Make a Crochet Plant-Pot Sleeve

A removable dry-use wrap measured around a real planter

A dry removable sleeve, not a waterproof planter

Make a rectangular crochet strip long enough to surround a small plant pot, then join its short ends into an open-ended ring. This is a decorative cover only; it has NO bottom, is not a container, and must be removed before watering. The ring stays outside a rigid pot with its own drainage and saucer. The design is sized from a real household object rather than a claimed universal pot diameter.

What the example teaches

Start with ch 13, then work twelve US single crochets into the twelve eligible foundation chains. Repeat twelve sc per row with a turning ch-1 that is NOT counted as sc. The chain length sets the approximate vertical height of the finished strip; the number of rows sets the horizontal length around the pot (the circumference direction). A different yarn, hook or tension changes those dimensions. No PDF chart represents a tested circumference or finished gauge.

Choose the pot before the yarn

Use a dry, clean rigid indoor plant pot. Determine its widest outer perimeter in the zone where the crochet ring will rest, and whether the pot flares significantly toward its rim. Measure a desired sleeve height that does not cover drainage holes or interfere with the saucer. A ring can slide on a tapered pot and must not squeeze a fragile vessel. Do not cover heating elements, electrical self-watering components or moisture sensors.

Materials and realistic handling

Use a smooth yarn of known care instructions and a hook compatible with the label, perhaps about 4 to 5 mm for some medium cotton yarns. Keep a measuring tape, stitch markers, closed scissors, blunt yarn needle, and the two printable records nearby. Cotton can absorb moisture, and any wet yarn left in contact with a pot can foster mildew or staining. Never promise mildew resistance, water resistance, dye fastness, plant health or structural support from an untested project.

Protect the plant, home and people

Remove the crochet sleeve before watering, draining, repotting or cleaning the pot; replace only once vessel, saucer, yarn and surrounding surface are dry. Keep away from flames, hot lamps, pets that chew string, and unsupervised young children. This is NOT a hanging planter, carrying handle or load-bearing holder. No physical pot fitting, wet use, laundering, wash durability, dye transfer or drainage test was conducted by the publisher.

Plan the practice

Read these dimensions and conventions before touching yarn.

Measure circumference at the intended level

Wrap a flexible tape around the rigid dry pot where the upper and lower edges of the proposed sleeve will sit. Write the larger measured circumference as C in millimetres. If a significantly flared pot has different top and bottom circumferences, a straight ring may not fit both; choose a narrow band at one level or another pattern rather than stretching the work hard. Measure the desired visible sleeve height H separately, leaving room for the rim, drainage and saucer.

The chain controls HEIGHT, the rows control LENGTH

For the original small teaching example, make ch 13 and use the second chain from the hook onward to create twelve single crochets across Row 1. Each later row is twelve sc with one uncounted turning chain. Measure a real worked sample: the height made by the twelve stitches should be compared with H. If it does not match, change the foundation-chain count on a new sample; do not stretch a twelve-stitch strip to the required height.

Choose a gentle ring length

After several rows, lay the fabric relaxed and measure its length L in the row direction. Compare L with measured pot perimeter C. A rigid pot does not need tight negative ease. Aim for a comfortably sliding fit with modest clearance rather than a ring that must be stretched with force, but no exact allowance is guaranteed across yarn types. Use a paper tape or gently clipped dry band around the pot to judge length BEFORE the permanent seam; record the decision.

Understand the open-bottom seam

PATTERN 1 shows the foundation row, twelve worked positions, and the direction in which length grows. PATTERN 2 shows the flat rectangular strip, the matching pair of short ends, and a simple yarn-needle whip seam that closes the ring. The seam is on the side, not across the top or bottom opening. It creates neither a waterproof lining nor a load-bearing base. Never place a pot's weight on the seam or attempt to lift a pot by the crochet.

Keep the watering pathway untouched

The pot retains its original drainage holes and its own saucer. The decorative sleeve must not contact standing water or block drainage. If a bottom opening is too narrow to pass over the base of a flared pot without force, remove the ring or remake it larger. A heavily textured, fuzzy or thick yarn may trap moisture and is not a substitute for pot protection. A removable, dry-use ring is a design boundary, not a tested moisture-proofing measure.

