



Vintage Crochet Edging #1



(Recreated from Dresser Scarf circa 1955)

This edging is used to finish the edges of various table linens. Pattern example is used to finish the edging for a set of placemats.

1. Foundation for the edging is created by single crocheting around the edging, while inserting the crochet hook through the holes made in the fabric by the hemstitch. In corners, sc in same hole 3 times to turn the corner.
2. Foundation is usually done in white crochet thread or the same color thread as the fabric.

Pattern:

Round 1: Beginning at a corner, [in corner SC, slip stitch to start new color thread, chain 3 (counts as 1st DC), 2 DC in same SC, chain 5, skip 3 SC, 2 DC] *[chain 5, skip 3 SC, 2 DC, chain 5, skip 2 SC, 3 DC, skip 3 SC, 2 DC] – repeat from * to the next corner, repeat from beginning, doing 3 DC in corner SC for each corner until back to first corner. Slip stitch to join.

Note: you may need to adjust spacing as you approach the corner – the corner should have 2 DC, chain 5, then 3 DC in the corner SC, chain 5, 2 DC.

Round 2: [DC Cluster: DC in corner DC, leave 2nd loop on needle, repeat twice, pulling loop thru all loops] , *(chain 3, DC in CH3 sp) twice, chain 3, DC Cluster, repeat from * to each corner. DC Cluster in each corner. Join with Slip Stitch.

Round 3: Beginning at corner DC Cluster- *[Picot: SC in DC Cluster, chain 5, SC in DC cluster], 3 SC in Chain space, [SC in each DC, 3 SC in chain space]three times. Repeat from * around. Join with slip stitch and fasten off.

How to do a Hemstitched Edge for Crocheted Edging on Table Linens

Note: Hemstitching was originally a very manual technique that involved using a very sharp needle to pull together several threads of the fabric, creating a small hole in the fabric. From the references I have found, this seems to be a very labor-intensive task. Fortunately, I was able to find a sewing machine needle designed to do this hemstitching process. It is called a “wing needle” -- see the picture below



You must first prepare your fabric – which means washing it and then cutting it into the desired width and length for your project. Then you need to press a very narrow hem along each edge – and stitch this hem using a normal straight stitch.

Now for the hemstitching: Replace your regular sewing machine needle with the wing needle. Then stitch around the fabric edges, very close to, but outside of the hem. (use the hem as your guide.)



Once you have your hemstitching complete – Single crochet around the edges of the fabric, going through the holes created by the hemstitching. This creates the foundation for your crochet edging.

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