



Tip of the Month - May 2019
Bulky & Chunky Yarn Alternatives



I have noticed that there are an increasing number of patterns using bulky yarn, particularly for winter hats and scarves – yet bulky yarn is not always readily available – and where it is, there is a limited colour palette, and limited types of fibre. So how can you create bulky yarn of your own colour and your choice of fibre? Here are some methods I have come across.



1. Use a knitting mill with 4ply or 8ply yarn to 'knit' a flexible cord, or crochet an icord. [do you remember the days when we made the French knitting spool with a cotton reel and nails—it's the same thing]. It is also a great method for mixing colours.



2. Use multiple strands of yarn together – 2 or 3 strands of 8 ply or 3 or 4 strands of 4ply. See our tip 'Doubling up your yarn' for tips with crocheting with multiple strands. This is also great for mixing colours.



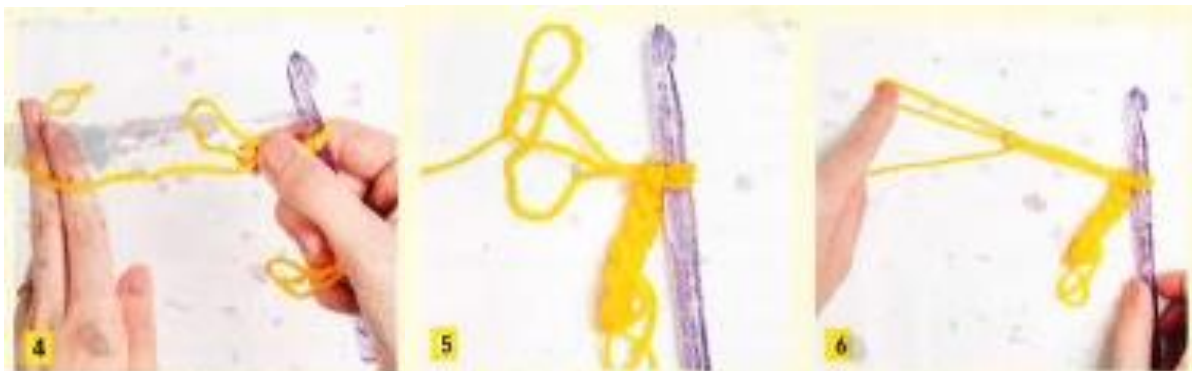
3. Chain ply with the one ball of yarn—8 ply – particularly where you are using one colour. See how to do this below. I was shown this recently and can't wait to use it myself.



1. Fold the yarn back down on itself (about 50cm) so you are holding two strands.

2. Fold it again so you have three strands and a loop at each end

3. Holding the three strands together, crochet as normal



4. Once you run out of the three strands there will be a loop at the end....

5. Pull the yarn through the loop and back on itself for approx 50cm again

6. You now have three strands to continue crocheting