

Joining Crochet Squares

About this tutorial

This tutorial describes my favourite method for joining squares and motifs, which is the **crochet slip stitch joining method**. It is relatively easy to work and makes an unobtrusive seam on the front and the back of your work.

I have made the seams here in a different colour so you can see them:



Picture 1 - Front of work



Picture 2 - Back of work



When worked in the same colour as the squares, this seam is very subtle.



Picture 3 - Seam worked in matching colour.

The examples in this tutorial show me joining some of my Heart Crochet Squares which are 24sts along each side, but the same method can be applied however big your squares are, or even if your pieces are of different lengths (as in a brickwork pattern).

Other Joining Methods

In general, I recommend choosing whichever joining method you feel most comfortable working, unless you are going for a particular look.

A very unobtrusive seam can be achieved by sewing blocks together with the edges immediately abutting, but I find this slow and there are more ends to weave in.

Crocheting squares together with UK dc / US sc stitches is possibly the quickest, easiest and strongest method, but results in a heavy ridge between your crochet squares which can be unsightly if it is not part of the intended design.

If you have any questions about this tutorial,
please contact me at

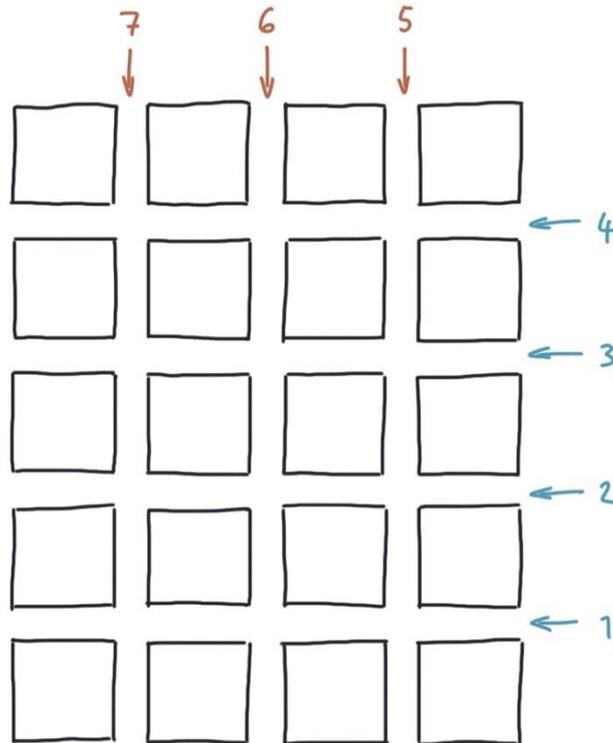
[*clare@littleconkers.co.uk*](mailto:clare@littleconkers.co.uk)



Preparing your Work

Work out the arrangement of your squares so you are ready to join them in the correct order.

In the case of a blanket, you will want to make all the parallel seams in one direction first, and then all the seams in the perpendicular direction afterwards, as shown by the order of numbers here:



Picture 4 – Order in which to make the seams in a rectangular blanket.

Before you start seaming, have clearly in mind which stitches ‘belong’ to which sides of your square.

The squares I am joining here have sides of 24 sts including 2-ch spaces in each corner. One of the chains in each corner belongs to the 24 stitches of one side of the square, and one belongs to 24 stitches of the adjacent side.

If I am joining squares with an odd number of stitches in the corner, I usually leave the corner stitch unworked – i.e. it doesn’t ‘belong’ to either side. Alternatively, you can choose to include it in one side or another, but you need to do this consistently around the square and in each adjoining square – e.g., you always include the central corner stitch in the side to the left. Follow any advice given in a particular pattern.

General Points about the Slip Stitch Joining Method

This method is worked using slip stitches.

You work with the right sides of your squares facing you.

It’s helpful to work with a flat surface in front of you, rather than on your lap - I don’t advise attempting it during a car journey for example!

You will work into the back loops only of the stitches along the edge of each square.

You will always insert your hook from front to back into any stitch.

Make sure your working yarn is always to the back of your work.

This method of joining squares makes a firm, non-stretchy seam. If you think yours is coming up a bit tight, try changing to a larger hook just for the seaming.

