[How to: the frustrating trick to perfect crochet cables](#)

These are crochet cable stitches.

This is me, doing crochet cable stitches.

Cables are my nemesis. They are the Joker to my Batman, the Bowser to my Mario; I hate doing them and they make my fingers hurt and I always end up wanting to strangle myself with a piece of yarn.

BUT.

They are so fabulous. And you can create cool looks by doing different but matching cables for the second of a pair of socks/gloves/mitts. Like in the picture above: a set of fingerless gloves I call Even & Odd.
Sadly, cables are just too versatile and pretty to ignore them.

So while it sucks, I'll always keep doing cable stitches, and I figured that as long as that's the case, I might as well be doing them right.

THIS IS WHERE I TELL YOU MY TRICK ->

My cables used to be sort of sloppy, which, you know, wasn't exactly an incentive to do more of them. It wasn't until I made the above pair of gloves that I discovered the frustrating trick that really makes a difference in the neatness of your cables: **switching hooks**.

It's okay. You can go sit quietly in the corner and put your head between your legs, I'll wait.

Yes, that's right: you work the foundation — whether it's back loop slip stitch or single crochet — with hook X, and you work the cables with a hook one size smaller. For example: the Even & Odd gloves were done with a 5mm hook; except for the cables, which were worked with a 4mm hook.

And yes, that makes the whole process even *more* slow and frustrating.

And yes, it means you're switching hooks every few stitches, and you forget to switch and then you have to go back and redo stitches, and the unused hook always disappears while you're working, even if you JUST PUT IT ON THE SIDE TABLE.

But it's worth it. I promise. If you're a perfectionist like me and you love crisp, neat looks, then switching hooks will

take your cabled project to a whole new level.

And also, your swear word vocabulary.

If you try this, let me know how it goes, will you?