

## Mail-Safe Crochet Wrist Rosary

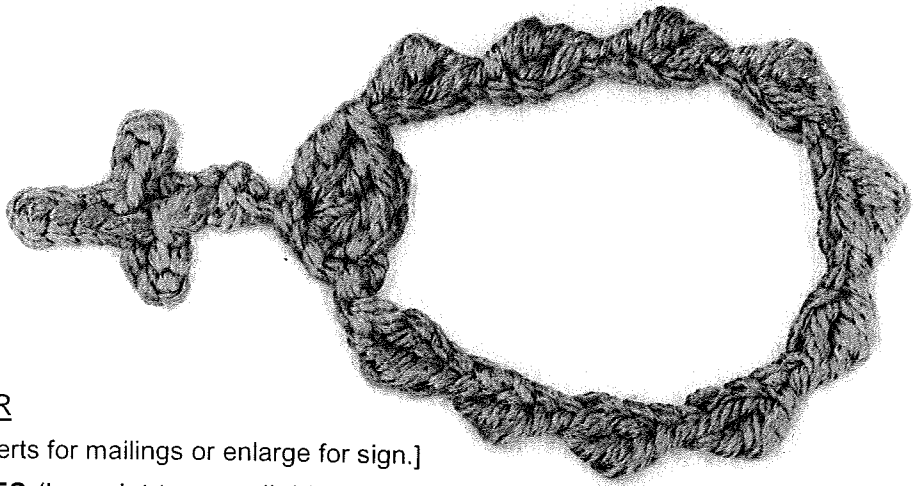
(1 Decade/Bracelet Size)

(Under 1/4 oz. per packet)

Thin, lightweight & crushproof  
for business envelopes/greeting  
cards without extra postage.

**#PrayItForward**

SHARE THE POWER OF PRAYER



[Use text above as small clear bag inserts for mailings or enlarge for sign.]

**HOW TO MAKE WRIST-ROSARIES** (bracelet type mailable 1-decade):

Note on crochet skill level: Stitches required (U.S. terminology) are Slipknot, Chain stitch, Slip stitch, Double crochet, Double crochet Increase, & a simple pointed version of double crochet that forms "beads" made only of yarn—plus weaving-in to hide ends. A fairly easy project to jump into as most of the text is tips or options. Experienced crocheters can skim through instructions then **use the bold text as a guide to gain speed**. Beginners—read through slowly, crocheting as you go step by step.

Supplies: Use a **4** crochet hook (or near to it), a **blunt tip wide-eye or tapestry needle**, a **scissors**, & **4 medium yarn**, thick enough to feel the "beads" (Modified DC stitches made of yarn) without looking at them but thin enough to mail—you will use about 10 ft. of yarn per Rosary. Works well with an **inexpensive yarn such as the anti-pill acrylics found at discount stores or jumbo acrylic skeins**—or choose a **cotton yarn for a more matte organic look**. There are also attractive shiny **acrylic yarns** that have a **slightly silky sheen** & catch the light that **may give good results**—but don't use yarns with extra metallic or plastic Easter-grass type thread woven through as these tend to split & feel unpleasant in the hand. Before buying, pinch a strand & avoid extremes of soft/filmy or hard/stiff—it should compress but not so flat that you can barely feel it. **When learning the crochet Rosary it helps to use variegated multi-color yarn skeins with frequent color changes** (these shorter color length yarns are called prints or paints as opposed to stripes which are longer) as this will help you see individual stitches & see how different parts come together. This pattern was developed with 4 hook & 4 yarn, but it depends on how tight you make your stitches & what kind of yarn you use—experiment with different types, including some craft twines or the thinner cotton cords used for macrame, but don't use anything too thick or stiff so it mails easily. (Can use small remnants 3 & 7 ft. long if cross & chain are made separately). Instructions are for continuous crochet—Rosary made in one piece. Crochet Rosary begins with the cross, & note that except for the top started first but finished last, the other three cross parts are formed by going backwards over the chain stitches you just made, skipping one nearest hook & filling them out with slip stitches—slip stitches only thicken chain slightly to keep Rosary thin).

—Start cross by making a **Slip Knot**—insert hook & tighten. Do **6 Chain Stitches (will bend later to form top & arm)**, then **Skip first** stitch from hook & **Slip Stitch into next 3** to make cross's left arm. Without removing hook, **Chain Stitch 4**, **skip first** stitch from hook & **Slip Stitch into next 3** chain stitches to make cross's bottom [for a longer cross instead of 4, ch 5 & sl st 4 for bottom]. Tug your working yarn upward & stretch arms of cross to see two little holes near where each crosspiece meets in center—skip over working yarn hole on right nearest hook & **Slip Stitch into leftmost center hole** of left arm where it will join other cross pieces—pull tight to bring parts together. **Make 3 Chain Stitches**, **skip first** stitch from hook & do a **Slip Stitch into each of the next 2** to make cross's right arm. Then **Slip Stitch into that center hole** to the left (stretch cross to see hole) & pull tight to join arm to rest of cross. With left thumb & middle finger grasp yarn end at starting slip knot & stretch it out to the left. **Do 2 Slip Stitches in remaining original chain stitches (but don't skip one)** to complete top of cross. Working loop on hook will be at the right of top of cross—**For a more centered cross, pull hook 2 inches to lengthen loop & remove—look down at top of cross & from front to back put tapestry needle under the slightly downward diagonal yarn on top between stitch you just made & original slipknot** (may be easier to see with variegated color yarn). **Thread elongated loop through needle & pull through**. Stretch & **straighten cross top & Adjust loop if needed** to make sure working yarn that pulls new yarn is front part of loop nearest to you—reinsert hook.)

