
Design Your Own Crochet Shawl with Tian Connaughton

Chapter 1 - Design Your Own Crochet Shawl

Overview

(gentle music) - Shawls are my go-to because they are so versatile to make and to wear. (gentle music) My name is Tian Connaughton. I am a knit and crochet designer, technical editor, teacher, and course creator. In this class, we're going to explore crochet shawls. I'm here to show you three different shapes and edgings. I'll walk you through how to work chains, half double crochets, double crochets, and treble stitches. Mix and match your shawl and your edging, and have the confidence to design your own unique shawl.

Materials

- The materials you'll need for this class are worsted weight yarn. For each shawl, you'll need three skeins of your main color. We have three colors here because we'll be working on three different shawls. We'll also need one skein in a contrasting color for the edging. We'll need a K hook, a pair of scissors, tapestry needle, and the stitch marker. Don't forget to print out your PDF of the pattern.

Shawl designs

Top-down triangle

- We're starting with a top down triangle shawl, which is my absolute favorite to work. We'll begin our shawl with a slip knot. Wrap the yarn around your finger, underneath and pull a loop through. Insert your hook. For this shawl we will do chain four. And to make a chain, yarn over and pull through. And we'll make four of those. Once you have your four chains you'll insert your hook back into that very first chain to make a slip stitch. Pull it through both and we have this little circle here. And if it's a little tight, just kinda use your fingers to kinda wiggle it open. For row one we'll chain four and for this pattern, the chain four counts as a treble crochet. You'll work a double crochet into that circle. To do a double crochet you'll yarn over your hook, insert it into the center of your circle, yarn over and pull up a loop. You'll pull through two loops on your hook, then pull through two, and that's your double crochet. We'll work five of those total. And you'll work over your tail as you go around. And that's to allow for us to have less tails to weave in. So here we have our chain four. We have one, two, three, four, five double crochets. Next we will chain one and we'll work another five double crochets into that same circle. Here's our last one. And again, keep workin' over that tail to lock that in. So we have our chain, our chain one, we have five double crochets. Now we're gonna have another treble crochet at the end to match our chain four, which we are counting as a treble. So, how to work a treble, you'll yarn over your hook twice, insert into that center, pull through twice, pull through two, and pull through your last two. And here you have your first row, which consists of a treble crochet, five double crochet, a chain, which we will place a stitch marker into that chain just to mark that spot. We have five more double crochet and our beginning chain four, which also counts as a treble. For row two, we will chain four. We'll work two double crochets into that very first stitch. Work a double crochet into each of the stitches until we're just before that chain one that we have the stitch marker in. When we have one stitch before our chain we'll work two double crochets into that stitch. We'll work a chain. At this point you can just move up your stitch marker

into each chain as you go, just to keep track of where you are in the pattern. Work two double crochets in that first stitch after the chain and continue to work a double crochet across until you get to that very last stitch. And in that stitch we'll work something a little different. We'll work two double crochets and a treble stitch. There's our first double crochet, our second double crochet, and a treble, which again, is yarn over twice, insert your hook, pull through two loops, pull through two loops, pull through those very last two loops. And there you have row two taking shape. You will repeat this row until you've achieved your desired length for your shawl or until you run out. So, we'll chain four, because again, our chain four counts as a treble. Work two double crochets into that very first stitch. And then, just double crochet until you get to that one stitch before your center chain. And you'll notice every row you're working more and more double crochets before you get to that single chain one center stitch. So, here we are, right before our chain. We'll work two double crochets into that stitch. We'll chain one. We'll move up our stitch marker to that chain one. We don't wanna miss that on our next row. Work two double crochets into that very first stitch after your chain one. And then it's just a race to the end, double crochets all the way until again, you get to that very last stitch where we'll work that very special two double crochet treble into the last stitch. Here we are at our last stitch. Work two double crochets and a treble. Yarn over twice, don't forget your yarn over twice, pull through two, pull through two, and pull through two. There you have row three complete. Here we are on row six of our pattern, which is just a repeat of our row two. Continue to work in pattern until you've used up all three skeins of your yarn. But, essentially you can work this shawl until it is as big or as small as you'd like it to be. You can finish your shawl as soon as you're done with your three balls or I can show you some alternate to working an edging. So, here we are at the end of our row with our last treble crochet stitch. So, you'll continue with your piece until you've used up all your yarn. But here, if you're done with your shawl, fasten off. Break your yarn. And your shawl should look like this, only bigger. As you can see, this is my very favorite shawl to work, the triangle top down shawl, because it's so versatile. You can make it as big as you want or as small, just adjust the quantity of yarn that you use in your project.