Printable records and measurement evidence

RECORD 1 tracks the real twelve-sc-per-row count with a continuation area rather than a fixed stopping row. RECORD 2 records C, H, actual strip width and length, dry fitting result and removal-before-watering reminder. Two original diagram sheets have two 50 mm reference bars each; check print scale with a physical ruler only if printing. All yarn-loop drawings are schematic, NOT a numeric pot-gauge conversion.

Practice - steps 1 to 8

Fourteen original steps / count only actual completed crochet stitches.

1. Choose a safe dry pot Inspect a clean, empty or safely positioned rigid pot with an intact saucer. Measure top and lower circumferences along the proposed sleeve position and use the larger as C. Note the planned height H and make sure the sleeve would not cover the rim, drainage outlets or standing saucer water. Record those measurements before crocheting.

2. Prepare yarn and tools Choose yarn that can be kept dry and a hook compatible with the yarn label. Keep a measuring tape, stitch markers, blunt needle and closed scissors within reach. Check the yarn for loose fibres that could catch on foliage or be chewed by pets. Do not work while holding a heavy or wet pot.

3. Create a 13-chain foundation Make a slip knot followed by thirteen separate chain stitches. Exclude both the starting knot and the live loop on the hook from the count. If the chain is so tight that a hook cannot enter its Vs, undo it and remake with a comfortable tension rather than forcing or splitting yarn.

4. Work twelve US single crochets in Row 1 Insert into the second chain from the hook, yarn over and pull up a loop, then yarn over and draw through both loops. Work one sc in the second chain, then one in each of the other eleven eligible chains (1 + 11 = 12 sc). Count twelve completed top-V stitches and mark the first and last actual stitch if their positions are hard to see.

5. Turn with one uncounted chain Yarn over and pull through the live loop to make one ch-1, then turn. That turning chain is NOT one of the twelve real sc. Work into the first real sc top of the previous row and avoid adding an extra stitch in the turning chain or skipping the far edge.

6. Make Row 2 with twelve real stitches Work one ordinary US single crochet under both top loops of each of the twelve sc in Row 1. Count all twelve on completion. If the count is eleven or thirteen, correct it now. Enter the row count on RECORD 1, which continues for additional rows without declaring a preset number.

7. Continue a flat strip Repeat ch 1, turn, twelve US sc across. Keep both edges reasonably straight and the stitch count stable. Pause after several rows to measure the relaxed width made by the twelve stitches against proposed sleeve height H. If it is the wrong height, start a new strip with a revised foundation chain; extra rows will not change that height.

8. Check length against pot perimeter C Lay the strip flat, without stretching, and measure its row-direction length L. Compare L against the measured dry pot circumference C. Remember that the seam will consume some length and the yarn may stretch; only a real dry fit can show whether the band is comfortable. Add rows as needed without forcing a target number from the printed schematic.

Practice - steps 9 to 14

Finish the original project and record the measured result.

9. Check against the dry pot only Temporarily hold or clip the short ends together outside the dry pot while keeping the ring above drainage holes and away from its saucer. No part should be pinched beneath the pot. Do not use metal pins near pets or children. If the rectangle binds, catches a sensor or rides into the saucer, adjust the row count or choose another placement.

10. Fasten off with a seam tail After deciding the length, complete the last twelve-sc row. Cut the working yarn with a seam tail (several times the strip width is a planning cue), pull the tail fully through the last live hook loop, and gently close it. Do not trim the joining yarn short. No decorative tassels or long hanging ties are required in a pot-accessory project.

11. Bring the SHORT ends together Place the flat strip so the first and last row edges meet without twisting. These SHORT edges are sewn; the two longer edges will remain open as the top and bottom of the sleeve. Match corresponding row-end loops and keep the band relaxed, not cinched into a narrow ring.

12. Sew a simple side seam Thread a blunt needle with the reserved yarn tail and whip-stitch from one side of the strip's twelve-stitch width to the other, catching corresponding edge loops. Use moderate even tension, not a tight cord. The seam joins the ring but creates no bottom or sling. Do not claim strength from the stitch diagram.

