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Butterfly Blanket Stitch Crochet Tutorial



US Crochet Abbreviations

ch – chain
sc – single crochet
hdc – half double crochet
dc – double crochet
tr – treble crochet
dtr – double treble crochet
sl st – slip stitch
sk – skip
rep – repeat
st(s) – stitch(es)

Stitch Explanations (US)

Chain (ch):
Yarn over needle and pull through the loop on the hook.

Single Crochet (sc):
Insert hook in stitch, yarn over, pull through (2 loops).

Double Crochet (dc):
Yarn over, insert hook in stitch, yarn over, pull through (2), yarn over, pull through 2.

Treble Crochet (tr):
Yarn over twice, insert hook in stitch, yarn over, pull through (2), yarn over, pull through 2, yarn over, pull through 2.

Cluster (cl):
Work 3 to 5 unfinished double crochets in the same stitch, yarn over and pull through all loops on hook.

Slip Stitch (sl st):
Insert hook in stitch, pull through without yarn over.

Materials



- Worsted weight yarn (medium, #4)
- 4.0–5.0 mm crochet hook (US G–H)
- Scissors
- Yarn needle

Finished Size (Example)

- Multiple of 12 + 3 chains for width.
- Row height: 7 rows = 4.5 in (11.5 cm) (adjust to your yarn and tension).

Step-by-Step Instructions

1. Make a foundation chain



- Ch 31 (or any multiple of 12 + 3).
- This will give you 3 pattern repeats (12 sts each) + 3.

2. Row 1 (Base Row)



- In the 2nd ch from hook, sc.
- Work 1 sc in each ch across.
- Ch 1, turn.

3. Row 2 (Butterfly foundation)



- Ch 6 (counts as dc + ch1).
- Skip next 3 sts, in next st: (3 dc, ch 1, 3 dc) in the same st.
- Skip next 3 sts, sc in next st.
- Ch 6, rep from * to * across.
- Ch 1, turn.

4. Row 3



- Ch 4.
- In the next ch-2 space, (3 dc, ch 1, 3 dc).
- Ch 4.
- Sk 1 st, sc in next st.
- Ch 4, rep across.
- Ch 1, turn.

5. Row 4



- Ch 1.
- Sc in next st.
- Ch 3.
- Sk 2 sts, (3 dc, ch 1, 3 dc) in next st.
- Ch 3.
- Sc in next st.
- Ch 3, rep across.
- Ch 1, turn.

6. Row 5



- Ch 1.
- Sc in next st.
- Ch 3.
- Sk 2 sts, (3 dc, ch 1, 3 dc) in next st.
- Ch 3.
- Sc in next st.
- Ch 3, rep across.
- Ch 1, turn.

7. Row 6 (Repeat)



- Repeat Row 4 instructions.
- Butterfly wings will be more defined.

8. Row 7 (Final Row)



- Ch 1.
- Sc in next st.
- Ch 3.
- Sk 2 sts, (3 dc, ch 1, 3 dc) in next st.
- Ch 3.
- Sc in last st.

Key Points:

- ✓ The butterfly motif is created with (3 dc, ch 1, 3 dc) worked in the same stitch.
- ✓ Chain-1 spaces separate the butterfly wings.
- ✓ Work evenly and keep tension consistent for clear motifs.
- ✓ Repeat Rows 2–6 for the length you want.

Quick Stitch Guide:

- Ch = chain
- sc = single crochet (short, tight)
- dc = double crochet (taller)
- tr = treble crochet (tallest of common US stitches)
- cl = cluster (multiple stitches worked together)
- sl st = slip stitch (for joining)

Tip: Count your chains and stitches at the end of each row to keep the pattern consistent!



Happy Crocheting!



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This complete tutorial follows the provided crochet graphic as closely as possible, using **US crochet terminology** throughout. It includes the materials, abbreviations, stitch explanations, foundation chain, every row, repeat instructions, finishing guidance, and tips for keeping the butterfly motifs even and consistent.

The finished fabric creates an open, lacy pattern with repeating **butterfly motifs**, making it especially suitable for blankets, wraps, scarves, shawls, decorative panels, and other lightweight projects.