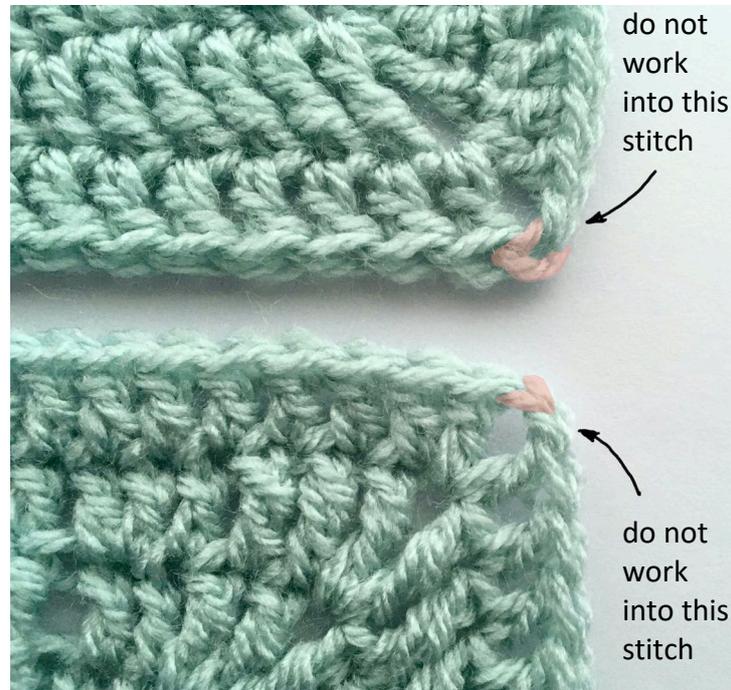


Joining your Squares

Take the first two squares that you want to join, place them one above the other in front of you, ensuring that the right side of each square is facing upwards.



The first stitches you will be working into are the stitches at the far right-hand end of the horizontal edges – in this case two ch stitches highlighted in pink in Picture 5.



Picture 5 - Identifying the first stitches to join.

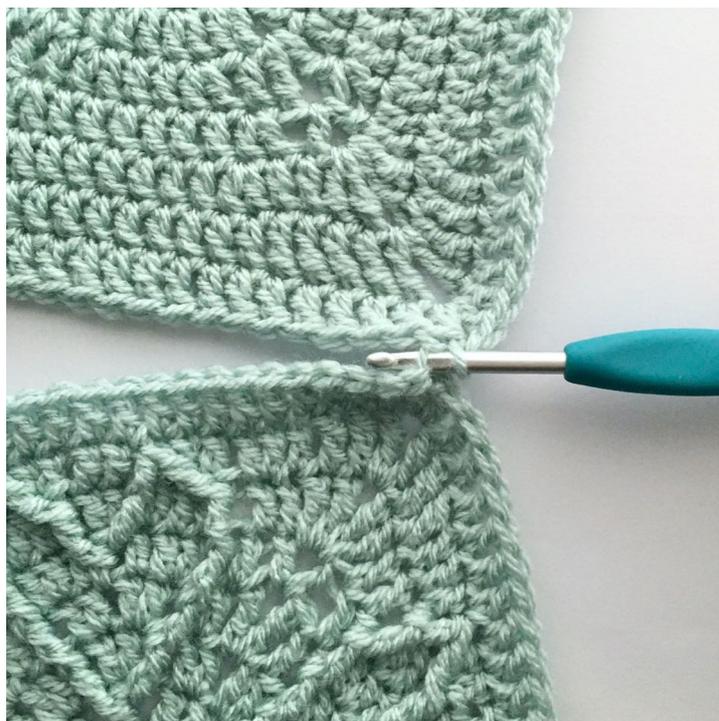
Insert your hook from front to back into the **back loop only (BLO)** of the first stitch of the edge of the top square



Picture 6 - Starting first slip stitch.