13. Hide tails and inspect for snags Weave tails individually through nearby reverse-side crochet stitches, changing direction where possible. Trim only after the ends are secured without puckering. Inspect for loose yarn that might snag the rim, catch a plant stem or attract a pet. A tangled sleeve must be removed, not tugged off around fragile foliage.

14. Remove before watering and record results Set the dry sleeve on the dry pot only when it clears drainage and the saucer. Record the actual L, H, C, row count, and whether the ring slid on without force. Remove it for every watering and cleaning, wait until all surfaces are dry, then replace. A stained, damp or mouldy cover is not safe to leave against the vessel.

Fix, care and preserve

The ring slips down a tapered pot. Measure the wider and narrower intended contact levels separately. A flat cylinder may be inappropriate if the pot flares steeply. Shorten the cover zone or use a different shaped design; do not tighten it so much that the pot is stressed.

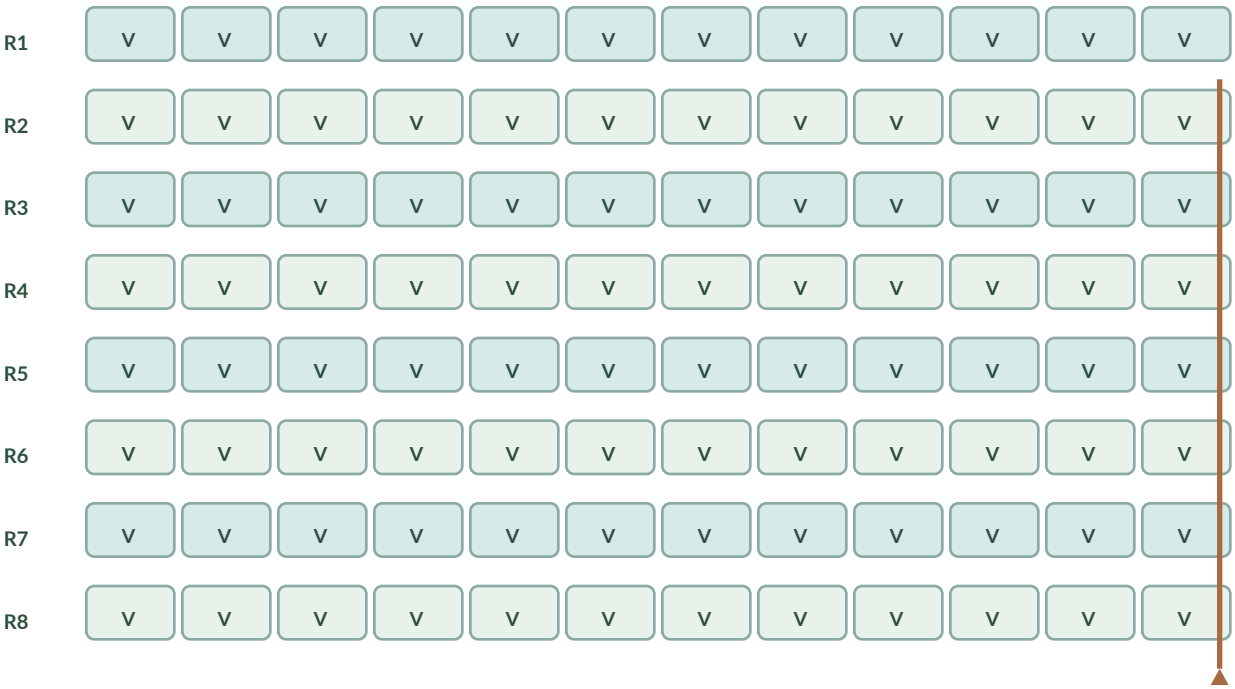
The band is too high or too short. Foundation stitches control the height; number of rows controls circumference. Adding rows cannot fix an overly high band. Make a new swatch with a shorter or longer foundation chain and remeasure the actual yarn result.

The sleeve becomes wet or stained. Remove it promptly and follow the yarn care label before any cleaning. Allow both sleeve and pot to dry fully. No moisture, dye, laundry, mildew, heat, plant-health or durability testing was performed; if conditions are persistently damp, do not use a textile sleeve.

