

# WINTER CAL - INFO + TUTORIAL

TUNISIAN CROCHET IN THE ROUND

DESIGNED BY

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I love to try out all different techniques of Tunisian Crochet and design new patterns with it. For a few years I was thinking about a pattern in the Tunisian in the Round technique (TITR). But I was not satisfied with how my corners looked. Then I found a technique used by several designers which worked for me. I combined my technique with that of theirs and created my own. The most important aspect of their technique is that they use a TKS (Tunisian Knit Stitch) next to the corner. This creates a very nice line at the corners and hides the switch between the rows because you need to work in spirals in Tunisian in the Round.

## INFORMATION

For this pattern you need to know the basics of Tunisian Crochet (Foundation Row, TSS, Return Pass) and a few different stitches. I included all the links to my tutorials and videos.

Make sure that you know how to work the stitches included in those links before you start working on the tutorial.

## NECESSITIES

- 2 colors of yarn, I used a local yarn, about 1200 meters of each
- Double ended hook
- 4 stitch markers (1 must be a different color!)

## YARN

For this tutorial it is best that you use a smooth yarn, that can be easily frogged if you go wrong. Use a DK size yarn and choose 2 colors to start with, this works easier in the beginning [like Scheepjes Colourcraft/Stylecraft DK/Royal (Zeeman for the Netherlands) or a cotton yarn].

As a starter you need to take 2 different colors, one for the Forward Pass and another for the Return Pass.

For the CAL I had to grab some yarn from my stash because of the partial lockdown. I had enough acrylic yarn from a local store (Royal and Royal batik of Zeeman), it is a plain-color and a batik color (color changing).

**5 skeins Royal** - 240 m/100 g, hook size 4-5 mm

**5 skeins Royal batik** - 240 m/100 g, hook size 4-5 mm

**If you choose a color changing yarn, choose a plain-color that is NOT in the color changing yarn otherwise the pattern will disappear.**

## HOOK

In Tunisian Crochet, your hook needs to be 1-3 sizes larger than the suggested size on the label.

There are several hooks on the market that you can use. If you just want to try it and you have interchangeable hooks, you can create your own double-ended hook. You can place 2 hooks on a (small) cable or use a hook-connector. For this swatch and smaller size squares you can use a small double-ended hook. When you want to make a larger item or if you do not have 2 hooks of the same size use a smaller hook for the Return Pass.










I suggest using two different hook sizes as that will make the backside look neater. Make a swatch to determine your hook size.

I used a **6.5 mm** hook for the Forward Pass and a **5.5 mm** hook for the Return Pass.

## STITCHES

I am using charts to create my patterns. Here you will find the explanation of the symbols.

	Name	How to make the stitch	
TSS	Tunisian Simple Stitch	insert hook under vertical bar	 NO stitch
TKS	Tunisian Knit Stitch	insert hook between the front and back vertical bar to the back	 TKS
TES	Tunisian Extended Stitch	pull up a loop as a TSS, YO and PT 1 loop	 TFS
TRS	Tunisian Reverse Stitch	like a TSS but worked on the backside of your work	 TES
TFS	Tunisian Full Stitch	insert your hook between 2 vertical bars to the back	 TRS
CORNER		TKS, YO, TKS in the same stitch	 Corner
YO	Yarn Over		 Return
PT	Pull Through		

## BASIC TUNISIAN CROCHET

- File : <https://muiscreations.jimdofree.com/tutorials-1/>  
 YouTube video right handed : [https://youtu.be/P\\_0ALxap\\_Dc](https://youtu.be/P_0ALxap_Dc)  
 YouTube video left handed : [https://youtu.be/XyPuy\\_FRlgo](https://youtu.be/XyPuy_FRlgo)

## TKS - TUNISIAN KNIT STITCH

- File : <https://muiscreations.jimdofree.com/tutorials-1/>  
 YouTube video right handed : <https://youtu.be/OAmDsA5vW-w>  
 YouTube video left handed : <https://youtu.be/RPAqeTI-U9k>

Every stitch has a vertical bar in the front side as well as a vertical bar on the back side. You need to insert your hook between those two vertical bars from the front to the back, from right to left. **Not between 2 individual stitches!!!!**



Repeat this for all stitches except the border stitch (pick up 2 strands).  
 You will be creating a V, almost the same as knitting.



Repeat for a few rows to practice this stitch.

## TFS - TUNISIAN FULL STITCH

File : <https://muiscreations.jimdofree.com/tutorials-1/>

Insert your hook between 2 stitches (before the next vertical bar) from front to back, YO, pull up a loop.

## TES - TUNISIAN EXTENDED STITCH

File : <https://muiscreations.jimdofree.com/tutorials-1/>

This stitch is worked the same as the TSS but has an extra stitch on it.

Insert your hook under the next vertical bar and pull up a loop, YO and pull through 1 loop on the hook.

## TRS - TUNISIAN REVERSE STITCH

YouTube video right handed : <https://youtu.be/MZ0-apDELEU>

YouTube video left handed : <https://youtu.be/nJ37NS0sYfc>

This stitch is worked the same as the TSS, **BUT on the back side** of your work.

Work a row of TSS before you start practicing TRS!

You will need to work on the back of your swatch. Find the vertical bar in the back and insert your hook from right to left underneath that bar, YO, pull up a loop.

**This stitch is visible in the row below the new row.**



## STANDARD TUNISIAN CHART

Reading a chart isn't difficult if you know how.

- Every little square is a stitch (numbers at the bottom and the top).
- A **Row** or **Round** has 2 lines, Forward Pass (numbers right) and Return Pass (numbers left).
- I always use a different color for the first and the last stitch, they are the border stitches. First one is already on the hook and for the last one you always pick up 2 threads on the hook.
- You 'read' the Forward Pass from right to left and the Return Pass from left to right. (this is how right handed people crochet).

