# Fan lace insertion

Size 10 thread · US terms



Finished size
**About 2¾ in (7 cm) wide and 7½ in (19 cm) long as shown**

Skill
**Easy**
Worked in rows, with the stitches named

Yarn
**Lace (0)**

Hook
**1.5 mm (US steel 8)**

Gauge
**38 stitches to 4 in (10 cm)**
In double crochet (UK treble).

## What you need

Yarn: any one color (white in the picture), lace (0) **about 30 yd (27 m), an estimate**

Fiber: cotton

Hook: 1.5 mm (US steel 8), or the size that gives you the gauge. Also: ribbon 3/16 in (5 mm) wide, as long as the insertion and 2 in (5 cm) over, linen or cotton fabric 9 in by 16 in (23 cm by 40.5 cm) for the small towel (with size 20 thread 8 in (20.5 cm) by 16 in, 20.5 cm by 40.5 cm), cut to its width in step 2 of the assembly, a ruler, a fabric marker that washes out, an iron, a sewing needle, sewing thread to match the fabric, white sewing thread, rust-proof pins for blocking, a yarn needle and scissors.

## Sizes

| Size | Finished size, about | Yarn, an estimate |
|---|---|---|
| **Size 20 thread** | 2½ in (6.5 cm) wide, 6½ in (16.5 cm) long | about 25 yd (23 m) |
| **Size 10 thread (this file)** | **2¾ in (7 cm) wide, 7½ in (19 cm) long** | **about 30 yd (27 m)** |

## Gauge

**38 stitches to 4 in (10 cm)** in double crochet.

The first 22 rows (7 fans) measure about 2¾ in (7 cm) wide and 4½ in (11.5 cm) long. If your piece is larger, use a smaller hook; if it is smaller, use a larger hook.


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## Instructions

Size 10 thread. US terms.

**dc** double crochet (UK tr), **ch** chain, **sk** skip.

**ch-2 sp**: the hole under two chains. The hook goes in the hole, never into a chain.

The ch 3 is the first dc: skip the first stitch; the last dc goes in the **top of the 3 chains**.

[ ] 6 times: 6 times in all. ( ) in one place: all of it there. (20 dc, 1 ch-3 sp, 12 ch-1 sps): the row now has that many; a check, not a step.

Also: sp space.

Every stitch, drawn: flossfield.com/crochet/stitches.

### Special stitches

**V-st (V stitch):** (dc, ch 2, dc) in the place named. Anything worked in a V-st goes in its ch-2 sp.

| | |
|---|---|
| ☐ **Start** | Make a slip knot. Ch 29. |
| ☐ **Row 1** | Dc in 4th ch from hook (skipped 3 chs count as dc), ch 3, sk next 4 chs, V-st in next ch, ch 3, sk next 4 chs, dc in next ch, ch 3, sk next 3 chs, dc in next ch, ch 3, sk next 4 chs, V-st in next ch, ch 3, sk next 4 chs, dc in each of next 2 chs (10 dc, 5 ch-3 sps, 2 ch-2 sps) |
| ☐ **Row 2** | Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn, dc in next dc, ch 1, 7 dc in next V-st, ch 1, sk next dc, dc in next dc, ch 3, dc in next dc, ch 1, 7 dc in next V-st, ch 1, sk next dc, dc in each of next 2 dc (20 dc, 1 ch-3 sp, 4 ch-1 sps) |
| ☐ **Row 3** | Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn, dc in next dc, **[**dc in next dc, ch 1**] 6 times**, dc in each of next 2 dc, ch 3, dc in next dc, **[**dc in next dc, ch 1**] 6 times**, dc in each of next 3 dc (20 dc, 1 ch-3 sp, 12 ch-1 sps) |
| ☐ **Row 4** | Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn, dc in next dc, ch 3, sk next 3 dc, V-st in next dc, ch 3, sk next 3 dc, dc in next dc, ch 3, dc in next dc, ch 3, sk next 3 dc, V-st in next dc, ch 3, sk next 3 dc, dc in each of next 2 dc (10 dc, 5 ch-3 sps, 2 ch-2 sps) |
| ☐ **Row 5** | Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn, dc in next dc, ch 1, 7 dc in next V-st, ch 1, sk next dc, dc in next dc, ch 3, dc in next dc, ch 1, 7 dc in next V-st, ch 1, sk next dc, dc in each of next 2 dc (20 dc, 1 ch-3 sp, 4 ch-1 sps) |
| ☐ **Row 6** | Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn, dc in next dc, **[**dc in next dc, ch 1**] 6 times**, dc in each of next 2 dc, ch 3, dc in next dc, **[**dc in next dc, ch 1**] 6 times**, dc in each of next 3 dc (20 dc, 1 ch-3 sp, 12 ch-1 sps) |
| ☐ **Row 7** | Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn, dc in next dc, ch 3, sk next 3 dc, V-st in next dc, ch 3, sk next 3 dc, dc in next dc, ch 3, dc in next dc, ch 3, sk next 3 dc, V-st in next dc, ch 3, sk next 3 dc, dc in each of next 2 dc (10 dc, 5 ch-3 sps, 2 ch-2 sps) |
| ☐ **Row 8** | Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn, dc in next dc, ch 1, 7 dc in next V-st, ch 1, sk next dc, dc in next dc, ch 3, dc in next dc, ch 1, 7 dc in next V-st, ch 1, sk next dc, dc in each of next 2 dc (20 dc, 1 ch-3 sp, 4 ch-1 sps) |
| ☐ **Row 9** | Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn, dc in next dc, **[**dc in next dc, ch 1**] 6 times**, dc in each of next 2 dc, ch 3, dc in next dc, **[**dc in next dc, ch 1**] 6 times**, dc in each of next 3 dc (20 dc, 1 ch-3 sp, 12 ch-1 sps) |