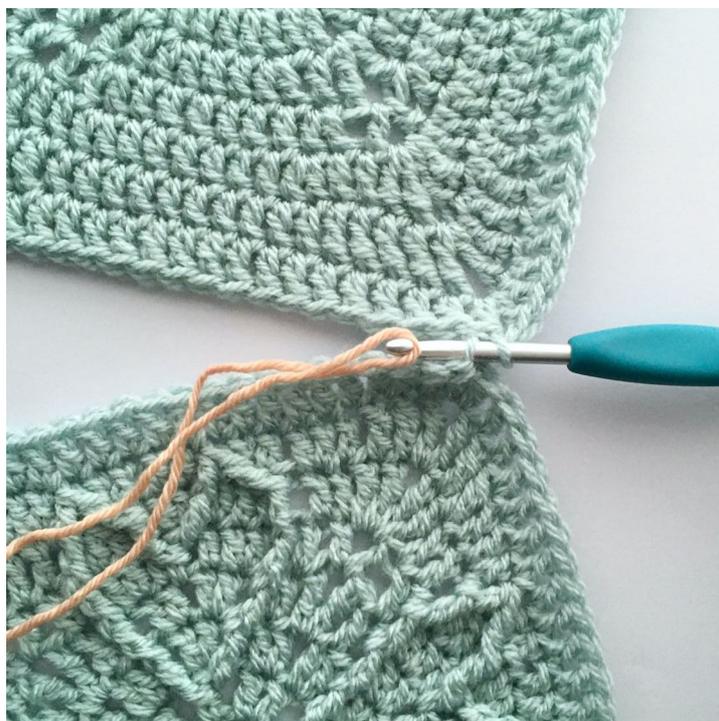
Then, insert your hook from front to back into the BLO of the first stitch of the edge of the bottom square.



Picture 7 - First slip stitch in progress.

You now have 2 loops on your hook.

Yarn-round-hook with the yarn you are using for joining.



Picture 8 - Yarn-round-hook with the joining yarn.

Pull the loop up through both loops on your hook to complete the first slip stitch.



Picture 9 - First slip stitch completed.

Move the yarn tail and the working yarn to the back of your work.

Identify the next pair of stitches you will be joining. In my example the next stitches are the UK trs / US dcs highlighted in green in Picture 9.

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Insert your hook from front to back in the BLO of the next stitch in the top square.



Picture 10 - Starting second slip stitch.

You now have 2 loops on your hook.

Then insert your hook from front to back into the BLO of the next stitch in the bottom square.



Picture 11 - Slip stitch in progress.

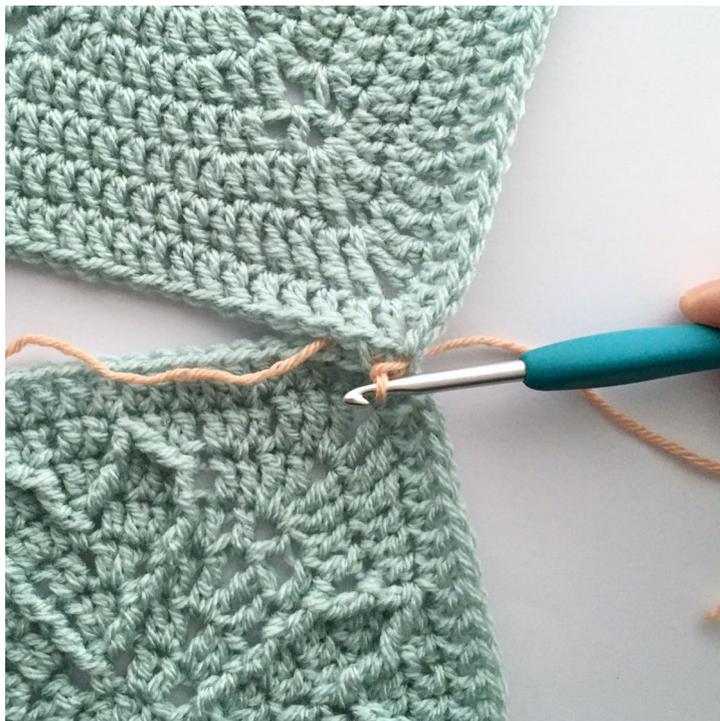
You now have 3 loops on your hook.

Yarn-round-hook.

