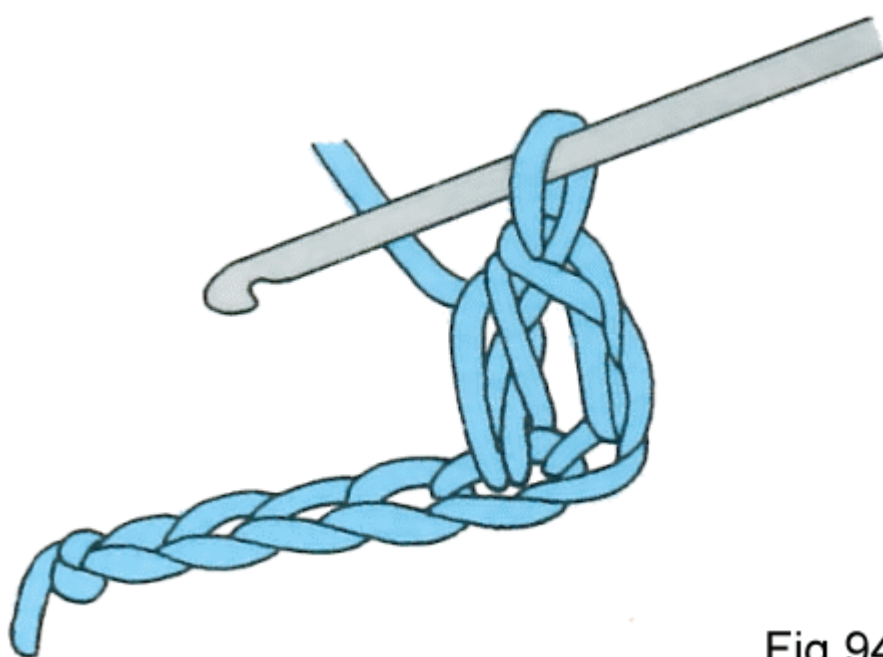
Crochet Stitches

Fig 93

Fig 94

Treble (tr)
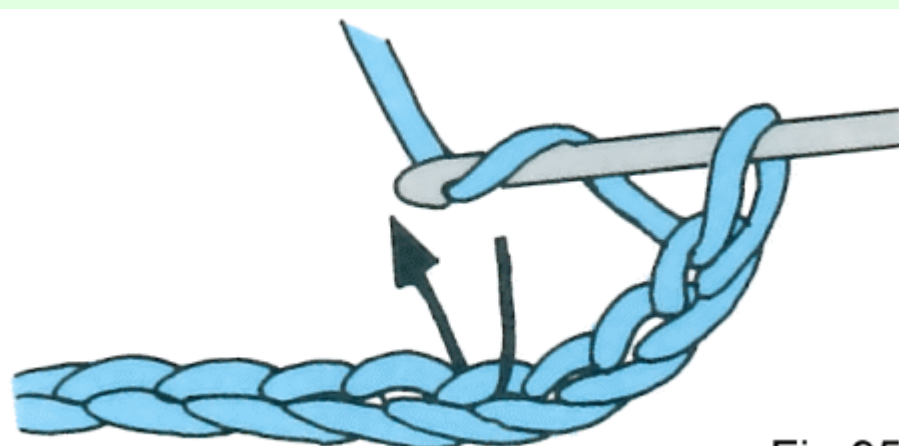1. Wrap the yarn over hook and insert hook into 4th chain from hook (Fig.95).
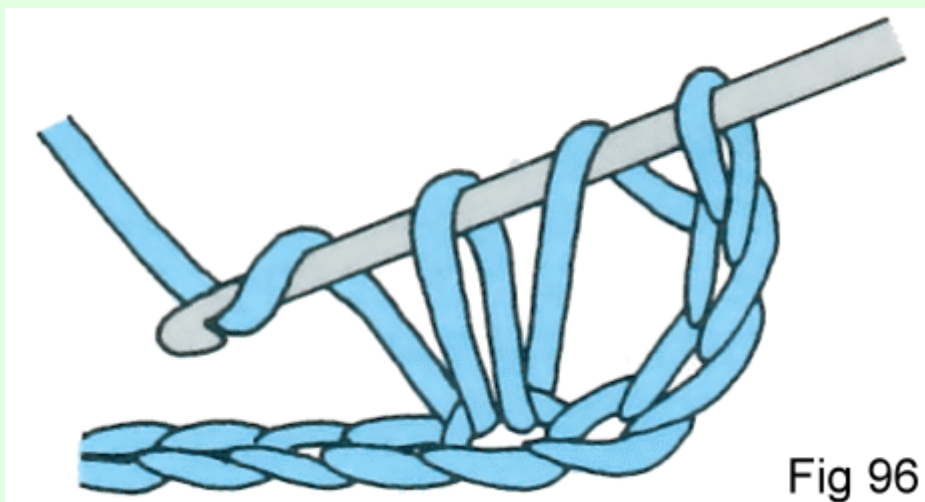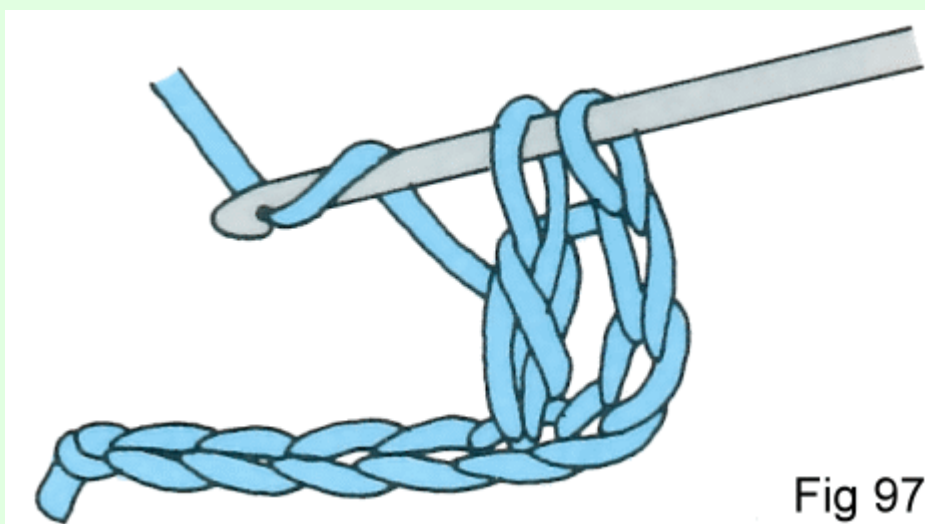
Fig 95

Crochet Stitches