Top-down crescent

- If you want a bit more curve to your shawl, I'll show you how to work the top-down crescent shawl. We'll begin with a slip knot, just make a circle with your yarn, and pull your yarn through to make a little knot for your hook. We'll chain two. Into our first chain that we created, we'll work a double crochet. So you'll yarn over your hook. Insert your hook into that first chain. If it's a little tight, just be patient. Pull up a loop and pull through two, and pull through two. And we'll work five more of those into that same space. Pull through two, pull through two more. Here's our first three double crochets. We'll work three more. And if you work over your tail, that's completely fine. And there we have our first six double crochets, so that's row one complete. We'll chain two. And that chain two does not count as a stitch. Turn our work and work two double crochets into each of those six double crochets we worked on row one. And that will give us a total of 12 double crochets. And just take your time as you go across. Double check your stitches to make sure you do have 12 on the second row. And there you have row two. So we'll chain two and then turn our work. And this is where the pattern really starts to take shape. So in our first stitch, we'll work three double crochets. And remember that first chain two does not count as a stitch, so there we have our three double crochets. Double crochet all the way across until you get to that last stitch. And once you get to that last stitch, we'll work three double crochets, and that's so that our shape starts to take form where we're increasing on both ends to give you this nice curve to your shawl. We'll chain two

and turn our work, and we'll repeat that row again where we work three double crochets into that first stitch, and just zoom across. Double crochet into every stitch until you get to that last stitch, where we'll work three double crochets. And as you can see, each row is getting longer and longer, but that's the fun part of crocheting. You're getting this beautiful curve to your work. And that's part due to those three double crochets at the beginning and at the end. Here we are at the end. Work three double crochets. There you have four rows. So now we're at the increase row, which will work a little differently. So again, chain two at the beginning, turn, work three double crochets because we wanna maintain that increase at the beginning and at the end. But for this increase row, we'll do something a little different. We'll work across six stitches, and then we'll work an increase. And I'll show you exactly how to do that. So here we have our first double crochet, two, three, four, five, and six. So on the next stitch, instead of just working one double crochet, we'll work two double crochets to increase on this row. To work two double crochets, you're just gonna work it into that same stitch. I'll show you again. Work across six stitches, one double crochet in each. So we have two, four, five, one more, and that next stitch we'll work two double crochet into that stitch. And that's your increase. And you'll continue doing that across until you have no more stitches. So we don't have six stitches here, so we can't work another increase, but we're at the end so we'll work our normal three double crochets. And what you can do is use your stitch markers to mark that row that you worked the two double crochets into, 'cause that will mark your row for your increase. And the next row is just increase at the beginning and increase at the end. And when you get to those double crochets, there's nothing special to do with those. You're just gonna work into them as normal. Here we are with our double crochet worked into one stitch. We're just gonna double crochet into each of those as if they were a single stitch each. Continue across. And again, we have our two double crochet stitches here. We're just gonna treat them as individuals. Work our way across. So at this point, those are the only rows you really need to pay attention to. And you can just leave your stitch marker in that row until you've worked three plain rows like we just did. And the plain rows are just a repeat of row three, where you're just working three double crochets in the beginning. You'll work across in double crochets all the way around until the very last stitch, where you'll work another three double crochets. And you'll work that plain row, which is row three. You'll work that three times and then work another increase row. And that's the pattern: three plain rows and one increase row until you achieve the size that you desire. And here we are on row nine, which is an increase row. We've already done two double crochets. We're working six across until our next set of increases. So we have four, five, six. We'll work two into that next stitch. Again, we'll go for six if it's possible. And it is, so we do another increase. And the thing I love about this pattern is that if you miss one of these increases across our row, no worries, just keep going. It won't affect your pattern significantly. And here we are at the end, three double crochets. And continue to work in pattern following the PDF. And we'll fasten off our tiny swatch here, cut our yarn, pull through, and here you have our first nine rows. Continue to work in pattern following the PDF until you've used up all three skeins of yarn.