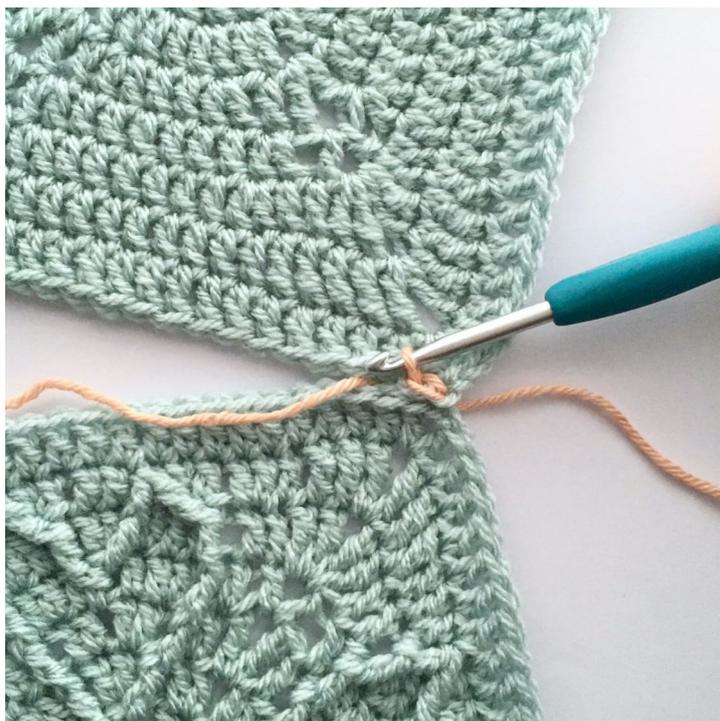


Picture 12 - Yarn-round-hook.

Pull yarn through all 3 loops to complete a slip stitch.



Picture 13 - Second slip stitch completed.



Picture 14 - Second slip stitch completed.



Repeat the steps from ★ to ☉ to join the next pair of stitches and each pair of stitches along the edges of the squares.



Picture 15 - Making the third slip stitch.

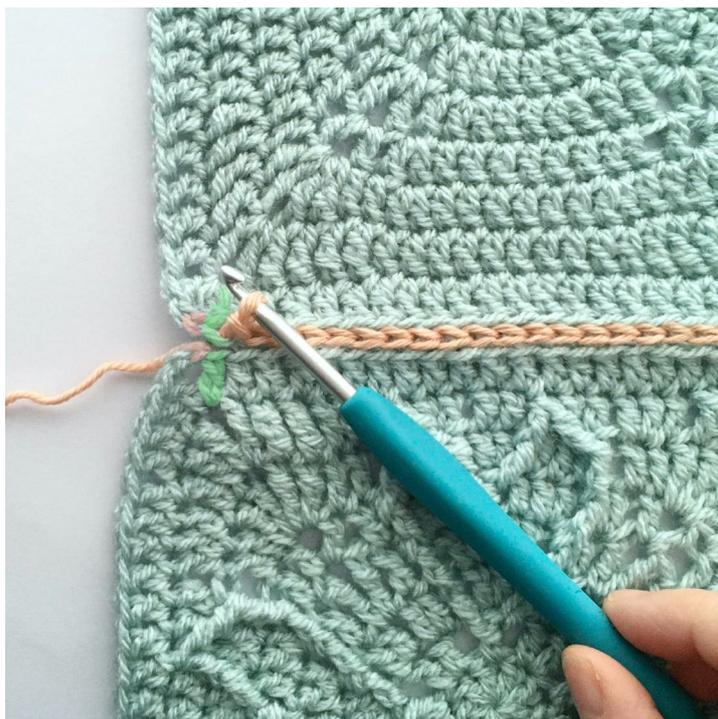
Although it helps to lay the pieces flat to see what is going on, as you continue to work you will probably be holding your work something like this:



Picture 16 - Slip stitching along the edge.

Slip stitch as far as the last pair of stitches belonging to these edges on both squares.

