



Crocheting a Möbius Strip

A Möbius strip is a surprising object; it's a surface with only one edge and one side. There are many ways to make a Möbius strip: you can knit or crochet one, sew one from fabric, or construct one from paper and glue. It is worth trying different methods, as they each reveal something different about the Möbius strip. In this handout we'll explore two different ways to crochet a Möbius strip.

To crochet a Möbius strip you will need a crochet hook and some yarn. Any yarn is suitable, and the thicker the yarn, the quicker your Möbius strip will grow. Both of the Möbius strips in this handout are constructed using a combination of **chain stitches** and **double crochet stitches**. (See our *Useful Crochet Stitches* handout for detailed instructions.) In the instructions below, guideline measurements for a Möbius cowl are provided, but your Möbius strip can be as big or as small as you like.

A Scarf with a Twist

In this method, we crochet a long rectangle (similar to a crochet scarf), and then twist it and sew the ends together to make a Möbius strip. This is a great beginner project.

1. Crochet a foundation row of chain stitches. This is the first row, and its length is the width of the Möbius strip. (A chain that measures 10-15cm is ideal for a cowl.)
2. For the **first stitch** in the next row, insert the hook into the second chain from the hook and make a double crochet stitch. For the rest of the row, proceed exactly as for the first stitch but insert the hook into the chain directly beside your previous stitch each time (instead of the second chain).
3. At the end of the row make one chain stitch. Turn your work over (the chain stitch should now be at the start of the next row).
4. **Repeat Steps 2 and 3** until you have made a long strip (80cm is about right for a cowl). Note that instead of crocheting into the foundation chain, from now onwards you will be crocheting into the previous row of double crochet stitches.
5. To finish, complete the current row and cut the working yarn, leaving a long tail. Remove your hook from the loop and pull the working yarn tail through the loop.
6. Bring the two short edges of the strip together and give one of the ends a half-twist (a twist of 180 degrees). Securely sew the two ends together, making the join as invisible as possible. Weave in any remaining yarn tails.



A Continuous Loop

In this method, we crochet a Möbius strip in a continuous loop, starting at the equator and crocheting around the strip's single edge.

1. Crochet a foundation row of chain stitches. This chain is the first row (the 'equator'), and its length is the circumference of the Möbius strip. (A chain that measures around 80cm is ideal for a cowl.)
2. Lay your chain out flat and make sure that it isn't twisted. Now give the chain a half-twist (a twist of 180 degrees) and, using a slip stitch, join the two ends of the chain together to make a circle. To do this, insert the hook into the first chain stitch (next to the slip knot), bring the working yarn over the hook from back to front, and pull the yarn through both loops on the hook.



3. Make a single chain stitch. For the **first stitch** in the next row, insert the hook into the chain stitch closest to the hook in the circle of chain stitches, and make a double crochet stitch. (See our *Useful Crochet Stitches* handout for detailed instructions.) Continue to double crochet all the way around the circle of chain stitches.
4. Once you reach the join, insert the hook into the first chain stitch (next to the slip knot) again, and double crochet into the 'other side' of the stitch (the loop which you did not crochet into previously). Proceed in this manner all the way around the circle of chain stitches, until you reach the join again.



5. Continue to double crochet until your strip is the desired width (10-15cm is ideal for a cowl). Note that instead of crocheting into the foundation chain, from now onwards you will be crocheting into double crochet stitches. And you will be crocheting around the strip's single edge.
6. To finish, cut the working yarn leaving a long tail. Remove your hook from the loop and pull the working yarn tail through the loop. Weave in the yarn tails.

To learn more about the Möbius strip, see our handouts *Making and Manipulating a Möbius Strip* and *The Heart of a Möbius*, where we construct Möbius strips from paper and cut them up in order to reveal some quite unexpected properties of the Möbius.