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| ☐ **Row 10** | Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn, dc in next dc, ch 3, sk next 3 dc, V-st in next dc, ch 3,<br>sk next 3 dc, dc in next dc, ch 3, dc in next dc, ch 3, sk next 3 dc, V-st in next dc, ch 3,<br>sk next 3 dc, dc in each of next 2 dc | (10 dc, 5 ch-3 sps, 2 ch-2 sps) |
| ☐ **Row 11** | Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn, dc in next dc, ch 1, 7 dc in next V-st, ch 1, sk next dc,<br>dc in next dc, ch 3, dc in next dc, ch 1, 7 dc in next V-st, ch 1, sk next dc,<br>dc in each of next 2 dc | (20 dc, 1 ch-3 sp, 4 ch-1 sps) |
| ☐ **Row 12** | Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn, dc in next dc, **[**dc in next dc, ch 1**] 6 times**,<br>dc in each of next 2 dc, ch 3, dc in next dc, **[**dc in next dc, ch 1**] 6 times**,<br>dc in each of next 3 dc | (20 dc, 1 ch-3 sp, 12 ch-1 sps) |
| ☐ **Row 13** | Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn, dc in next dc, ch 3, sk next 3 dc, V-st in next dc, ch 3,<br>sk next 3 dc, dc in next dc, ch 3, dc in next dc, ch 3, sk next 3 dc, V-st in next dc, ch 3,<br>sk next 3 dc, dc in each of next 2 dc | (10 dc, 5 ch-3 sps, 2 ch-2 sps) |
| ☐ **Row 14** | Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn, dc in next dc, ch 1, 7 dc in next V-st, ch 1, sk next dc,<br>dc in next dc, ch 3, dc in next dc, ch 1, 7 dc in next V-st, ch 1, sk next dc,<br>dc in each of next 2 dc | (20 dc, 1 ch-3 sp, 4 ch-1 sps) |
| ☐ **Row 15** | Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn, dc in next dc, **[**dc in next dc, ch 1**] 6 times**,<br>dc in each of next 2 dc, ch 3, dc in next dc, **[**dc in next dc, ch 1**] 6 times**,<br>dc in each of next 3 dc | (20 dc, 1 ch-3 sp, 12 ch-1 sps) |
| ☐ **Row 16** | Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn, dc in next dc, ch 3, sk next 3 dc, V-st in next dc, ch 3,<br>sk next 3 dc, dc in next dc, ch 3, dc in next dc, ch 3, sk next 3 dc, V-st in next dc, ch 3,<br>sk next 3 dc, dc in each of next 2 dc | (10 dc, 5 ch-3 sps, 2 ch-2 sps) |
| ☐ **Row 17** | Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn, dc in next dc, ch 1, 7 dc in next V-st, ch 1, sk next dc,<br>dc in next dc, ch 3, dc in next dc, ch 1, 7 dc in next V-st, ch 1, sk next dc,<br>dc in each of next 2 dc | (20 dc, 1 ch-3 sp, 4 ch-1 sps) |
| ☐ **Row 18** | Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn, dc in next dc, **[**dc in next dc, ch 1**] 6 times**,<br>dc in each of next 2 dc, ch 3, dc in next dc, **[**dc in next dc, ch 1**] 6 times**,<br>dc in each of next 3 dc | (20 dc, 1 ch-3 sp, 12 ch-1 sps) |
| ☐ **Row 19** | Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn, dc in next dc, ch 3, sk next 3 dc, V-st in next dc, ch 3,<br>sk next 3 dc, dc in next dc, ch 3, dc in next dc, ch 3, sk next 3 dc, V-st in next dc, ch 3,<br>sk next 3 dc, dc in each of next 2 dc | (10 dc, 5 ch-3 sps, 2 ch-2 sps) |
| ☐ **Row 20** | Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn, dc in next dc, ch 1, 7 dc in next V-st, ch 1, sk next dc,<br>dc in next dc, ch 3, dc in next dc, ch 1, 7 dc in next V-st, ch 1, sk next dc,<br>dc in each of next 2 dc | (20 dc, 1 ch-3 sp, 4 ch-1 sps) |
| ☐ **Row 21** | Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn, dc in next dc, **[**dc in next dc, ch 1**] 6 times**,<br>dc in each of next 2 dc, ch 3, dc in next dc, **[**dc in next dc, ch 1**] 6 times**,<br>dc in each of next 3 dc | (20 dc, 1 ch-3 sp, 12 ch-1 sps) |
| ☐ **Row 22** | Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn, dc in next dc, ch 3, sk next 3 dc, V-st in next dc, ch 3,<br>sk next 3 dc, dc in next dc, ch 3, dc in next dc, ch 3, sk next 3 dc, V-st in next dc, ch 3,<br>sk next 3 dc, dc in each of next 2 dc | (10 dc, 5 ch-3 sps, 2 ch-2 sps) |