Sideways asymmetric

- Unlike our other two shawls, which are worked from the top, down, this sideways asymmetric shawl is super fast. It's worked with just a few stitches at the beginning and worked across until you've run out of your three skeins of yarn. Begin your shawl with a slipknot. Wrap the yarn around your finger, pull up a loop, insert your hook, and chain seven. To chain, wrap the yarn around your hook and just pull through. We will work seven of those. For row one, we'll work a half double

crochet into our third chain from the hook. So we'll count back three, one, two, three, and work a half double crochet. To work a half double crochet, yarn over your hook, insert into our chain, pull up a loop and pull through all three loops on your hook. Do that again, yarn over, insert into our next chain, and pull through. And we'll continue that across our chains. And there you have your simple row one, which consists of two, four, five half double crochets. For row two, chain two, turn your work, and we'll work two half double crochets into that very first stitch. Our beginning chain two does not count as a stitch. So we have our two half double crochets in that first stitch, and just work one half double crochet into each stitch across. And for this row, you should have six half double crochets. So one, two, three, four, five, and those first two, six. And what I like to do for this construction, for this type of shawl, is to place a stitch marker at the corner or the edge that we've worked an increase. And that's just to have a visual cue of what side my increases will be on. So let's work our next row. Chain two and we'll work one half double crochet into that first stitch. You might be like me and it's a little tight. No worries, just be patient. Half double crochet across. And again, we have this visual cue, so we know that when we get to this side of our work, we need to work two half double crochets into that stitch. You should have one more stitch each row. Let's do that again. We'll chain two. That does not count as a stitch. And again, our cue is here, so we need to increase. So we'll work two half double crochets. And now let's just zoom across to the other end. And this is a fast, fast pattern. 'Cause there's not a lot to remember here. Chain two, turn. I didn't do an increase on this side because the marker is on the opposite end. And just count your stitches every row to just kinda make sure you're on track with working one extra stitch every row. You can start to see our shawl taking shape where we're increasing only on this side and we should have this nice straight edge. Let's do one more row. Chain two. We have our visual cue that this is our increase side, so work two half double crochets. And just zoom across. And again, use the stitch marker as your cue, because if you put this down and you're not sure when you pick it up where to begin, you'll know. Stitch marker means that's the side to increase on. You'll continue to work repeating rows two and three until you've used up all three skeins of yarn. And this pattern is so customizable. You can make it bigger. You can make it smaller. And we'll show you how to add an optional edging as well. We'll fasten off here for our example. Just pull your yarn through, fasten off, and there you have your sideways asymmetric shawl. Be sure to end this shawl on a odd number of stitches and remember, your shawl will be a lot bigger than this sample here.

Types of edging

Eyelet stitch edging

- To finish our shawls, I'm gonna show you three different edging options. The first is the eyelet stitch pattern. And we can add any of these three edgings to any of our three shawls. For our top down triangle shawl, we are adding the eyelet stitch pattern. And you've already fastened off your shawl. So what we'll do is we will join our new yarn in a contrasting color with a slip stitch. And if it's a little awkward, don't worry. Just pull your yard through, work a slip stitch, and then chain two, turn your work. We'll be working along the bottom edge of our shawl. So again, that first chain two does not count as a stitch and work one double crochet into that first stitch. We'll chain one, skip that next stitch, and work a double crochet into the next stitch. And that's our pattern for this row. Chain one, skip one, double crochet in the next. Chain one, skip one, double crochet, you just keep doing that all the way across. And I'll show you what to do when you get to your center chain on the body

