

Round Crochet Card Holder

Three pockets • Rigid cardboard insert • Fold-out rear support



A comfortable way to display your cards. Make a dusty-rose crochet holder with three open-top pockets, two crocheted circles and a close-fitting cardboard core. A separate folding easel supports the holder on a table.

Finished size: approximately 24 cm (9½ in) across, before any extra edging; about 1 cm (¾ in) thick. Suitable for standard playing cards measuring approximately 6.3 × 8.8 cm (2½ × 3½ in).

Skill level: confident beginner. Instructions use **U.S. crochet terms**. Read all assembly steps before cutting the cardboard.

This is an original, untested construction adapted from the reference appearance. Dimensions are targets; check your actual pieces as you work. New 3D illustrations explain assembly and are not stitch-count charts.

Before you begin

Materials, gauge and the construction plan

Gather: approximately 150-200 g (300-400 m / 328-437 yd) of firm worsted-weight cotton yarn, a 4 mm (US G/6) hook or size needed for gauge, tapestry needle, stitch markers, ruler, scissors and standard playing cards. Yarn amounts are estimates; keep extra yarn for seams.

For the rigid core and stand: clean corrugated cardboard about 3 mm (■ in) thick, a compass or round template, craft knife with cutting mat, strong fabric tape and a blunt awl. Cut cardboard on a protected surface. A little nonslip felt under the feet is optional.

Gauge target: about 18 sc and 19 rows per 10 cm (4 in), after relaxing the fabric. Make a 24-sc swatch for 24 rows and measure the center. Use a smaller hook if the fabric is loose; the pockets need enough friction to hold cards.

Part	Quantity / target size
Crochet circles	2; each approximately 24 cm (9½ in)
Lower pocket	1; 16.7 × 3.2 cm (6■ × 1¼ in)
Middle and upper pockets	2; 22.2 × 3.2 cm (8¾ × 1¼ in) each
Cardboard disc	1; start at 23 cm (9 in) diameter
Cardboard easel	1; 10 × 18 cm (4 × 7■ in)

Abbreviations: ch = chain; sc = single crochet; sl st = slip stitch; st(s) = stitch(es); inc = 2 sc into the same stitch; rnd = round. A turning ch does not count as a stitch. Brackets followed by × 6 mean repeat that group six times.

Build in this order: crochet both circles; make and sew on the pockets; attach the rear stand; fit the disc; join the circles; load cards and test stability. Cardboard keeps the face rigid; the rear easel is what lets it stand independently.

1. Crochet two flat circles

Continuous rounds • Six increases per round



Start: make a magic ring. Rnd 1: work 6 sc into the ring; pull closed (6 sts). Mark the first stitch and move the marker after every round. Do not join rounds or turn.

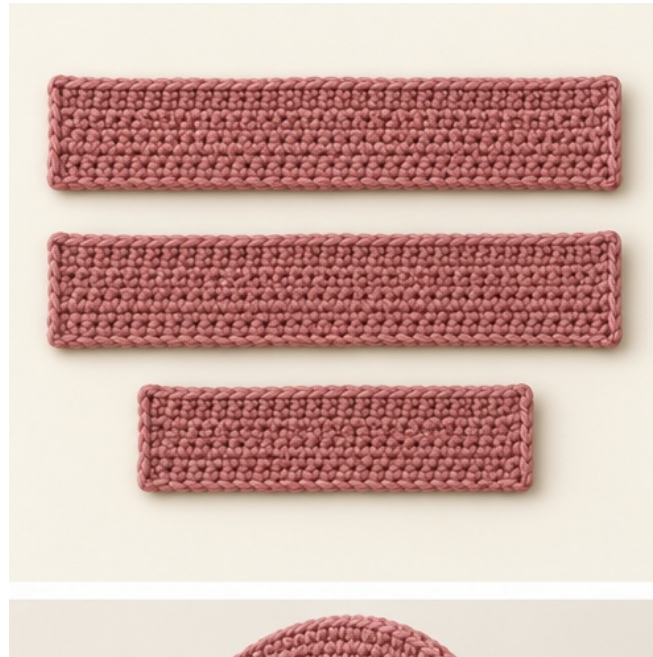
Rnd	Repeat six times	Sts	Rnd	Repeat six times	Sts
2	inc in every st	12	13	[11 sc, inc] × 6	78
3	[1 sc, inc] × 6	18	14	[12 sc, inc] × 6	84
4	[2 sc, inc] × 6	24	15	[13 sc, inc] × 6	90
5	[3 sc, inc] × 6	30	16	[14 sc, inc] × 6	96
6	[4 sc, inc] × 6	36	17	[15 sc, inc] × 6	102
7	[5 sc, inc] × 6	42	18	[16 sc, inc] × 6	108
8	[6 sc, inc] × 6	48	19	[17 sc, inc] × 6	114
9	[7 sc, inc] × 6	54	20	[18 sc, inc] × 6	120
10	[8 sc, inc] × 6	60	21	[19 sc, inc] × 6	126
11	[9 sc, inc] × 6	66	22	[20 sc, inc] × 6	132
12	[10 sc, inc] × 6	72	23	[21 sc, inc] × 6	138