To make Centerpiece above cross, **Chain 7**, then **skip 4** nearest hook & **Double Crochet into 5th stitch**, then as with an increase stitch, **make 2 more DC into same 5th stitch** (it will look stretched from the first DC) for a total of 3 to make triangular wedge/fan-shape centerpiece.

Without removing hook begin "chain" of Rosary by making 3 Chain Stitches, skip first stitch from hook & begin a MODIFIED POINTY Double Crochet into 2nd (middle) stitch as normal, but after pulling through first pair of loops, "point" the stitch by pulling up an extra single loop just through one loop on hook (like chaining one just through top loop on hook), Then finish as you would a normal double crochet meaning yarn over & pull through 2nd pair leaving one loop on hook. That additional single loop will make a point on the outside of "bead" for zigzag or scallop effect (easier to feel if praying with Rosary without looking—in a pocket or dim light). **Note:** If doing more than one Rosary remember to go back to normal double crochet when you make centerpiece for next Rosary—the extra loop variant is just for "beads."

After crocheting 1st "bead" **Chain 3 & repeat till you have completed 10 pointed crochet beads.** Count beads to make sure you have 10 plus centerpiece above cross. **To Close & Secure Rosary:** After 10th bead, **Chain 1** & pull tight, & **without removing hook cut yarn leaving about 6 in.** to work last stitches. **Stretch & undo any twists & lay it out straight on your lap or table with points away from you & hook at right, then keeping it flat sweep hook down & to the left to bring end toward other corner of centerpiece—keeping beaded bumpy side to the outside & smoother side will be inner circle—this will help you see best angle from which to insert hook without twisting.** Then **flatten centerpiece with left thumb & forefinger & Slip Stitch into corner of centerpiece.** (If you do this correctly, straightening the "chain" & bringing hook into centerpiece at the correct angle to keep it flat & untwisted, the working yarn position **may feel awkward** for the slip stitch with cross & loose end in the way but it will work—when you do the slip stitch, you can adjust working yarn position so it's stretched out to the left with cross & half the beaded chain above & other half of Rosary below, then pull cross to left out of the way—yarn over past the obstacles & pull through leaving 2 on hook (pull to tighten), then complete slip stitch leaving one loop on hook & pull tight). **[TIP: It takes practice to find the best spot to insert hook into centerpiece—Avoid large holes & skip over 4 V-shaped stitches at top of "fan" & start slip stitch by inserting hook up through center of 5th V which may be curled inward (hook should come up through 5th V at left side of 4th V's base)—when doing slip stitch into this tight hole you'll need to work the hook in near edge but getting under 2 yarns for strength—it's tight so stretch it out with hook before yarning over to make it easier to pull through, because your top yarn on hook for the slip stitch is 2 thicknesses of yarn.]** Centerpiece should stretch out to a symmetrical fan shape.

**After slip stitch & pulling yarn to tighten, CHAIN ONE, & pull tight** (tightening cinches in last stitches to distinguish centerpiece from last "bead." **Then pull hook to enlarge loop 1 inch & remove.** Before pulling yarn tight to form last knot, lay Rosary out flat—**any remaining twist can be lessened if you twist it slightly in the opposite direction & hold while pulling end to tighten as you will in the following final step: (If you didn't cut yarn in previous steps, cut tail long enough to leave 6 inches), then enlarge loop & pull yarn all the way through & out.** Then **pull the end to tighten last knot while pulling last "bead" in opposite direction. Stretch & straighten Rosary.** [If done correctly Rosary should lay flat with bead bumps on outer ring. A twist will not affect mailability but it will look neater if flat. Once proficient you can finish joining before cutting to avoid wasting yarn, but at first it's easier to lay out flat & try different angles with hook/yarn not attached to skein.] **If cross hangs too far to right below centerpiece—To center it,** grasp horizontal stitch at bottom right of centerpiece with right thumb & and forefinger nails and pull/slide cross to left with left hand.

**Hide loose ends: Weave this loose end into centerpiece** for neatness & pull tight out other side & **cut 1/8 in. from edge so it retracts slightly & just barely vanishes** inside when you let go & stretch out centerpiece. Do likewise **hiding end on cross—there will be 2 V-shaped stitches above cross—thread needle & poke through middle of 1st (nearest cross) & pull thread to back—then weave down through cross back till you get to center hole, pull thread tight to extend it out of hole & cut 1/8 in. from hole so it recedes into cross.** **NOTE:** Wrist-Rosaries fit well in clear snack bags. Add small slips to bags using the lines of heading text at start of instructions—can add basic info on how to pray Rosary or link to a website with info. **Insert Rosary single layer** (flat—no doubling over) & zip the bag closed except for corner, then **squeeze out air & seal corner—makes Rosary thinner & keeps it from moving & bunching up when mailed.** (For mailing —Rosary, clear-zip-bag, card & envelope should compress to under 1/4 in.)