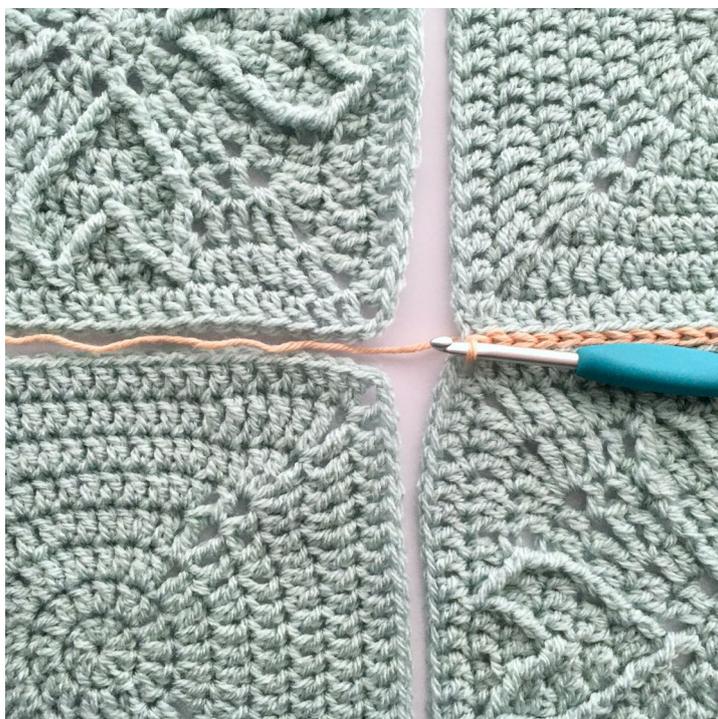
In my example, the edge ends with a UK tr / US dc (highlighted in green in Picture 17) and a ch stitch (highlighted in pink in Picture 17).



Picture 17 - Penultimate slip stitch completed.

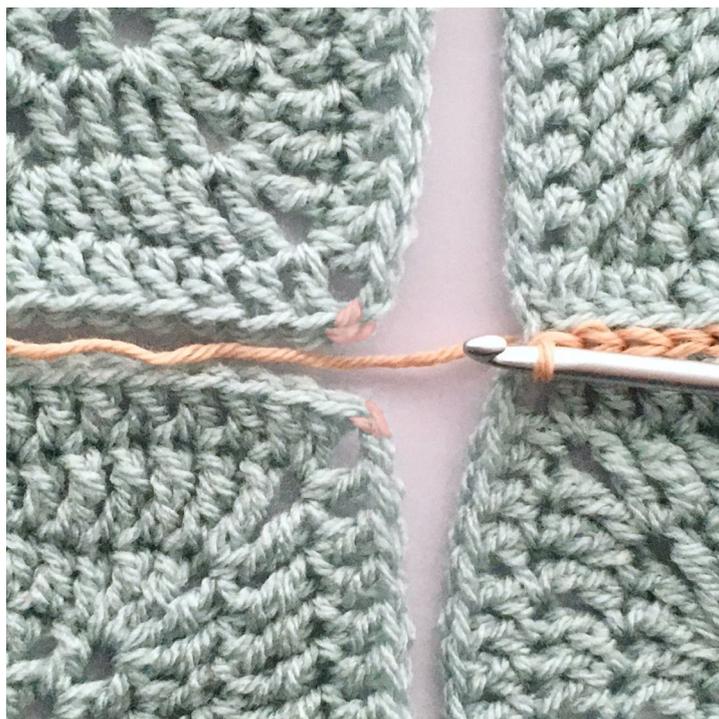


When you reach the end of the first pair of squares, prepare the next two squares you want to join.



Picture 18

You will join the next pair of squares in exactly the same way as the previous pair, starting with the first stitches belonging to the horizontal edges, (in my example, the ch stitches highlighted in pink in Picture 19).



