



Tip of the Month— Foundation Chain Row Issues



Have you ever completed a project or a large section of a project only to find that you made a mistake in the very beginning? Or found an old project to find that the beginning rows are torn and need of repair?

I came across a tip by Lillja Bjorn for restoring foundation chain rows using surface stitch, which can be used with double crochet, treble, double treble, although would not work with more lacy stitches.

Click through on this [link](#) to see her full pictorial tutorial.

Another common issue with the foundation chain that I have heard of, is when completing the first row you discover you've miscounted and it is either too long or too short. Rather than pull it all undone and do it again (particularly if it is a long chain), why not try one of these tricks.

1. Not enough chain—Extend the first row using foundation double crochet or foundation treble crochet. This technique will also work on any row where you wish to extend it without having to make a separate chain row. Begin the foundation stitch by inserting your hook through the base of the last stitch made then create the foundation stitch needed. For the foundation double crochet, after pulling up the loop through the last stitch, yarn over and pull through one loop (creating the chain), yarn over and pull through two loops. To begin the next stitch, put your hook back through the 'chain' made in the previous stitch and repeat the above step. If you wish to see a video tutorial of this technique, click [here](#)



2. Not enough chain—Use a separate piece of yarn to chain the additional stitches you need (this can be from the other end of the ball you are using or from another ball for the same project). Take your hook out of the last stitch you did and leave it to come back to. Turn your work upside down so that the foundation chain is on top, and insert your hook through the first chain (or last stitch of the row). Yarn over with the new piece of yarn and make the number of chains you need and finish off. Then go back to your last stitch and continue the stitches needed for your row.
3. Not enough chain — If your beginning tail was long enough. Take your hook out of the last stitch you did and leave it to come back to. Undo the slip knot until it forms a loop that you can use to make more chain and then finish off. Then go back to your last stitch and continue the stitches needed for your row.
4. Too many chain— Undo the slip knot at the beginning of the chain and gently unravel the extra stitches. When you are at the chain that your last stitch is worked into, pull the yarn back through to create a new slip knot.