



A free craft tutorial from The Rescue Mama



Kringles

Hand Crocheted Dog Leash

These hand crocheted leashes are fun, creative way to show off your dogs style! They also make a great gift for your dog loving friends.

Supplies:

Snap hooks

Yarn

Crochet Hook (any size will do)

Clear thread & a needle

Instructions:

You will need to start with snap hooks. I use 2 inch hooks for medium and large dogs and 1 inch hooks for small dogs. Snap hooks can cost \$1.00-\$3.00/each – buy the best quality you can find, we don't want these breaking while walking a dog. I get most of my hooks at Fleet Farm – they have the largest variety of sizes and the best price for sturdy hooks.



Start the leash by casting 4 single crochets on to the loop of the snap hook. Leave plenty of tail. You can use any size crochet hook for a leash. I tend to use a G hook when I am making leashes for petite dogs and as large as an I hook for larger dogs.

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Once you have your four stitches casted on to the leash, chain 1 and turn.

Now single crochet three stitches (chain 1 and turn each time) until the leash is the length you desire. I make all my leashes 47 inches long. (they will be 42 inches once you make the hand loop).

Once your leash is the length you want you will need to make the loop for your hand at the end opposite the snap hook. I typically fold over 5 inches of leash to make the loop.

I secure the hand loop with clear thread – its sturdy, invisible and won't disintegrate if the leash get's wet. I would recommend securing this really well (that is why I use clear thread). You want enough stitches for the loop to be secure when actually walking a dog.



I like to embellish the hand loop with a flower. This is a really simple flower to make.

- 1) Chain six and slip stitch into a loop.
- 2) 15 single crochets in your loop and slip stitch closed.
- 3) Single crochet in the next row, chain 3, skip the next two single crochets, repeat four times, slip stitch the row closed.

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You will have five loops created when you finish step three.

4) In your first chain loop; 1 single crochet, 1 half double crochet, 3 double crochets, 1 half double crochet, 1 single crochet.

Repeat four times (in each loop). This will leave you with five petals.

5) Single crochet in the first loop of the petal, chain six. Repeat four more times.

6) In the first chain loop, 1 single crochet, 1 half double crochet, 5 double crochets, 1 half double crochet, 1 single crochet.

Repeat four times. Slip stitch the row shut. You will have five petals when you are done.

You could keep going with the flower pattern and make it as big as you want. I find two rows of petals is plenty big for my taste.

I tightly secure a button in the middle of the flower and the flower itself to the loop handle with clear thread.

You can use any type of yarn for a leash. I typically use Red Heart for leashes I am making for bigger dogs and softer baby yarn for leashes for more petite dogs. Be sure to weave in all your ends when you are done. I don't just tie off my ends for leashes I weave them in tight and make the leash as secure as possible.

The last page is some pictures of other leashes I have made and instructions for adding a ruffle.

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I like to add ruffles to the sides of these leashes, especially for the girl dogs. Its super easy to do. When you finish the leash (before you make the loop handle) you will add the ruffle to each side. Start at the end (not the snap hook) and loop a crochet through the last stitch on the side, chain three, single crochet in the next side stitch and repeat all the way down the leash. Repeat this process on the other side of the leash, again starting at the end (not the snap hook). You can make the ruffle bigger by chaining more than three for each loop.

Have fun!

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