Check the shape frequently: smooth the circle flat without stretching. At Rnd 23 the target is about 24 cm. A little hexagonal shaping can be relaxed by damp blocking. Finish with a sl st into the next stitch, cut yarn and weave in the tail. Make the second circle to match.

If the circles cup or ripple strongly, adjust hook size/tension and remake before assembly. Do not force a distorted circle around cardboard. If changing the diameter, resize every pocket and the insert to the actual circle.

2. Make the pocket strips

Three separate bands create three usable card slots



Lower pocket - make one: ch 31. Row 1: sc in the second ch from hook and in each remaining ch (30 sc). Rows 2-6: ch 1, turn, sc in each st across (30 sc each row). Finish, leaving a 75 cm (30 in) tail for sewing.

Middle and upper pockets - make two: ch 41. Row 1: sc in the second ch from hook and in each remaining ch (40 sc). Rows 2-6: ch 1, turn, sc in each st across (40 sc each row). Finish each with a 100 cm (39 in) sewing tail.

Check the fabric: each band should be about 3.2 cm (1¼ in) tall. The lower band is approximately 16.7 cm wide; the other two are about 22.2 cm wide. Keep the top edge supple so a card can slide behind it without bending.

Adjust before sewing: if your band is too long for the circle at its planned position, remake with fewer chains, reducing the stitch count by the same amount. The band must fit inside the circle without stretching or puckering.

Do not sew the upper edge closed. A decorative ridge alone will not make a pocket. Each separate strip needs a bottom seam and two side seams, forming a shallow pouch between the band and the front circle.

3. Sew the three pockets

Work on the front circle only, before adding the cardboard



Mark the centerline: lay one circle right side up and choose its bottom edge. Measure upward from the bottom along the vertical centerline. Center the lower band with its bottom edge at **3.5 cm (1 in)**; center the middle band at **8 cm (3 in)**; center the upper band at **12.5 cm (4 in)**.

Pin and check: keep all three bottom edges horizontal and centered. Their open top edges will be roughly 6.7, 11.2 and 15.7 cm above the bottom. Each end should lie within the circle. Slightly adjust positions if needed for your actual gauge.

Sew a U-shaped seam: start at the top of one short side, stitch down that side, across the full bottom edge and up the other side. Catch both layers securely with small whipstitches, spaced approximately one stitch apart. Leave the entire top edge open.

Reinforce the corners: take three extra stitches at each upper corner without tightening the pocket mouth. Hide yarn tails on the wrong side. Repeat for all three bands.

Test now: slide two or three cards behind each strip, pushing them down to the bottom seam. Cards should stay upright with their upper portions visible. If a pocket gapes, shorten its usable width with a few extra side stitches; if tight, loosen the seam.

4. Fit the cardboard core

A close fit gives firmness without stretching the crochet



Block first: dampen and flatten both circles to matching dimensions, then let them dry completely. Measure the smaller circle across its center in two directions. Cut the cardboard about **1 cm (■ in)** smaller in diameter than that measurement.

For 24 cm circles: start with a **23 cm (9 in) cardboard disc**. This leaves about 5 mm clearance all around for the seam. Trace carefully, cut smoothly and cover the exposed corrugated edge with narrow fabric tape.