Materials You'll Need

For a project based on the example shown in the tutorial, gather:

- **Worsted-weight yarn (#4 Medium)**
- **4.0–5.0 mm crochet hook** — approximately US G–H
- Scissors
- Yarn needle
- Measuring tape, optional but helpful

The exact amount of yarn will depend on how large you want your finished project to be.

 **Tip:** The graphic recommends 4.0–5.0 mm hooks. If your stitches are very tight, try the larger hook. If your fabric is too loose, try the smaller hook.

Understanding the Pattern Size

The width of the project is based on a foundation chain that is a:

multiple of 12 + 3 chains

For example:

- 15 chains = 12 + 3
- 27 chains = 24 + 3
- **39 chains = 36 + 3**
- 51 chains = 48 + 3
- **31 chains = 28 + 3** — the example used in the graphic

The graphic specifically gives:

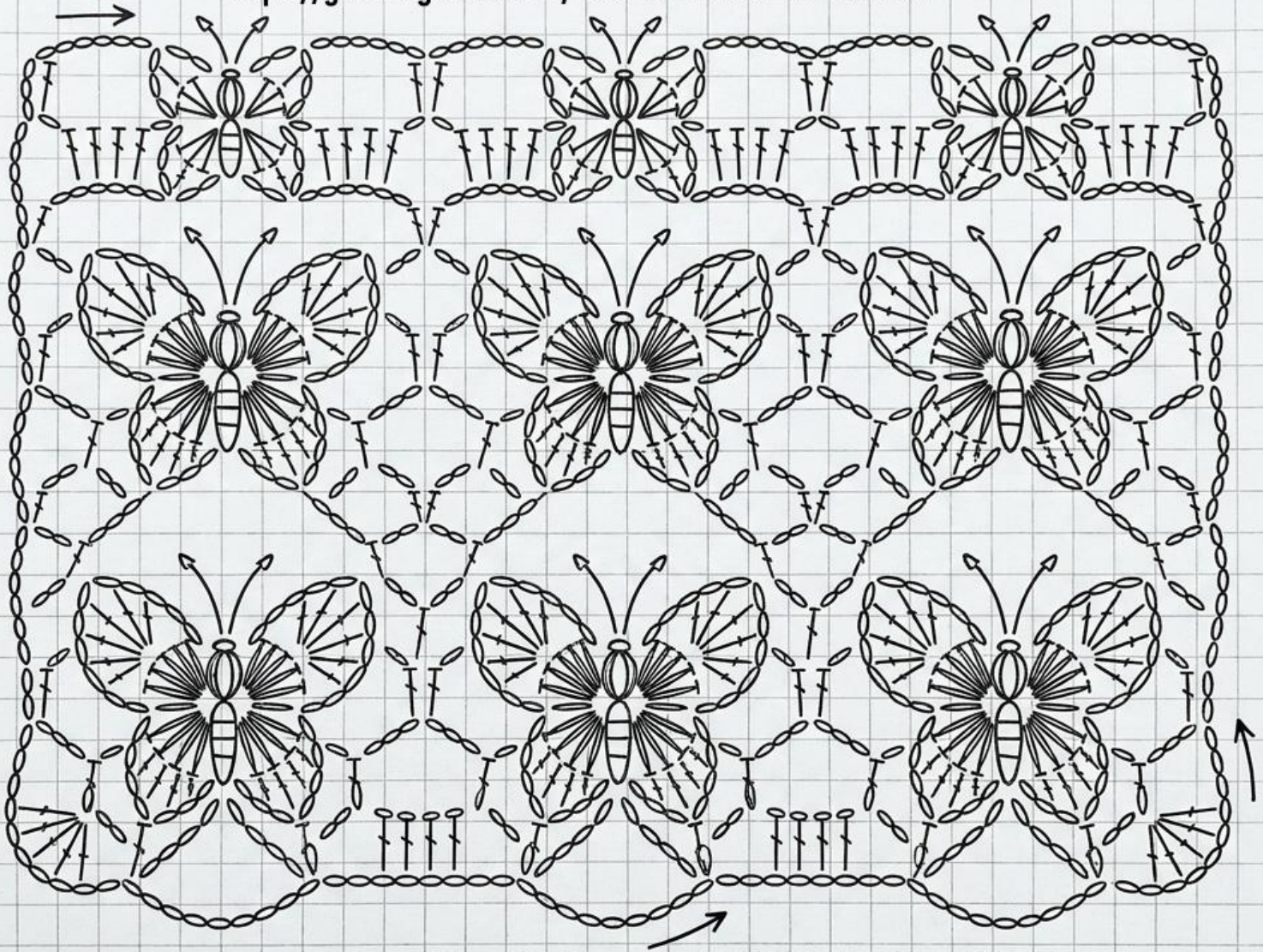
Ch 31 (or any multiple of 12 + 3).