2. Wrap the yarn over the hook, draw through the chain only and wrap the yarn again (Fig.96).

Fig 96

3. Draw through the first 2 loops only and wrap the yarn again (Fig.97).

Fig 97

4. Draw through the last 2 loops on the hook - 1 tr made (Fig.98).
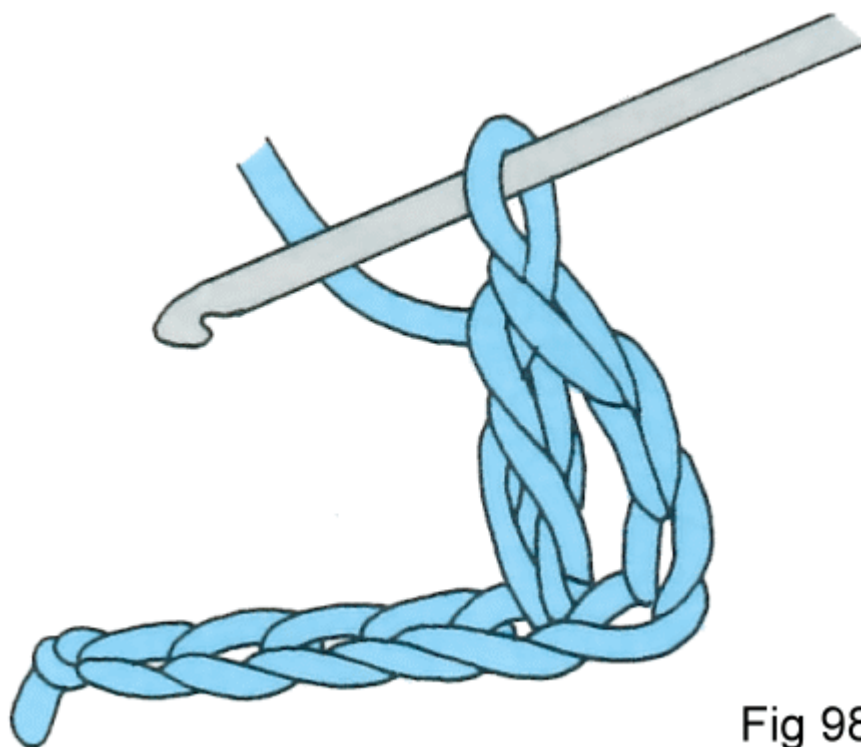
Crochet Stitches