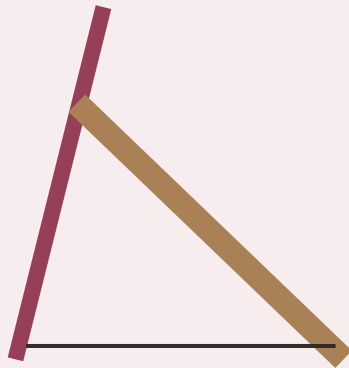
Dry-fit the layers: place the back circle wrong side up, add the centered cardboard, then put the pocketed front circle on top with pockets facing out. Check that crochet edges meet all around without pulling. Trim the disc gradually if the join is strained.

For better tabletop contact: you may trim a very shallow 5 mm (3/16 in) segment from the bottom of the disc, creating a short straight foot. Keep that flat section aligned with the holder bottom; the crochet outline remains nearly round.

Do not close the outer seam yet. Attach the folding support to the back circle as explained on the next page. The insert sits inside the two circles; it does not replace the rear support.

5. Add the folding easel

A rear leg and limiting cord keep the holder standing



SIDE VIEW - NOT TO SCALE

Hinge: about 14 cm above bottom

Leg: 16 cm below the fold

Foot: about 12 cm behind the front

Cord: limits how far the leg opens

Cut and fold: cut a cardboard rectangle **10 × 18 cm (4 × 7 in)**, with corrugations running along its long direction. Mark a line 2 cm ($\frac{3}{4}$ in) from one short edge. Lightly score that line without cutting through; fold to make a 2 cm flap and a 16 cm leg. Tape the fold on both sides.

Fasten the hinge flap: lay the back circle outside face up. Center the flap left to right, with the fold line about **14 cm (5½ in) above the bottom** and the flap extending upward. Punch four small holes across the flap, clear of its edges. Sew through the holes and crochet, using several passes of doubled yarn at each hole. Knot on the inside.

Add a limiting cord: make a firm chain cord about 18 cm (7 in) long, leaving long tails. Attach one end near the bottom center of the back circle and the other through a reinforced hole near the bottom of the leg. Adjust its working length to approximately **12 cm (4¾ in)**; secure after testing.

Set the angle: open the leg on a level table and tilt the holder slightly backward. Adjust cord length and hinge position so both feet touch the table and the stand carries the cards without tipping. The measurements are starting points, not a fixed mechanical angle.

For a tidy finish, cover the visible leg with matching fabric or decorative paper, keeping the hinge free. Add nonslip felt under the front and rear contact points if the table is slippery.

6. Close, test and care

Finish the edge only after every component fits



Join the edge: stack the back circle, cardboard core and pocketed front circle. Wrong sides face the cardboard. Align the bottoms and mark four evenly spaced points. With matching yarn, whipstitch corresponding outer stitches of both circles together. Sew through crochet only; do not pierce the core.

Keep the edge even: stitch around most of the perimeter, then check that the cardboard is centered and the stand opens freely. Complete the seam without cinching it. Secure and bury the yarn tails. If your cardboard needs replacing later, carefully unpick this seam and re sew it.

Load gradually: begin with two cards per pocket. Fan them lightly so their corners and values remain visible. Add cards only while the holder stays stable. This is a tabletop card display, not a storage box for an entire deck.

Final checks: all three top edges are open; side and bottom seams are secure; cardboard cannot be seen at the outer edge; both support points touch the table; the cord prevents the rear leg from sliding away. Test by removing a card gently with one hand while steadying the holder with the other.

Troubleshooting: floppy face - use firmer cardboard or laminate two thin layers with flutes crossing; tight outer seam - trim the insert; sagging pockets - tighten side seams or use firmer yarn; tipping - reduce the load, adjust the cord and add nonslip feet.

Care: keep cardboard dry. Spot-clean the crochet with a barely damp cloth. For deeper cleaning, remove the disc and cardboard leg before washing the yarn components according to the yarn label; reshape and dry completely before reassembly.

About the final page: the supplied diagram is reproduced alone, apart from the requested footer. It is a visual reference, not a verified stitch-by-stitch chart for this adaptation. Follow the written counts and pocket assembly above. Print the PDF on A4 paper; the final diagram is not a full-size cutting template.