It explains that this creates **3 pattern repeats of 12 stitches each, plus 3 additional chains**.

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US Crochet Diagram: Butterfly Blanket Pattern

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- | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| ○ CH: Chain | ‡ TR: Treble Crochet |
| • SC: Single Crochet | • SL ST: Slip Stitch |
| ‡ DC: Double Crochet | ○ CL: Cluster |

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So, if you want a wider blanket, simply increase the foundation chain while maintaining the **12 + 3** structure.



US Crochet Abbreviations

The tutorial uses standard US crochet terminology.

Abbreviation	Meaning
ch	chain
sc	single crochet
hdc	half double crochet
dc	double crochet
tr	treble crochet
dtr	double treble crochet
sl st	slip stitch
sk	skip
rep	repeat
st / sts	stitch / stitches



Important Stitch Definitions

Chain — ch

To make a chain:

1. Make a slip knot and place it on your hook.
2. Yarn over.
3. Pull the yarn through the loop already on your hook.
4. Repeat for the required number of chains.

Each completed chain creates another loop in your foundation chain.

Single Crochet — sc

1. Insert your hook into the indicated stitch.
2. Yarn over.
3. Pull the yarn through the stitch.

You now have two loops on your hook.

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4. Yarn over again.
5. Pull through both loops.

You have completed one single crochet.

Double Crochet — dc

1. Yarn over.
2. Insert your hook into the indicated stitch.
3. Yarn over.
4. Pull up a loop.

You now have three loops on your hook.

5. Yarn over and pull through two loops.
6. Yarn over and pull through the remaining two loops.

One double crochet is complete.

Treble Crochet — tr

Although the main butterfly pattern uses double crochet, the graphic also includes the US treble crochet definition:

1. Yarn over **twice**.
2. Insert your hook into the indicated stitch.
3. Yarn over.
4. Pull up a loop.

You will have four loops on your hook.

5. Yarn over and pull through two loops.
6. Yarn over and pull through two loops.
7. Yarn over and pull through the final two loops.

Cluster — cl

For this tutorial, a cluster is worked as:

3 to 5 unfinished double crochets worked into the same stitch, then worked together through the loops on the hook.

The butterfly motif itself, however, is created using the specific **(3 dc, ch 1, 3 dc)** combination shown throughout the pattern.

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Slip Stitch — sl st

1. Insert your hook into the indicated stitch.
2. Yarn over.
3. Pull the yarn through the stitch **and directly through the loop on your hook.**

No yarn-over step is needed after inserting the hook.



Understanding the Butterfly Motif

The key element of this pattern is the butterfly-shaped motif.

According to the graphic, the butterfly is created with:

(3 dc, ch 1, 3 dc)

worked into the same stitch or designated chain space.

This creates the two groups of double crochets that form the butterfly wings.

The **chain-1 space** between the two groups helps define the center separation between the wings.

The graphic specifically highlights these points:

- The butterfly motif is made with **3 dc, ch 1, 3 dc** worked in the same stitch.
- Chain-1 spaces separate the butterfly wings.
- Keep your tension even.
- Repeat the pattern rows for as much length as you want.



Step 1: Make the Foundation Chain

Start by making your foundation chain.

For the example shown in the graphic:

Ch 31

Or choose any number that follows:

multiple of 12 + 3

For example:

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Ch 31

This gives you:

- 3 pattern repeats
- 12 chains for each repeat
- plus 3 additional chains

Make your chain evenly, without pulling the stitches too tightly.