of your shawl. We'll just treat it as any other stitch. So here is our center chain for our center spine. We'll just pretend that's just a regular stitch. So we'll chain one, we'll skip that chain, and double crochet into that next stitch and continue across. Chain one, skip one, double crochet. And just make it a little song. Chain one, skip one, double crochet. Chain one, skip one all the way. And for this last stitch, we'll chain one, we'll skip this stitch. And remember, this chain four is a stitch, so we'll work into that stitch. And there we have our first row. And start in row two. So we'll chain two, turn our work, and we'll just double crochet into each double crochet, and double crochet around any chain one from the previous row. And in row two of this pattern, we are not working any chains, we're just working double crochets. Into the double crochets and around the chains from the previous row. So this is a super fast row 'cause all you're doing is double crochets. And again, around the chain and not into the chain. So an option that we see a lot of times with working into chain is actually going into the chain. We're just gonna work around. And this makes it a super fast project, 'cause you're not taking that extra time to stick your needle into the chain. But instead, we're just working around those chain stitches. When you get to your very last double crochet, just work a double crochet. We're not doing any increases on this row, 'cause we're gonna make this nice squared edge. And that's the end of row two of the edge. Now for row three, chain two, turn your work. That chain two is not a stitch, so we'll double crochet into the very first stitch. Chain one, skip one, double crochet into the next stitch. And it's pretty much the same as row one. So we'll chain one, skip one, double crochet. Chain one, skip one. We're at the end. Chain one, skip one, double crochet into that last stitch. And you'll see our eyelet is starting to take shape. We have our eyelet row, we have a double crochet row, and another eyelet row. You'll continue to work row two and three until you've used up all your skeins of contrasting color, or until your edging is at your desired length. For our sample, we are done, so we will snip our end, pull our tail through our loop to fasten off, and we'll weave in our ends. So to weave in our ends, thread your tapestry needle and work into the side of your stitch, all the way down for about an inch or so. And I like to work across as well for that extra security. And then go back through. That tail isn't going anywhere, and just snip your end. And we'll do the same for our other tails. And when you're weaving in your ends, just to make sure that you're weaving into the same colors. You wanna weave in your gray into the gray and not into the green, because we don't want that to show up when we're wearing our shawls. And if your tail is a little short, just weave your tapestry needle through, rethread your tapestry needle and pull it through. And again, that's not going anywhere. Weave in all your ends, and your finished shawl, and your finished full size shawl should look like this.

Lace stitch edging

- The lace stitch that we're using on our asymmetric shawl is my favorite edging to use because it works up so fast. It uses a repeat of row two the whole way through. To begin our lace edge pattern we'll join our yarn, and we're using a contrasting color here. We'll join with a slip stitch. We'll chain two. And remember, our chain two here does not count as a stitch. So we'll work a double crochet into that very first stitch. So chain one, skip that next stitch, and work a double crochet into the next stitch. We'll do that again. Chain one, skip that next stitch, and work a double crochet into the next stitch. And you'll do that all the way across. Your shawl will be bigger than mine. So just keep working all the way across until you are at the last stitch. Chain one, skip that next stitch, and work a double crochet into that last stitch. And there you have row one of our lace stitch pattern. Row two, we will chain two, turn our work. Again, that chain two is not a stitch. So we'll work a double crochet into that very first stitch, chain one, skip that chain one from the previous row, and work a double

crochet into the double crochet. Chain one, skip the previous chain from the row below, and work a double crochet. And you'll continue to do that all the way across your row. Until we get to the end, chain one, skip our chain, double crochet in that last stitch. And you'll just keep repeating row two until you run out of yarn or you reach your desired length for your edge. And we're at the end of our row. We have a chain one, skip one, double crochet. And again, we are not increasing on this edging because we want to have this nice flow. You don't have to think too much. Just keep working row two until you're out of yarn or until you've reached the number of rows that you desire for your shawl. Then we'll fasten off, snip our end, pull through to fasten off. We'll weave in our ends. Use your tapestry needle, and we wanna weave in our ends down through the leg of our side stitch. We don't wanna go into the next color. We want to make sure that we're not bleeding into each other. Keep the gray within the gray and our magenta within the magenta. And so now we'll weave back across to get that locked in. Pull nice and tight. Right? Your tail isn't going anywhere. Snip that. Well, snip it a little closer than that. And then do the same for all your other ends. And for our main color, we don't want to go into the opposite color because that will look a little wonky. So make sure you are weaving in to the same color. So magenta into magenta, gray into gray. So we'll go down a bit, just pull up a couple of those loops. And don't worry if you mess up, just pull it out and try again. So we've gone down. Now let's go across. And go over that last one and then through. Test it, that tail isn't moving. And snip our end. And just keep doing that for all your tails. And I will show you what our full-size shawl looks like. All finished. Ends are woven in, and as you can see, our edge is very similar to the edge used on our other shawl, except this edge is more open because we don't have those rows of solid double crochets, which makes it a more airy and open edge.