Fig 98

Double treble (dtr)
1. Wrap the yarn over the hook twice and insert hook into 5th chain from hook (Fig.99).
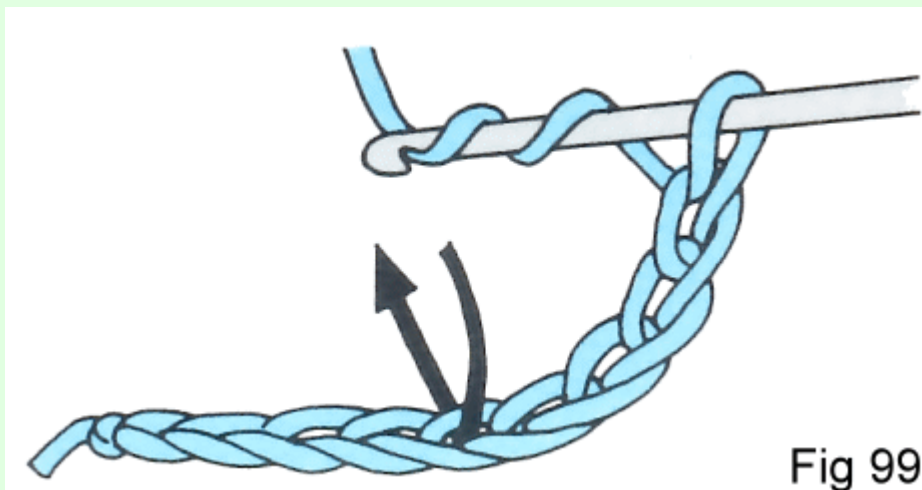

Fig 99

2. Wrap the yarn over the hook, draw through the chain only and wrap the yarn again (Fig.100).
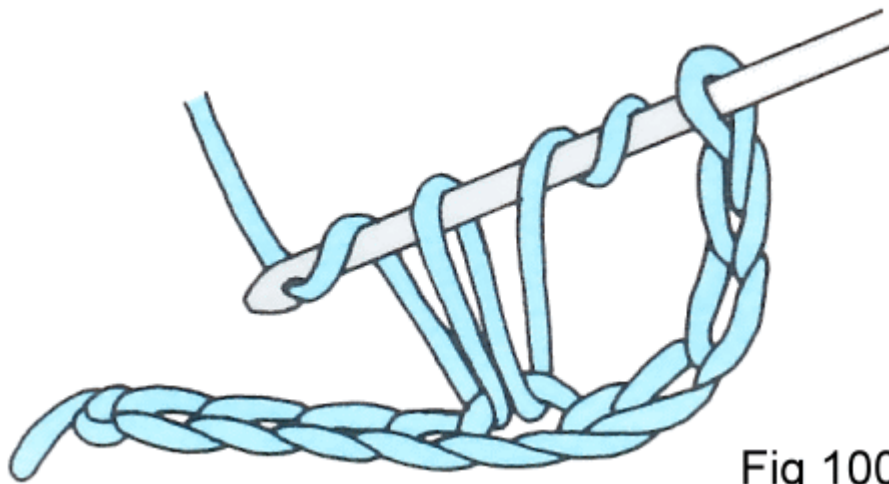
Crochet Stitches