	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	
5	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	5
4	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	4
3	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	3
2	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	2
1	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	1
	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	

## TUTORIAL

Depending on the pattern you start with 6 or 8 loops. 6 will give you an **even** number between the corners, 8 an **odd** number. I will use 8 loops in this tutorial.

Forward Pass is right side facing, Return Pass is wrong side facing.

Start with a magic ring, ch1.

### FOUNDATION ROW

#### **FORWARD PASS** - **COLOR 1**

Make 7 TES (Tunisian Extended Stitch) in the ring as follows:

Insert hook in ring, YO , pull up a loop, YO, PT (pull through) 1 loop (2 loops on hook). Repeat this another 6 times (8 loops on hook).



#### **RETURN PASS** - **COLOR 2**

Turn work (wrong side facing) and move the stitches to the other end of the hook.

Pick up the second color.



YO and PT 1 loop (this time only). For the rest of this pattern you need to PT 2 loops for the Return Pass.



PT 2 loops until you have 3 loops on the hook.



Close the magic ring.

Slide your loops to the other end of hook and turn your work to right side.



## Round 2

We need to double the stitches until there are **15 IN TOTAL**. There are multiple ways to increase the number of stitches for this round I use the TFS (Tunisian Full Stitch).

Place a **stitch marker** of a different color as the other 3, it will indicate the **beginning of a round!**

You start in the first loop/vertical bar of the foundation row, make sure that your **tails are at the backside** of your work!

1. TKS, TFS, TKS, TFS
2. TURN your work and make 3 return stitches (4 loops on the hook)
3. Repeat 1
4. TURN your work and make 4 return stitches (4 loops on the hook)



### TIP

Try to leave 4 or 5 loops on the hook every time. It is better to turn an extra time, because your loops won't be of the same length.

Repeat those 2 steps until you have used ALL the vertical bars, **YOUR LAST STITCH IS A TKS!!!** This round has a total of 15 vertical bars.

Look at the chart of row 2: If you make that last increase you will have 1 stitch more on the last side.

	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
3	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~
2		~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~
1		~		~		~		~		~		~		~		~
		T		T		T		T		T		T		T		T

**FOR THIS TECHNIQUE YOU**

**READ THE CHART FROM THE RIGHT FOR BOTH PASSES, BECAUSE YOU TURN YOUR HOOK!**

**OF COURSE THERE ARE NO BORDER STITCHES IN THE CHARTS.**

### Round 3 - making corners (see chart on the previous page)

You still have a few loops on the hook of the **PREVIOUS** round!

In the first stitch (stitch marker):

1. Corner [TKS, YO, TKS (creating 3 loops)]
2. 3 TKS in the next 3 stitches, move your first stitch marker (different color) from the first stitch to the YO of the first corner
3. Corner, place a stitch marker in the YO
4. Turn work and make Return Pass. The corners have 3 return stitches, make sure that the longest loop (this is the YO and on the back) is in the middle. Work the remaining stitches until you have at least 3 till 5 loops on the hook.
5. Repeat steps 3 and 4 until you reach the first stitch (that is the stitch with the different color stitch marker). The last stitch of this round is the first stitch of the first corner!



The stitch markers indicate the placement of the corners.

### Reading a Tunisian in the round Chart

From here you can use a pattern. I made a very simple one for this tutorial as you can see in the next chart.

- You only look at the squares with a symbol, those are the stitches you need to make.
- Empty squares are NO STITCHES
- For every round you need to make the chart **4 times**.
- The last corner stitch is the first corner stitch of the next side.
- The last stitch of a round is the first stitch of the first corner of that round.
- I always use colors in my charts because this will simplify the way you read a chart. The blank squares have no meaning.

	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	
6	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	6
		∇	○	○	↓	↓	↓	↓	○	○	∇			
5	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	5
			∇	○	○	↓	↓	↓	○	○	∇			
4	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	4
				∇	○	○	↓	↓	○	○	∇			
3	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	3
					∇	○	○	↓	○	○	∇			
	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	

### Round 4 – side 1

So let me help you with reading and working up the chart.

Make the corner in the first YO (stitch marker), 2 TKS in the next 2 stitches, 1 TRS, 2 TKS

Turn your work and make the Return Pass.

#### TIP

Make also the next corner and the 2 TKS of the next side. Then you will have 5 loops left on the hook before you start the Return Pass.





### Round 4 – side 2+3+4

Make the Forward Pass from where you left.

#### TIP

Place your stitch marker in the corner around the return stitch (orange in the photo). When you work up a larger square, move your first stitch marker up. That way you can keep track of your rounds.



### Round 5

2 TKS, 3 TRS, 2 TKS, CORNER

The number of TRS will increase by 2 with every round in this chart.

### Round 6

So for Round 6 you need to make 5 TSR.

You can pick up more stitches on your hook before you make the Return Pass. The smartest way to work is from corner to corner. You can pick up 2 sides before you make the Return Pass. I wouldn't pick up more stitches, because it will be more difficult than to pick up the stitches.

You can add more rounds to practice. Try to play with the TRS and TSS to make a pattern. Be careful that you make a TKS right next to the corner, this will hide the switch between rows because you work in spirals.



### Binding off

Work all the stitches of the last round, DO NOT make a new corner. Turn your work and make ALL the Return Pass stitches, 1 loop left on the hook. At top of the corner (stitch marker) ch1. You can insert your hook as a TKS/TSS/TRS. This will give your work different looks.

### Tips

- It is important that you keep on counting because you can skip a stitch very easily.
- Take care of the stitches of the corners that they are lined up in the right way, because you are not happy when you are working on a large square and you need to frog a complete round.