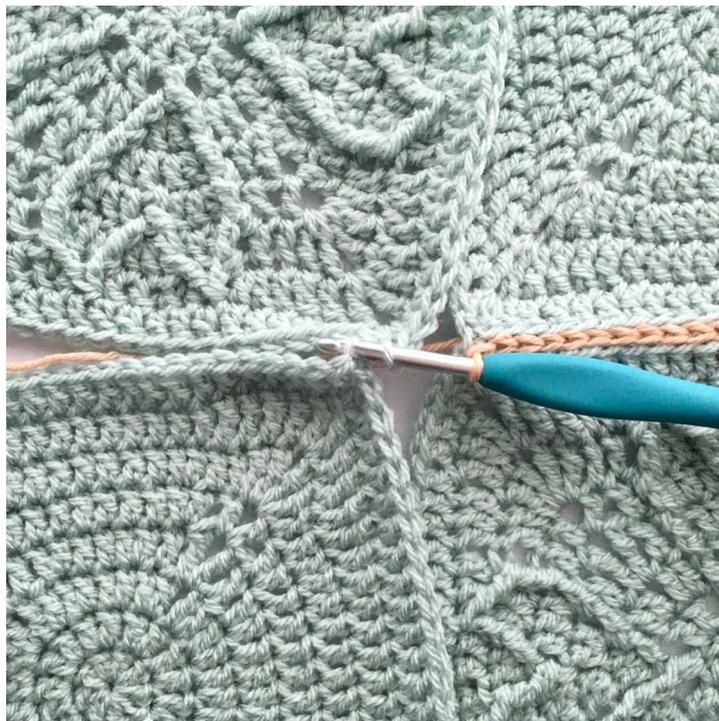
Picture 19 - Identifying the first pair of stitches in the new squares.

Insert your hook from front to back in the BLO of the first stitch of the top square.



Picture 20 - Starting the first slip stitch.

Now insert your hook from front to back in the BLO of the first stitch of the bottom square.



Picture 21 - Slip stitch in process.

You will now have 3 loops on your hook.

Yarn-round-hook.



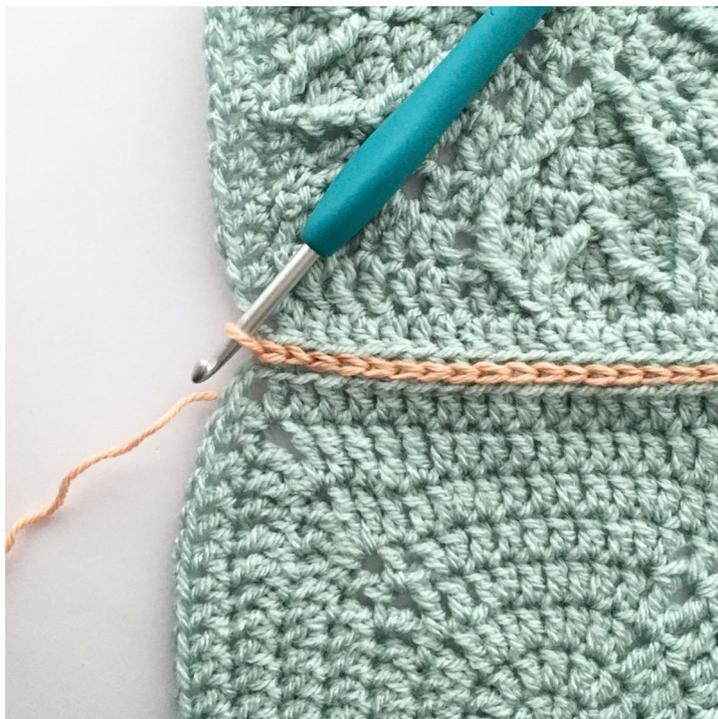
Picture 22 - Yarn-round-hook.

Pull the loop up through all three loops on your hook to complete the slip stitch.



Picture 23 - Slip stitch completed.

Continue slip stitching and joining additional pairs of squares until you have joined all the squares in the row and you reach the end of the final square. In my example, the last slip stitch is worked in to a ch stitch.



Picture 24 - Last slip stitch made (in last ch stitch in my example).

Cut your yarn, fasten off, and weave in the two yarn tails on the back of your work:



Picture 25 - Seam completed.