Fig 100

3. Draw through the first 2 loops only and wrap the yarn again (Fig.101).
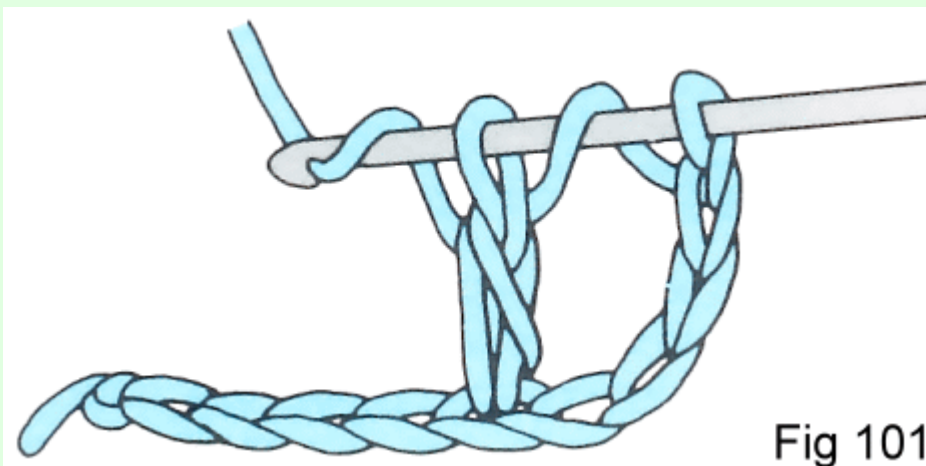

Fig 101

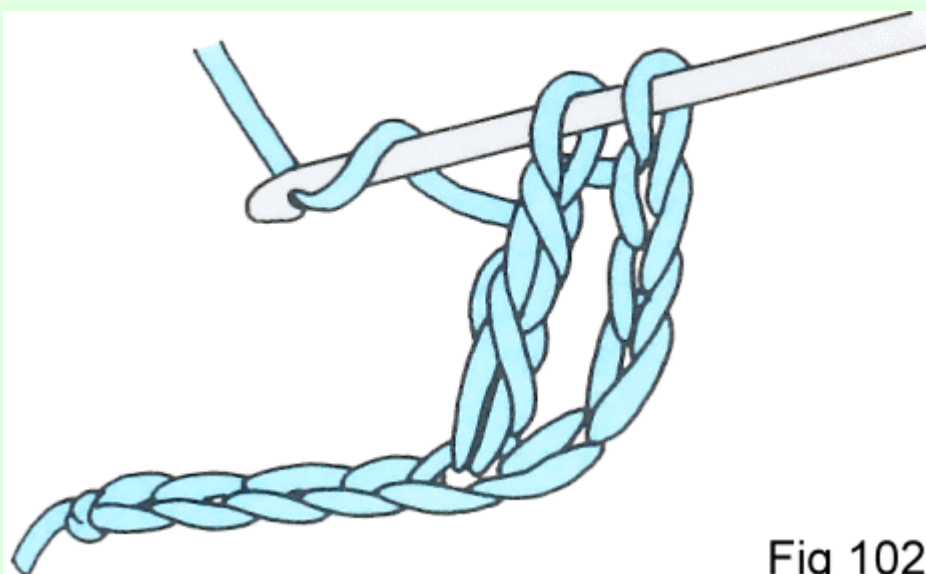