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| ☐ **Row 23** | Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn, dc in next dc, ch 1, 7 dc in next V-st, ch 1, sk next dc,<br>dc in next dc, ch 3, dc in next dc, ch 1, 7 dc in next V-st, ch 1, sk next dc,<br>dc in each of next 2 dc | (20 dc, 1 ch-3 sp, 4 ch-1 sps) |
| ☐ **Row 24** | Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn, dc in next dc, **[**dc in next dc, ch 1**] 6 times**,<br>dc in each of next 2 dc, ch 3, dc in next dc, **[**dc in next dc, ch 1**] 6 times**,<br>dc in each of next 3 dc | (20 dc, 1 ch-3 sp, 12 ch-1 sps) |
| ☐ **Row 25** | Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn, dc in next dc, ch 3, sk next 3 dc, V-st in next dc, ch 3,<br>sk next 3 dc, dc in next dc, ch 3, dc in next dc, ch 3, sk next 3 dc, V-st in next dc, ch 3,<br>sk next 3 dc, dc in each of next 2 dc | (10 dc, 5 ch-3 sps, 2 ch-2 sps) |
| ☐ **Row 26** | Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn, dc in next dc, ch 1, 7 dc in next V-st, ch 1, sk next dc,<br>dc in next dc, ch 3, dc in next dc, ch 1, 7 dc in next V-st, ch 1, sk next dc,<br>dc in each of next 2 dc | (20 dc, 1 ch-3 sp, 4 ch-1 sps) |
| ☐ **Row 27** | Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn, dc in next dc, **[**dc in next dc, ch 1**] 6 times**,<br>dc in each of next 2 dc, ch 3, dc in next dc, **[**dc in next dc, ch 1**] 6 times**,<br>dc in each of next 3 dc | (20 dc, 1 ch-3 sp, 12 ch-1 sps) |
| ☐ **Row 28** | Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn, dc in next dc, ch 3, sk next 3 dc, V-st in next dc, ch 3,<br>sk next 3 dc, dc in next dc, ch 3, dc in next dc, ch 3, sk next 3 dc, V-st in next dc, ch 3,<br>sk next 3 dc, dc in each of next 2 dc | (10 dc, 5 ch-3 sps, 2 ch-2 sps) |
| ☐ **Row 29** | Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn, dc in next dc, ch 1, 7 dc in next V-st, ch 1, sk next dc,<br>dc in next dc, ch 3, dc in next dc, ch 1, 7 dc in next V-st, ch 1, sk next dc,<br>dc in each of next 2 dc | (20 dc, 1 ch-3 sp, 4 ch-1 sps) |
| ☐ **Row 30** | Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn, dc in next dc, **[**dc in next dc, ch 1**] 6 times**,<br>dc in each of next 2 dc, ch 3, dc in next dc, **[**dc in next dc, ch 1**] 6 times**,<br>dc in each of next 3 dc | (20 dc, 1 ch-3 sp, 12 ch-1 sps) |
| ☐ **Row 31** | Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn, dc in next dc, ch 3, sk next 3 dc, V-st in next dc, ch 3,<br>sk next 3 dc, dc in next dc, ch 3, dc in next dc, ch 3, sk next 3 dc, V-st in next dc, ch 3,<br>sk next 3 dc, dc in each of next 2 dc | (10 dc, 5 ch-3 sps, 2 ch-2 sps) |
| ☐ **Row 32** | Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn, dc in next dc, ch 1, 7 dc in next V-st, ch 1, sk next dc,<br>dc in next dc, ch 3, dc in next dc, ch 1, 7 dc in next V-st, ch 1, sk next dc,<br>dc in each of next 2 dc | (20 dc, 1 ch-3 sp, 4 ch-1 sps) |
| ☐ **Row 33** | Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn, dc in next dc, **[**dc in next dc, ch 1**] 6 times**,<br>dc in each of next 2 dc, ch 3, dc in next dc, **[**dc in next dc, ch 1**] 6 times**,<br>dc in each of next 3 dc | (20 dc, 1 ch-3 sp, 12 ch-1 sps) |
| ☐ **Row 34** | Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn, dc in next dc, ch 3, sk next 3 dc, V-st in next dc, ch 3,<br>sk next 3 dc, dc in next dc, ch 3, dc in next dc, ch 3, sk next 3 dc, V-st in next dc, ch 3,<br>sk next 3 dc, dc in each of next 2 dc | (10 dc, 5 ch-3 sps, 2 ch-2 sps) |
| ☐ **Row 35** | Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn, dc in next dc, ch 1, 7 dc in next V-st, ch 1, sk next dc,<br>dc in next dc, ch 3, dc in next dc, ch 1, 7 dc in next V-st, ch 1, sk next dc,<br>dc in each of next 2 dc | (20 dc, 1 ch-3 sp, 4 ch-1 sps) |