Make a Crochet Plant-Pot Sleeve

ORIGINAL VECTOR TEACHING SCHEMATIC / NOT ACTUAL YARN GAUGE

CH 13 -> 12 SC / DIRECTION OF GROWTH



H / finished vertical HEIGHT = foundation-side stitch span

L / wrap LENGTH = number of full completed rows

Measure real yarn, not diagram cell length.

Every row is 12 US sc. Turning ch-1 does not count.

50 mm BAR A

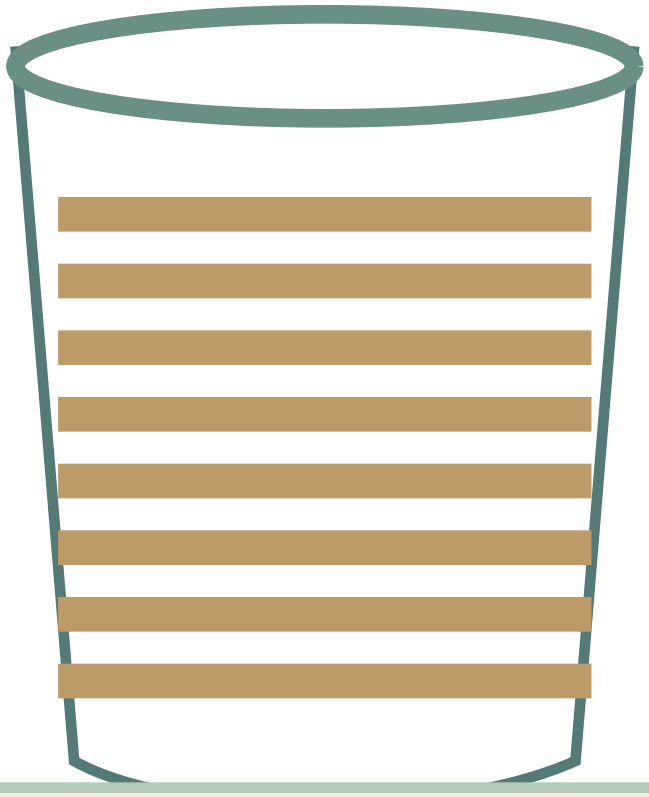
50 mm BAR B

PRINT ACTUAL SIZE / 100%; verify both original 50 mm bars with a ruler.

Make a Crochet Plant-Pot Sleeve

ORIGINAL VECTOR TEACHING SCHEMATIC / NOT ACTUAL YARN GAUGE

MEASURE / JOIN / REMOVE BEFORE WATERING



DRY POT

C / measure widest

contact circumference

H / keep rim &

saucer clear

NO bottom

NO hanging

TAKE OFF THE CROCHET BEFORE EVERY WATERING

Replace only after pot, saucer, yarn and shelf are dry.

Side seam only. A crochet sleeve is not a container or a weight-bearing handle.

50 mm BAR A

50 mm BAR B

PRINT ACTUAL SIZE / 100%; verify both original 50 mm bars with a ruler.

Make a Crochet Plant-Pot Sleeve

Maker setup / stitches and rows

Date / maker:

Yarn, fibre and care label:

Hook size and safe-use notes:

Project location / sample reference:

COUNT TARGET: 12 US sc per row; no fixed row count

- [ ] R1 / actual: _____
- [ ] R2 / actual: _____
- [ ] R3 / actual: _____
- [ ] R4 / actual: _____
- [ ] R5 / actual: _____
- [ ] R6 / actual: _____
- [ ] R7 / actual: _____
- [ ] R8 / actual: _____
- [ ] R9 / actual: _____
- [ ] R10 / actual: _____
- [ ] R11 / actual: _____
- [ ] R12 / actual: _____

Continue on reverse or a new sheet. Do not infer target length from row count.

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Measured dimensions, observation and safety record

Dry pot top/lower circumference and C (mm):

Desired sleeve height H (mm):

Actual strip height across 12 sc (mm):

Actual relaxed strip length L (mm):

Final rows and dry sliding-fit observation:

Rim / drain / saucer kept free?

Remove before watering; dry fully before re-use:

Digital instruction only. No publisher physical yarn, fitting or printer trials.