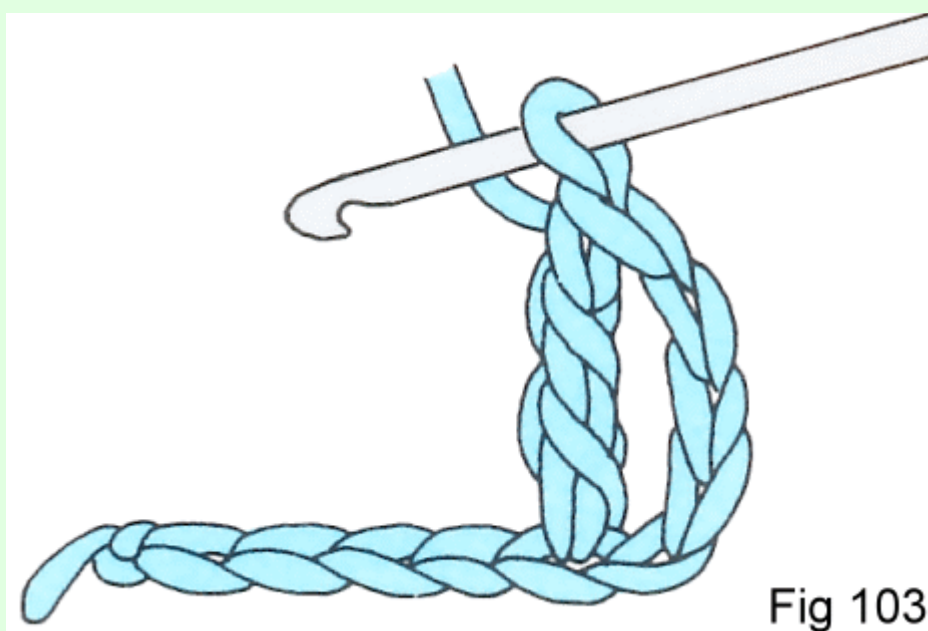4. Draw through the next 2 loops only and wrap the yarn again (Fig.102).
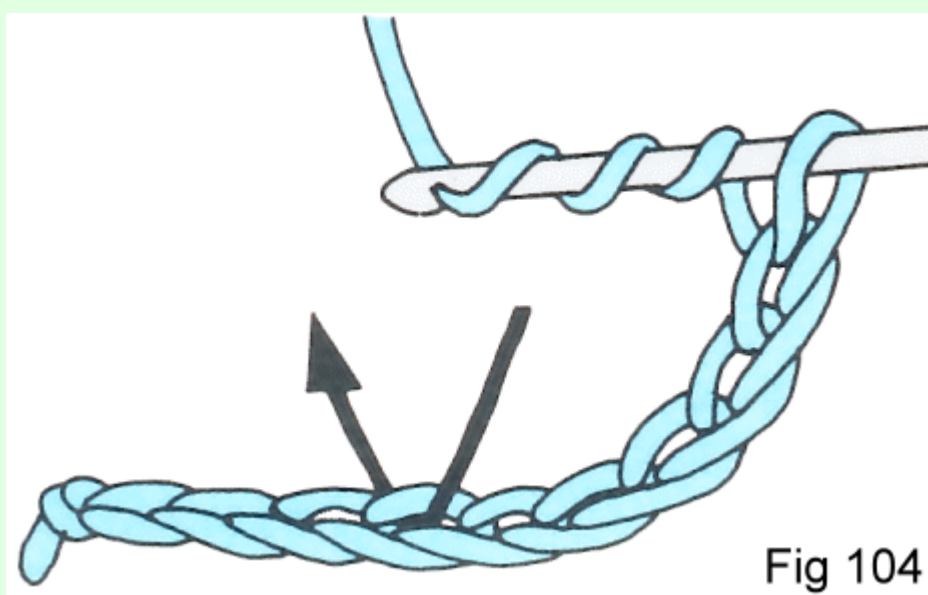