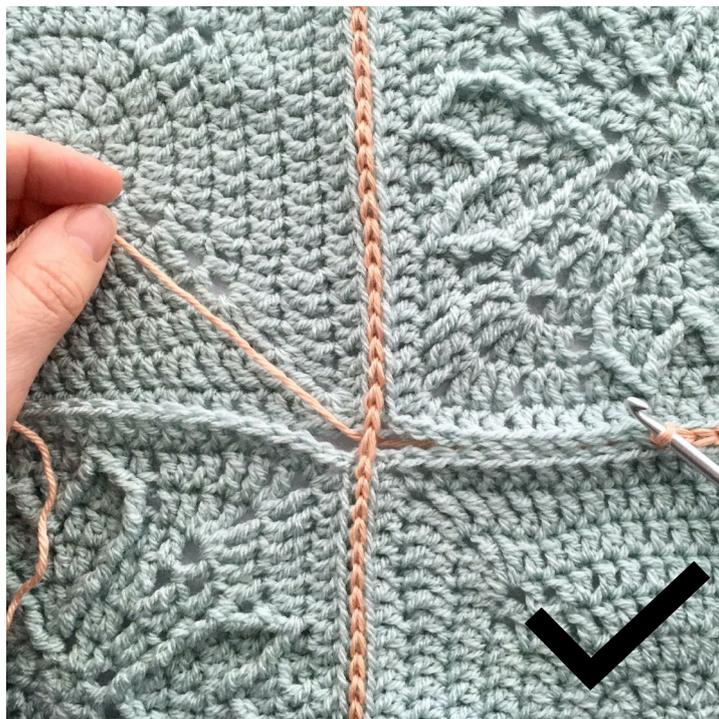
Picture 26 - Showing a completed horizontal seam with the vertical seam yet to be made.

Continue joining all the 'horizontal' seams in your piece (seams 2-4 in Picture 4).

Now turn your work 90° and prepare to work the seams perpendicular to the seams you have just worked (seams 5-7 in Picture 4).

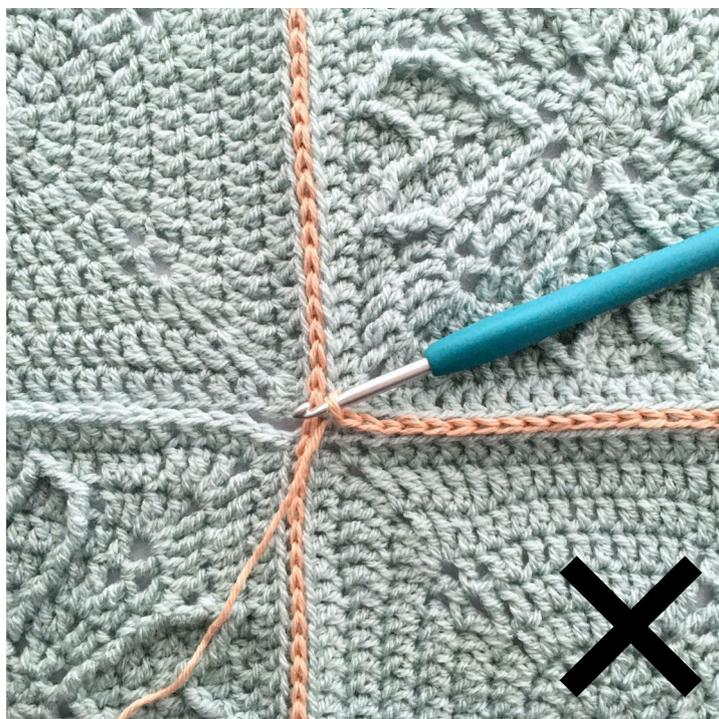
The process begins in exactly the same way as the previous seams, so follow the steps from ❖ to ◆ until you reach the first intersection with the now-vertical seam you previously made.

IMPORTANT: make sure your working yarn is at the *back* of your work – that means *behind* the vertical previous seam(s) you made, as in Picture 27.



Picture 27 - Your working yarn needs to be behind the vertical seam(s) as shown.

NOT as here, where the working yarn is *in front* of the previously-made seam.



