

## Unique Chic

Because time is so short, to finish anything worthwhile within a 3 hour class you will need to do some preparation.

First source your fabric. I have had most success with woven cotton. You will do best to leave the knit fabrics until you are more experienced. I will be using denim and furnishing fabric for class tasks. I will have with me items with various fabrics I have previously used and explain how I have adapted methods.

Your practice pieces can be used merely as examples or you might want to put them together to make a purse, sized to hold your crochet hooks.

You need to stop your fabric pieces from fraying. Methods requiring a machine:

- Zigzag
- Turn over a small hem with running stitch
- Overlock

I prefer to zigzag with matching thread.

Other methods:

- Glue



Should be readily available

- Hand Stitching – fold over and chain stitch embroider through both layers – fold over and blanket stitch – fold over and do a tiny running stitch.

It should be possible to make this sampler purse during the class.



You will practice 6 different link stitches on your sample strips

Cut/Prepare these pieces

6 pieces 4.5 x 10cm  
1 piece 3cm x 36cm  
(I found too late I didn't have a photo of that!)  
A 15cm (6") cotton zip – Usually from opshop jeans – your hook won't go through a nylon zip.



Use a fray stop method then crochet over the edge.

I use a 0.75 hook on lighter fabrics or an Edgit tool to puncture denim.

A range of threads work:

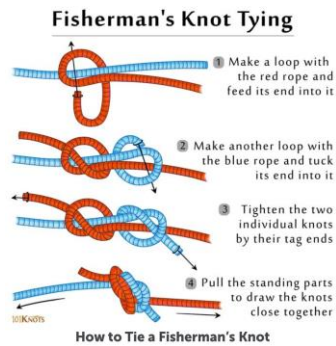
Perle 5 and 8

DMC Babylo 10 or 20

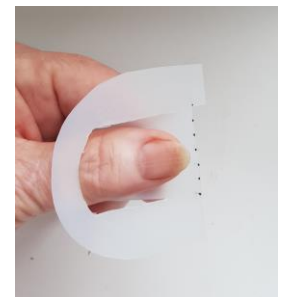
Lizbeth 10

BWM 4 ply pulled down to 2 ply (10m lengths)

Embroidery floss – 3 strands – fisherman's knots on single strands, spaced to hide.

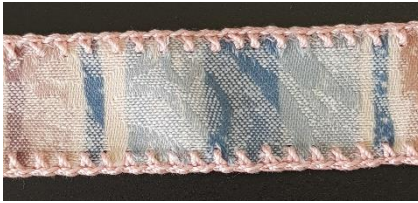


While not as important for larger clothing items, the small sample pieces will need to have evenly spaced base stitches. A gadget like this might help – squished toilet roll or milk bottle plastic. Measures for stitches are 0.5cm height and 0.5 cm distance apart.



Crochet over all of the edges:

For garments I always start with a slip knot, the loop of which I pull through from the back as my start, secure it with 1 ch. The loop needs to be as tall as your stitch – my stitches are usually about 3- 5mm.



This is Babylo 10, hook .75, into furnishing fabric. dc (UK), ch1, 3mm tall with each set 3mm apart. The chain is pulled loosely.

Overstitch method:

Insert hook through fabric, catch loop and pull through the fabric, stretch it to reach the edge of the fabric, YOH and pull through loop. Make your decision about how far apart your stitches will be, chain 1,2 or 3 to cover that distance, puncture your fabric. Complete a dc (UK) height to the edge of the fabric. Continue evenly around the fabric. Corners need 3dc into the same hole.



**Bring with you:**

A variety of sized hooks – 0.5 to 2.50mm

A variety of threads, as mentioned above

Some cotton or looser woven fabrics, cut and prepared.

Small safety pins

Thread scissors

tape measure

Your favourite needles for sewing in ends

**Heaps of creativity!**

Internet sourced pics to get the juices flowing