Fig 102

Crochet Stitches

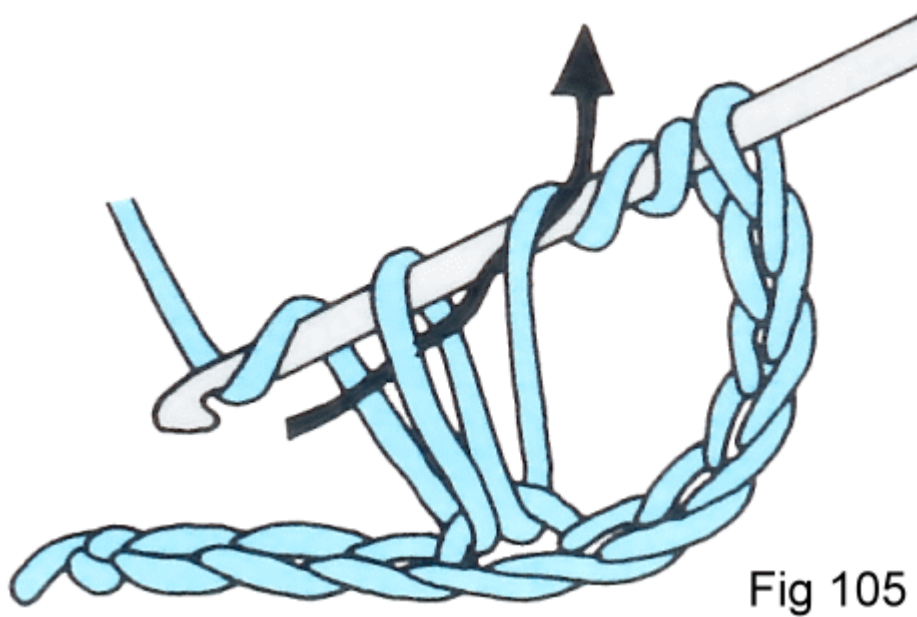5. Draw through the last 2 loops on hook - 1 dtr made (Fig.103).

Fig 103

Triple treble (ttr)
1. Wrap the yarn over hook 3 times and insert the hook into 6th chain from hook (Fig.104).

