

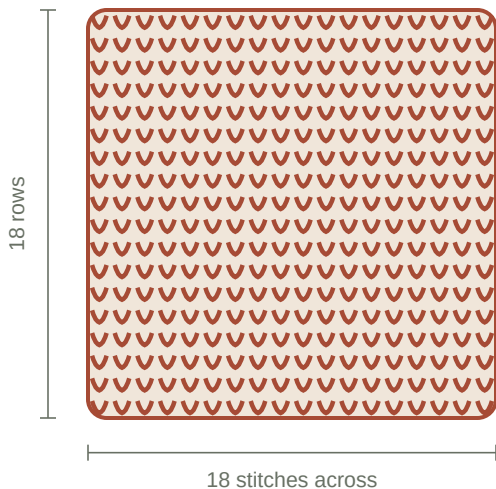
Your first crochet coaster

A small, satisfying project made with one simple stitch.

BEGINNER

US TERMS

Schematic preview - not to scale



Gather your supplies

Yarn: Smooth medium / worsted cotton. Allow about 50 yd (46 m), including a small practice swatch.

Hook: US H-8 / 5 mm as a starting point. Adjust for a comfortable, dense fabric.

Also: Scissors, a blunt yarn needle, a ruler, and two removable stitch markers.

Before you begin

This coaster is worked back and forth in rows. Use **ch** (chain) and **sc** (single crochet). The loop on your hook is never counted as a chain. The turning chain does **not** count as a stitch.

Size comes from your gauge

There is no required gauge. Measure a small swatch to see how your yarn and hook behave. Finished width = $18 \div \text{stitches per inch}$; finished height = $18 \div \text{rows per inch}$. For example, 4.5 stitches and 5 rows per inch give about 4×3.6 in (10.2×9.1 cm).

A coaster may be slightly rectangular. A different hook or yarn changes its size. This project is for mugs and glasses; it is not a potholder.

Finishing care

Follow the yarn label. If suitable for the fiber, dampen the coaster and lay it flat to dry; gently shape without stretching. Let it dry fully before use.

Make it, row by row

Keep 18 single crochet stitches in every row.

1 Start with 19 chains

Make a slip knot and chain 19. Keep the chains loose enough to insert your hook. The slip knot and loop on the hook do not count.

2 Row 1: single crochet across

Insert your hook into the second chain from the hook. Work 1 sc in that chain and in each remaining chain.

Count: 18 sc. Place a marker in the first and last sc.

3 Rows 2-18: repeat a steady rhythm

Chain 1 and turn. Work 1 sc in the first stitch and in each stitch across, under both top loops. **Count: 18 sc in every row.** Move the markers to the first and last stitches as you work. Repeat until you have 18 rows total, including Row 1.

4 Finish the coaster

After Row 18, cut the yarn leaving a 6 in (15 cm) tail. Yarn over and pull the tail completely through the final loop. Thread it onto a yarn needle and weave it through the fabric in more than one direction. Weave in the beginning tail too.

Count check

Foundation	Row 1	Rows 2-18	Total
19 chains	18 sc	18 sc each row	18 rows

If the edges change shape

A narrowing edge often means the last stitch was missed. A widening edge can mean an extra stitch was worked into the turning chain. Count before starting the next row. If needed, pull out only the incorrect row and rework it.

Pattern status: Written stitch counts have been reviewed; a sample has not been physically crocheted. Dimensions and yarn quantities are estimates, so check your own gauge.

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