 **Tip:** If your foundation chain tends to be tighter than the rest of your crochet, use a slightly larger hook just for the foundation chain, or consciously keep your chain loose and relaxed.



Step 2: Work Row 1 — Base Row

Now establish the single-crochet base row.

1. Insert your hook into the **2nd chain from the hook**.
2. Work **1 sc**.
3. Continue working **1 sc in each chain across**.
4. When you reach the end of the row, make **ch 1**.
5. Turn your work.

Your first row should form a simple, even single-crochet foundation.

Row 1 in shorthand

Row 1: Sc in 2nd ch from hook, sc in each ch across, ch 1, turn.

Take a moment to make sure the row is straight before moving on.



Step 3: Work Row 2 — Create the Butterfly Foundation

This is the first decorative row and establishes the foundation for the butterfly motifs.

Begin with the instructions shown in the graphic:

Ch 6.

Then:

1. Skip the next **3 sts**.
2. In the next stitch, work:
(3 dc, ch 1, 3 dc)
3. Skip the next **3 sts**.
4. Work **sc in the next stitch**.

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5. **Ch 6.**
6. Repeat the sequence from the beginning across the row.
7. Finish with **ch 1**.
8. Turn.

Row 2 pattern sequence

The repeating section is:

Ch 6, sk 3 sts, (3 dc, ch 1, 3 dc) in next st, sk 3 sts, sc in next st.

Then repeat across.

The large chain-6 spaces create the open areas around the developing butterflies.



What should Row 2 look like?

At this stage, you should begin seeing:

- Large chain arches
- Small single-crochet connection points
- Groups of 3 double crochets
- A chain-1 space between the two groups of double crochets

Do not worry if the butterflies do not look completely defined yet. The following rows shape them more clearly.



Step 4: Work Row 3

Row 3 begins shaping the butterfly structure more clearly.

Start with:

Ch 4.

Then follow the sequence from the graphic:

1. In the next **ch-2 space**, work:
(3 dc, ch 1, 3 dc)
2. **Ch 4.**
3. Work **sc in the next st.**
4. **Ch 4.**
5. Repeat the sequence across.
6. Finish the row according to the established pattern.
7. **Ch 1, turn.**

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Row 3 in pattern form

Ch 4, (3 dc, ch 1, 3 dc) in next ch-2 space, ch 4, sc in next st, ch 4, repeat across, ch 1, turn.



Important: The graphic labels the location for the butterfly group as the **next ch-2 space**. Work into the designated open chain space rather than trying to force the hook into an individual stitch.



Step 5: Work Row 4

Row 4 begins the repeating structure that will build the fabric.

Follow these instructions:

1. **Ch 1.**
2. **Sc in the next st.**
3. **Ch 3.**
4. **Skip 2 sts.**
5. In the next stitch, work:
(3 dc, ch 1, 3 dc)
6. **Ch 3.**
7. **Sc in the next st.**
8. **Ch 3.**
9. Repeat the pattern across.
10. **Ch 1, turn.**

Row 4 shorthand

Ch 1, sc in next st, ch 3, sk 2 sts, (3 dc, ch 1, 3 dc) in next st, ch 3, sc in next st, ch 3, rep across, ch 1, turn.

This row reinforces the butterfly wings and begins producing the repeating lace structure seen in the finished sample.



Step 6: Work Row 5

Row 5 follows the same fundamental butterfly-building sequence.

Work:

1. **Ch 1.**
2. **Sc in the next st.**
3. **Ch 3.**
4. **Skip 2 sts.**
5. In the next stitch, work:
(3 dc, ch 1, 3 dc)

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6. **Ch 3.**
7. **Sc in the next st.**
8. **Ch 3.**
9. Repeat across the row.
10. **Ch 1, turn.**

Row 5 shorthand

Ch 1, sc in next st, ch 3, sk 2 sts, (3 dc, ch 1, 3 dc) in next st, ch 3, sc in next st, ch 3, rep across, ch 1, turn.

As you continue, the butterfly shapes should become much easier to recognize.

Step 7: Work Row 6 — Repeat Row 4

The graphic identifies Row 6 as a **repeat row**.

For Row 6:

Repeat the Row 4 instructions.