Fig 104

2. Wrap the yarn over the hook, draw through the chain only and wrap the yarn again (Fig.105).

Crochet Stitches

Fig 105

3. Draw through the first 2 loops only and wrap the yarn again (Fig.106), then repeat this last step twice more (Fig.107).
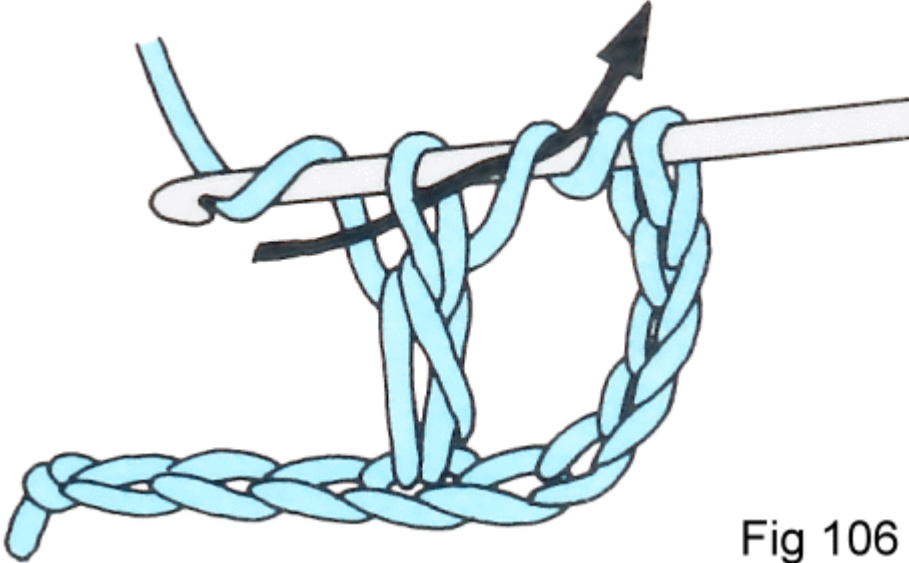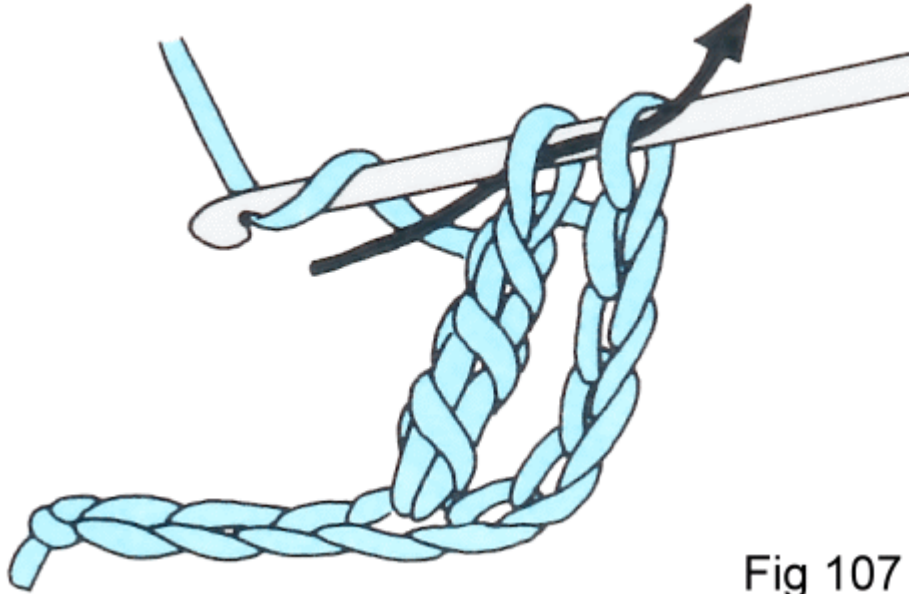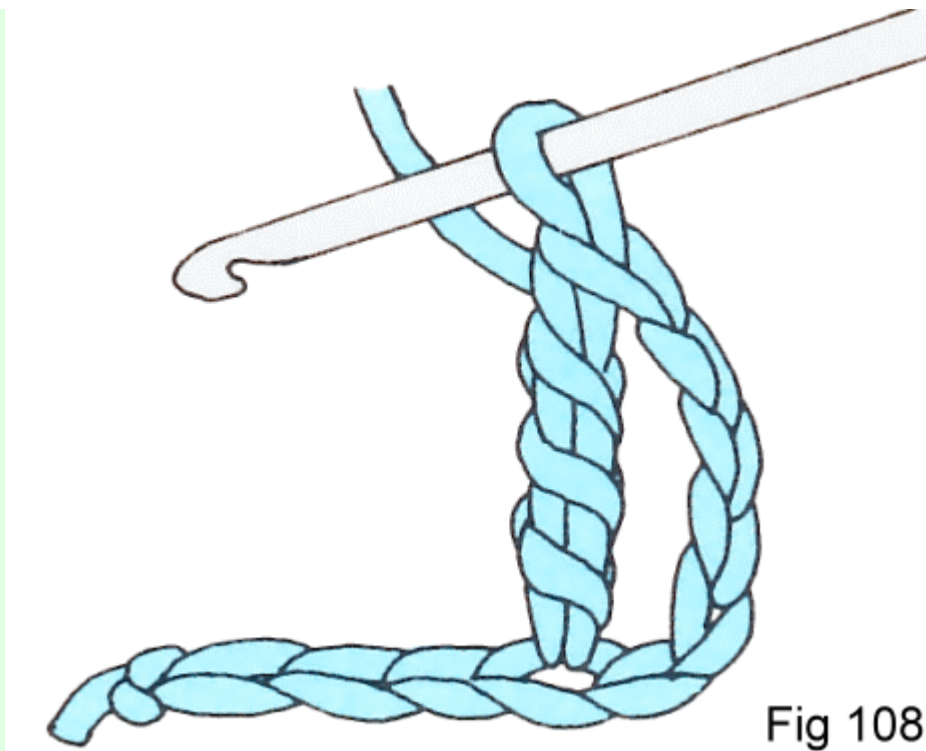
Crochet Stitches

Fig 106

Fig 107

4. Draw through the last 2 loops on hook - 1 ttr made (Fig.108).

Crochet Stitches

Fig 108

Longer Basic Stitches
Longer basic stitches - usually called Quadruple Treble (quad tr), Quintuple Treble (quin tr), Sextuple Treble (sext tr), etc - are made by wrapping the yarn 4, 5, 6, etc, times over the hook at the beginning and by wrapping and drawing through 2 loops more times to complete the stitch.