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| ☐ **Row 36** | Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn, dc in next dc, **[**dc in next dc, ch 1**] 6 times**,<br>dc in each of next 2 dc, ch 3, dc in next dc, **[**dc in next dc, ch 1**] 6 times**,<br>dc in each of next 3 dc | (20 dc, 1 ch-3 sp, 12 ch-1 sps) |
| ☐ **Row 37** | Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn, dc in next dc, ch 4, sk next 3 dc, dc in next dc, ch 4,<br>sk next 3 dc, dc in next dc, ch 3, dc in next dc, ch 4, sk next 3 dc, dc in next dc, ch 4,<br>sk next 3 dc, dc in each of next 2 dc | (8 dc, 4 ch-4 sps, 1 ch-3 sp) |
| ☐ | Fasten off. | |

### Assembly

**1.** Weave in all ends with the yarn needle. To block the insertion: wet it, lay it right side up on a thick bath towel, pin it out to its size with both long edges straight and every fan drawn evenly, and let it dry.

**2.** Fabric for the small towel: measure the length of your blocked insertion. Cut the fabric 1 in (2.5 cm) wider than that length, which leaves ½ in (12 mm) at each side for a hem, and 16 in (40.5 cm) long. An insertion of 7½ in (19 cm) takes fabric 8½ in (21.5 cm) wide (size 20 thread: 6½ in, 16.5 cm, takes 7½ in, 19 cm); always go by your own measure. The two long edges of the fabric are its sides; of the short edges one is the top and one the bottom. On the right side draw a straight line from side to side, 4¼ in (11 cm) above the bottom edge, and draw the same line on the wrong side.

