

Fan / Shell Lace Strip — Step■by■Step Tutorial (English)

Clear, beginner-friendly written instructions to crochet the fan (lemon / shell) lace strip shown in the chart. This file explains the pattern from scratch and shows how to repeat it to make a long strip or edging.

Materials

- Yarn: Light/DK or cotton (small amount).
- Hook: 3.0–3.5 mm (adjust to yarn).
- Scissors and yarn needle for weaving ends.
- Optional: stitch marker to mark beginning of repeats.

Abbreviations (US terms)

ch = chain · sl st = slip stitch · sc = single crochet · dc = double crochet (US) · tr = treble crochet (US) · st(s) = stitch(es) · sp = space · RS = right side · WS = wrong side.

Notes

- The motif repeat is **12 stitches** wide. Foundation chains must be a multiple of 12, plus 1 extra chain for the turning edge: **Foundation chain = (12 × number_of_repeats) + 1**.
- Example (4 repeats): $12 \times 4 + 1 = 49$ chains (use this sample to practice).
- Work is shown in rows, turning at the end of each row. Odd rows (3,5,7...) form fans and shells; even rows (2,4,6...) are tidy return rows to anchor and stabilize the fabric.
- Use the chart as visual reference; the written instructions below match the chart structure: big fans (9 dc) alternating with smaller shells and single dc columns.

Foundation & Row-by-row (sample width = 4 repeats → ch 49)

Step 0 — Foundation: Make a foundation chain of **49 chains** for the sample (or any **12n + 1** chains for other widths).

Row 1 — Base row (RS): Work along the foundation chain to place the V-spaces that will hold the large fans later. Procedure: place an anchor sc at the first chain to stabilize, then *skip 3 ch, (dc, ch2, dc) into the next ch (this is a V-stitch), skip 3 ch, sc in next ch*. Repeat from * to * across the row until you reach the last chains; finish with a sc to anchor the last section. Turn.

Row 2 — Return row (WS): Ch 3 (counts as first dc), turn. Work dc across the row, placing 1 dc into each sc and into each ch-space from Row 1. This creates a tidy row that supports the big fans. Turn.

Row 3 — Large fans (RS): Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn. In each ch■2 space of the V■stitch from Row 1, work a **big fan: 9 dc all into the same ch■2 space**. After each fan, ch 3 (this chain gap matches the chart spacing) and move to the next ch■2 space for the next fan. Repeat across the row. Turn.

Row 4 — Tidy row (WS): Ch 1, turn. Work sc across the row, placing single crochets into the tops of the fans (spread evenly across their dc) and into the ch■3 gaps to stabilize and create anchor points for the next row. Turn.

Row 5 — Small shells / arches (RS): Ch 3, turn. Over the center of each big fan (the central dc cluster), work a **small shell of 7 dc** into the middle/top area of the fan (or into the central stitch/space that aligns with the fan below). Between each small shell, ch 3 to keep spacing. These smaller shells create the semi■circular arches visible in the motif. Turn.

Row 6 — Return row (WS): Ch 1, turn. Work sc across the row, placing sc into shell tops and ch■3 spaces to stabilize the work. Turn.

Row 7 — Repeat large fans (RS): Ch 3, turn. Repeat Row 3: work a big fan of 9 dc into the ch■3 centered space created by the small shells two rows below (the chart shows the fans alternating vertically). After each fan, ch 3 and continue across. Turn.

Row 8 — Tidy row (WS): Ch 1, turn. Work sc across (as Row 4) to anchor the fans. Turn.

Row 9 — Small shells again (RS): Ch 3, turn. Repeat Row 5: work small shells of 7 dc centered over each big fan; between shells ch 3. Turn.

Row 10 — Return row (WS): Ch 1, turn. Work sc across the row, anchoring into shell tops and ch■3 spaces. Turn.

Row 11 — Optional variation (RS): Ch 3, turn. Repeat Row 3 for another line of big fans if you want the taller stacked look from the chart. Turn.

Repeat & length

After completing Row 11 (or Row 10 if you prefer the shorter repeat), repeat Rows **4–11** (or **2–9** depending on how you began) to continue the strip to the length you want. The pattern builds in vertical stacks of fans and shells — repeating these rows creates the open lace column seen in the photo.

Edge finishing

- To give the strip a neat edge, add a final border: work 1 row of sc along both sides (working stitches evenly into the row ends), then add a decorative picot or small shell border: *(sc, ch 3, sl st into same st)* repeated along the edge for a scalloped effect.

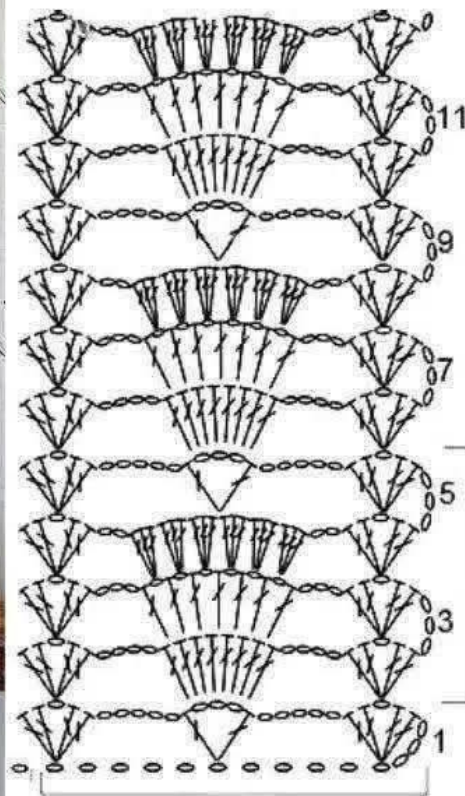
Tips for beginners

- Use stitch markers to mark the first V-space of each 12-st repeat to avoid losing your place.
- Work the big fan first on scrap yarn to get comfortable making 7–9 dc into a single space.
- Keep consistent tension: if fans look too tight, try a slightly larger hook; if they're too loose, use a slightly smaller hook.
- Block the finished strip by lightly wetting and pinning the lace to shape — blocking opens the fans and evens the edges.
- If anything looks off, count stitches at the end of each row: each repeat should align vertically (fans line up over the V■spaces from two rows below).

Finishing

- Fasten off neatly and weave in ends with a yarn needle.
- You can join multiple strips side by side to create wider panels (sew or crochet them together along the edges).
- Use this lace as an edging, scarf, table runner, or decorative trim — customize yarn and hook to change scale.

Chart / Photo (for visual reference)



Part 1

Quick printed pattern (sample = 4 repeats → ch 49)

Foundation: ch 49.

Row 1 (RS): Anchor with sc, then *skip 3 ch, (dc, ch2, dc) in next ch, skip 3 ch, sc in next ch* — repeat to end. Turn.

Row 2 (WS): ch 3, dc across. Turn.

Row 3 (RS): ch 3, 9 dc into each ch-2 space of Row 1 (big fan). Between fans ch 3. Turn.

Row 4 (WS): ch 1, sc across, anchoring into fan tops and ch-3 spaces. Turn.

Row 5 (RS): ch 3, 7 dc small shell centered over each big fan; between shells ch 3. Turn.

Row 6 (WS): ch 1, sc across. Turn.

Repeat Rows 3–6 (or Rows 4–11 as described) for desired length. Finish and weave ends.