Camel stitch edging

- For this last edging, we are doing the camel stitch. It's very different than the last two edging that we've done. This will give you some texture and some interest, something to play with at the end of your shawl. To begin our camel stitch, we'll take our crochet hook. We'll join our edge color, our contrasting color with a slip stitch and chain two, turn our work, and we'll work half double crochets all the way across as our first row. So do half double crochet, under and over pull through all three loops on your hook. Do that again, under and over pull through. We'll do that all the way across for row one. If your shawl already ends with a half double crochet row, skip this row and go into row two. But because this shawl ends with double crochets, we'll work half double crochets for our first row and we're not doing any increases here. We are just working straight across. Here we are at the end of row one, we'll chain two, turn our work, and we'll work half double crochets into the third chain. And this stitch gets a little lost. So I'll show you exactly where to work your next half double crochet. So normally we would work into the top V of our stitch. We have our V here, that's where we would stick our hook. For our third chain, we are working into this bar that goes across the front. So you'll work from underneath yarn over. You have again, your three loops pull through. So we'll yarn over under that front bar. Okay? So we have our normal V stitch which is where we would stick our hook. Instead, we're gonna put our hook underneath here. So we're half double crocheting not into the top V. We're gonna go below into that bar below, and we're gonna do that all the way across. And it's going to look a little funny. It's going to feel a little weird. Trust me on this. It's gonna look amazing when you're done. It's gonna be worth it. So keep working across into that third chain. And normally I would work with my project like this so I can work into those top stitch, but I'm turning my work so it's on the side. 'Cause I just wanna focus on that loop. I wanna ignore that V at the top. And when you get to the last one, it's easy to miss that last one. But I usually just work

into that last V it keeps the edge a little neater. So our last stitch we'll just work normally into the top of our stitch. Just so you have a nice edge, and grab your stitch marker. Thought we forgot about that, right? For this project, just mark this row. This will be the back and this will be the front. And as you can see, this is what our front is starting to look like. Have these nice Vs across because what you're doing is when you're working the stitch you're pushing the V to the front of your work and I'll show you the right side row. So we'll chain two as normal, right? We were working on this side chain two, turn your work. Now row three is a little tricky because we're working into this loop that goes this way which you kind of have to pull your yarn back to see is that loop, so that loop, that one. So let's work one. So you can see what that looks like. So we'll yarn over for our half double crochet and it's gonna be a little tricky to get into that horizontal bar with your hook, but sort of use your finger to help you. And there you are pull through, pull through three. Okay? So we'll yarn over and we wanna go into that bar here. I'll show you again. We're going into this bar here. So yarn over, put your hook through, yarn over, pull through three, right? Let's do that again. And just use your fingers to help you open up that stitch, turn over or use the head of your hook to pry that up and stick it in there. So this row is a little slow, but it's so worth it. Of course, if you're watching TV while you're doing this one you might wanna pause right here. There's that bar. It's easier to use your the hook head to help you open that up. And our last stitch is work it into the V of your last stitch and there you have row two and three complete and you start to see this pattern that looks a lot like a knit stitch. If you're familiar with knitting, but keep working row two and three until you've used up all your skein of yarn for your contrasting color or until your edging is as long as you want it to be. So you're at your end, fasten off, and just weave in all your ends, making sure you are concealing all the grays within the gray and the blue within the blue section of your shawl. As you can see on the camel stitch edge we have this beautiful texture on our top down crescent shawl. It just adds this extra layer of details and squishiness to your shawl. It just makes you wanna just snuggle up with a good book. Now you know how to make three different shawls with three different edging. You can customize each shawl to be uniquely yours, mix and match the shawls with the edge to have so many different options. Make one for every day, make one for all your friends, go forth and have fun.