**3.** Lay the insertion right side up on the right side of the fabric, across it, with the middle of the ladder on the line and ½ in (12 mm) of fabric beyond each short end of the insertion. Pin it. With white sewing thread sew its two long edges down to the fabric with small overcast stitches, 2 in the end of each row. Do not sew the short ends.

**4.** Turn the towel over. The line on the wrong side now runs midway between the two lines of sewing: cut the fabric along it, from side to side, without cutting the lace. Fold each of the two cut edges back to its line of sewing, away from the lace, and press it. Trim what is folded back to ½ in (12 mm), turn ¼ in (6 mm) of its raw edge under and hem it to the wrong side of the fabric with thread to match. The fabric no longer lies behind the lace.

**5.** Sides: along each side of the fabric, above the insertion and below it, fold ¼ in (6 mm) to the wrong side twice and hem it, so that the folded side lies level with the short end of the insertion. The short ends are finished edges and need no hem.

**6.** Top and bottom: at each of these two edges fold ¼ in (6 mm) and then 1 in (2.5 cm) to the wrong side, and sew the inner fold down with a row of small running stitches.

**7.** Ribbon: the bars of the ladder are the ch 3 of each row, one bar to a row. The ribbon passes behind the bar of row 1, comes up to the right side between the bars of rows 1 and 2, goes over the bar of row 2, under the bar of row 3, over the bar of row 4, and so on: over every row of an even number and under every row of an odd one. It goes over row 36, down between the bars of rows 36 and 37, and passes behind the bar of row 37. (With an odd number of fans the last row has an even number: there the ribbon passes behind both of the last two bars.) Let 1 in (2.5 cm) of ribbon stand out beyond the first bar and beyond the last. On the wrong side fold each of these ends back toward the middle of the insertion, with the fold behind that first or last bar, so that no ribbon shows at the short ends. Turn ¼ in (6 mm) of the cut edge under and, with white thread and a few small stitches, sew the end flat to the ribbon it lies on and to the backs of the bars.

## Finishing

- Press the hems from the wrong side. Fold the towel in half with the lace on the front.

In all: 37 rows; 608 stitches.

To find how many balls: divide by the length on your yarn's label and round up. Buy them from one dye lot. The estimate is from the stitches of this size at this gauge.


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## Notes

- 3 rows make one fan: rows 2, 3 and 4. Row 2 sets 7 dc in the V-st, row 3 spreads them with a ch 1 between one dc and the next, and row 4 sets the new V-st in the 4th, the middle, dc of the 7. The last dc of every row goes in the top of the beginning ch 3 of the row below (in row 2, in the top of the 3 skipped chs).
- When the next dc or the next V-st is named, pass over every chain and every ch sp before it; a dc that is not to be worked in is named as skipped, except the first dc of a V-st, which is passed over on the way to its ch-2 sp.
- In row 2 and the rows like it, the dc that is skipped is the second dc of the V-st, and the ch-3 sps are passed over. Across the ladder, the line of ch-3 sps in the middle, every row has one dc, ch 3, one dc.
- Row 3 begins and ends with 2 dc at the edge, and one dc on each side of the ladder; the 7 dc between them stand on the 7 dc of the fan.
- For another length choose the number of fans. Work row 1, then rows 2 to 4 once for every fan but the last, then rows 35, 36 and 37 for the last fan. Row 37, the last row, lays a straight edge over the fans. It is always worked on a row 36, in the place of a row 4; never work it on a row 4. Count: 3 rows to each fan and row 1, so 7 fans are 22 rows and 12 fans are 37 rows.
- Lengths, the whole piece from the foundation chain to the last row. Size 10 thread: 7 fans are about 4½ in (11.5 cm) and 12 fans about 7½ in (19 cm); 5 fans more or less (15 rows) make about 3 in (7.5 cm) of difference. Size 20 thread: 7 fans are about 3 7/8 in (10 cm) and 12 fans about 6½ in (16.5 cm); 5 fans more or less make about 2 5/8 in (6.5 cm) of difference.
- Both long edges are straight and firm. The two short ends are the foundation chain and the last row.

Found a mistake in this pattern? Tell us at flossfield.com, under Make a request.


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