

Tension

Tension is incredibly important when crocheting.

Maintaining consistent tension will allow all your stitches to remain identical.

There are many ways people hold the yarn and no way is the right way - the name of the game is **neat, consistent stitches**.

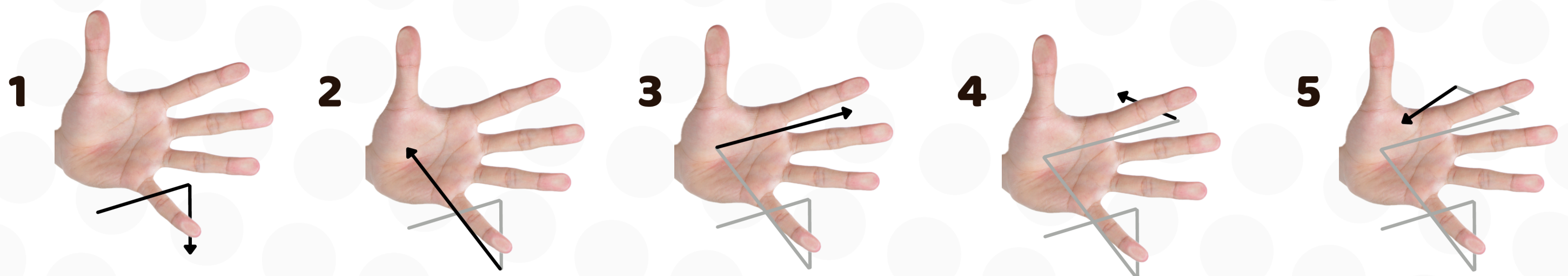
If your tension is too loose, the stitches will be too far apart and the item will appear gappy. Too tight and you will struggle to work into your stitches below.

Getting your tension correct can take a lot of time. Some people find a way to comfortably hold their yarn quite quickly, whereas with others, it may take longer.

The trick is not to become disheartened if it takes longer than you expected - once you find it, it, you won't even think about it as you crochet.



Below is an example on how to hold your yarn however, as mentioned previously, if this way doesn't work for you and you find an alternative method, you are not doing it wrong. As long as your stitches are uniform, how you hold your yarn doesn't matter.



Splay the fingers in your non dominant hand out wide. Leading the yarn on the hook in your dominant hand:

- 1** Drape the yarn over the pinky from palm to back
- 2** Bring the yarn back under the pinky and into the palm
- 3** Take the yarn between the index finger and the middle finger
- 4** Take the yarn around the back of the index finger, towards the thumb
- 5** Finally, bring the yarn back to the palm of the hand



With the yarn now wrapped through your hand, in your non-dominant hand, hold the knot of the slipknot with your **middle finger and thumb**.

The index finger should point directly upwards to maintain a tense line of yarn between the hook and the tension hand.

The pinky and ring fingers should not be tight to the hand, to allow the yarn to flow through as you work

The only thing your dominant hand should be doing is holding the hook. The yarn is controlled by the non-dominant hand.