That means you will work:

1. Ch 1.
2. Sc in next stitch.
3. Ch 3.
4. Skip 2 stitches.
5. Work **(3 dc, ch 1, 3 dc)** in the next stitch.
6. Ch 3.
7. Sc in next stitch.
8. Ch 3.
9. Continue the sequence across.
10. Ch 1 and turn.

What changes?

The graphic notes:

Butterfly wings will be more defined.

This is where the repeated structure begins making the butterfly motifs particularly recognizable.

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Step 8: Work Row 7 — Final Row

For the example shown, Row 7 is the final row.

Work:

1. **Ch 1.**
2. **Sc in the next st.**
3. **Ch 3.**
4. Skip **2 sts.**
5. In the next stitch, work:
(3 dc, ch 1, 3 dc)
6. **Ch 3.**
7. **Sc in the next st.**
8. Continue the pattern across.
9. **Sc in the last st.**

The graphic's final-row instructions specifically finish with:

Sc in last st.

Row 7 shorthand

Ch 1, sc in next st, ch 3, sk 2 sts, (3 dc, ch 1, 3 dc) in next st, ch 3, sc in next st, repeat across, sc in last st.

Because this is the final row in the illustrated example, you do not turn and begin another pattern row unless you want to continue the design.



Step 9: Continue the Pattern for a Larger Project

The illustrated sample uses **7 rows**, but the pattern can be extended.

The graphic recommends:

Repeat Rows 2–6 for the length you want.

If you want a longer blanket, scarf, wrap, or other project, simply continue repeating the established pattern.

A useful approach is:

- Foundation chain
- Row 1 — base
- Row 2 — butterfly foundation
- Row 3 — shaping
- Rows 4–6 — repeating butterfly structure
- Repeat the appropriate pattern rows until your desired length

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- Finish with the final-row structure when you are ready to stop



Step 10: Keep Your Tension Consistent

This stitch pattern relies heavily on open chain spaces, so consistent tension is especially important.

Try to keep:

- Your chain stitches approximately the same size.
- Your single crochets even.
- Your double crochets neither too tight nor too loose.
- Your chain-3 and chain-6 spaces consistent.
- Each **(3 dc, ch 1, 3 dc)** group approximately the same size.

If your tension changes significantly from row to row, the butterflies can become uneven or the project can begin widening or narrowing.



Best practice: After completing a few rows, gently lay your work flat rather than stretching it aggressively. This lets you check whether your motifs are developing evenly.



Step 11: Identify the Butterfly Wings

Each butterfly motif is centered around:

3 dc + ch 1 + 3 dc

The first group of 3 double crochets forms one side of the butterfly, while the second group forms the other side.

The **ch-1 space** separates the wings.

The chain spaces around the motif create the open lace surrounding each butterfly.

As you work additional rows, the motifs should become increasingly defined.



Step 12: Check the Finished Size

The example in the graphic gives an approximate finished size of:

7 rows = 4.5 inches / 11.5 cm

This is only an example because your finished measurements depend on:

- Yarn thickness
- Hook size
- Individual tension
- How tightly or loosely you crochet

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- Blocking

The graphic specifically notes to adjust the measurement according to your yarn and tension.

So if your 7-row sample measures 4 inches instead of 4.5 inches, that does not necessarily mean you made a mistake.



Step 13: Finish Your Crochet

Once your project reaches the desired length:

1. Complete your final row.
2. Cut the yarn, leaving a tail of several inches.
3. Yarn over and pull the yarn completely through the final loop.
4. Tighten gently to secure the ending.
5. Thread the yarn tail onto a yarn needle.
6. Weave the tail discreetly through several stitches on the wrong side of the fabric.
7. Change direction and weave through a few more stitches.
8. Trim the remaining excess yarn.

If you also have a starting yarn tail, weave that in the same way.



Step 14: Optional Blocking

Because this is an open, lacy stitch pattern, blocking can make a significant difference in the finished appearance.

To block:

1. Lightly dampen the finished piece.
2. Gently arrange it on a suitable blocking surface.
3. Straighten the edges.
4. Carefully open the chain spaces.
5. Adjust the butterfly motifs so they sit evenly.
6. Allow the piece to dry completely.
7. Remove the pins once dry.