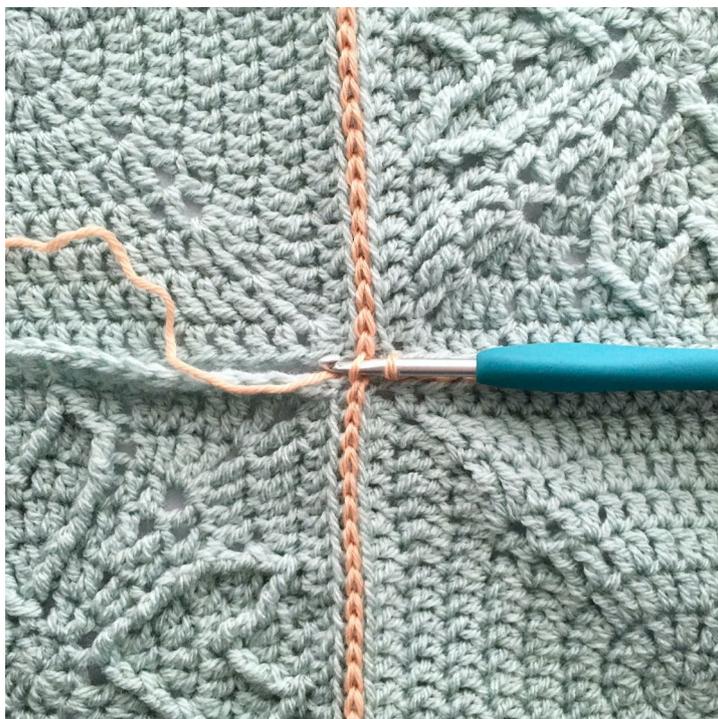
Picture 28 - INCORRECT - working yarn in front of the previous seam(s).

In my example, the first pair of squares end with a UK tr / US dc (highlighted green in Picture 29) and a ch stitch (highlighted pink in Picture 29) as before.



Picture 29 - Intersection reached.

Now make a slip stitch into the vertical seam by inserting your hook into the centre of the slip stitch as shown in Picture 30.



Picture 30 - Inserting the hook to make the slip stitch into the previous seam.

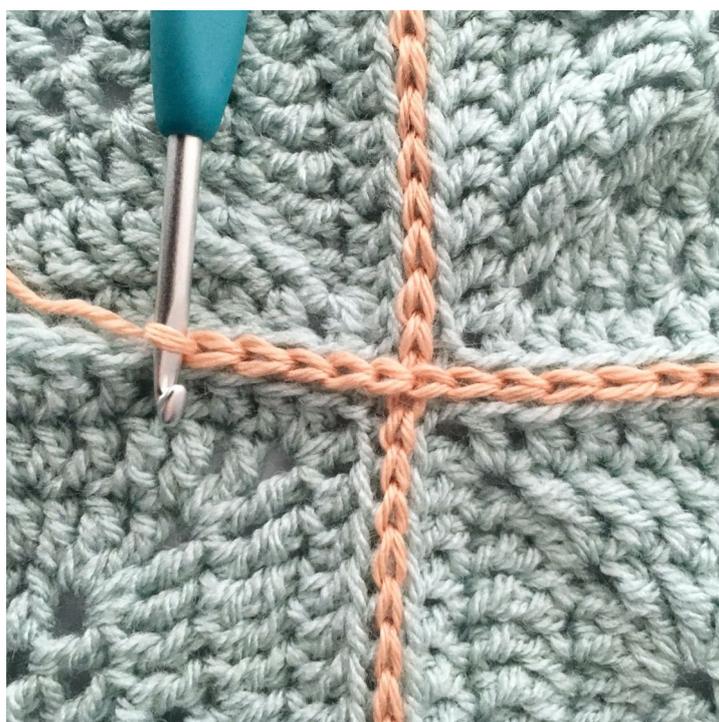
Yarn-round-hook and pull through both loops on hook to complete the slip stitch.



Picture 31 - Slip stitch into seam completed.

Now continue slip-stitching to joining the next pair of squares, as before.

In my example, the first stitch after the slip stitch into the seam is made into a ch stitch.



Picture 32 - Continuing the seam.

Seam all the necessary pairs of squares together to complete this seam.



Picture 33 - Last slip stitch made (in last ch stitch in my example).

Cut your yarn, fasten off, and weave in the two yarn tails on the back of your work:



Picture 34 - Seam completed.

Now complete the next and all remaining parallel seams in the same way (seams 6 and 7 in Picture 4), or as required in your project.

I'd love to see pictures of your finished projects!
Please share your photos on your favourite social media using

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About this Pattern

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