Avoid stretching the fabric excessively. The goal is to define the lace pattern, not distort it.



Complete Pattern at a Glance

For convenience, here is the entire tutorial condensed into pattern language.

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Foundation Chain

Ch 31, or any multiple of 12 + 3.

Row 1 — Base Row

Sc in 2nd ch from hook, sc in each ch across, ch 1, turn.

Row 2 — Butterfly Foundation

Ch 6, sk next 3 sts, (3 dc, ch 1, 3 dc) in next st, sk next 3 sts, sc in next st, ch 6, rep from * across, ch 1, turn.

Row 3

Ch 4, (3 dc, ch 1, 3 dc) in next ch-2 space, ch 4, sc in next st, ch 4, rep across, ch 1, turn.

Row 4

Ch 1, sc in next st, ch 3, sk 2 sts, (3 dc, ch 1, 3 dc) in next st, ch 3, sc in next st, ch 3, rep across, ch 1, turn.

Row 5

Ch 1, sc in next st, ch 3, sk 2 sts, (3 dc, ch 1, 3 dc) in next st, ch 3, sc in next st, ch 3, rep across, ch 1, turn.

Row 6

Repeat Row 4.

The graphic notes that the **butterfly wings become more defined** on this repeat.

Row 7 — Final Row

Ch 1, sc in next st, ch 3, sk 2 sts, (3 dc, ch 1, 3 dc) in next st, ch 3, sc in next st, rep across, sc in last st.

Quick Stitch Guide

The essential stitches and symbols used in the graphic are:

- **ch** = chain
- **sc** = single crochet — short, tight stitch
- **dc** = double crochet — taller stitch
- **tr** = treble crochet
- **cl** = cluster — multiple stitches worked together

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- **sl st** = slip stitch — used for joining
- **sk** = skip
- **rep** = repeat
- **st/sts** = stitch/stitches

The diagram's work-direction arrows indicate that you work back and forth across the project, turning at the end of the rows.



Key Tips for Success

Keep your chain spaces uniform

The chain spaces are a major part of the design. If one chain-3 or chain-6 space is significantly larger than the others, the butterflies may not line up correctly.

Count your foundation chain carefully

Always use:

$$12 \times \text{number of repeats} + 3$$

If you want 3 repeats:

$$12 \times 3 + 3 = 39 \text{ chains}$$

If you want 5 repeats:

$$12 \times 5 + 3 = 63 \text{ chains}$$

This makes it much easier to enlarge the project while keeping the motif structure intact.

Watch where you place the butterfly group

Whenever the pattern says:

(3 dc, ch 1, 3 dc)

all six double-crochet stitches are worked into the **same designated stitch or chain space**.

Do not spread those six double crochets across multiple stitches.

Don't accidentally skip the chain-1 space

The **ch 1** between the two groups of 3 dc is an important part of the butterfly motif:

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3 dc → ch 1 → 3 dc

That small opening helps define the two wings.

Keep your tension relaxed

This is an open lace pattern. If you crochet extremely tightly, the chain spaces may become difficult to work into and the finished fabric may not have the airy appearance shown in the graphic.

Lay the project flat occasionally

After every few rows, place the work flat and look at the butterflies.

You should be able to see a repeating rhythm of:

butterfly → open space → butterfly → open space → butterfly

If something suddenly looks different, it is easier to correct it immediately rather than several rows later.

Final Result

When completed, the **Butterfly Blanket Stitch** produces a delicate openwork fabric filled with repeating butterfly motifs.

The example shown in the graphic uses:

- Worsted-weight **#4 Medium yarn**
- A **4.0–5.0 mm US G–H crochet hook**
- A foundation chain based on **12 + 3**
- A simple **single-crochet base row**
- Butterfly motifs formed with **(3 dc, ch 1, 3 dc)**
- Repeating chain spaces and single-crochet connection points
- Approximately **7 rows for 4.5 inches / 11.5 cm** in the example

 **The most important formula to remember is:**

Foundation = multiple of 12 + 3

and the defining butterfly element is:

(3 dc, ch 1, 3 dc)

Once you understand those two elements, the rest of the pattern becomes much easier to follow and repeat.

Happy crocheting!  