

Crocheted Baby Sweater

Designed by Carol Mead

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The directions for this sweater are written using inches instead of number of stitches. This way you can use any combination of crochet hook size and yarn weight. Start by figuring out your gauge using the hook and yarn you have chosen. The pattern for the sweater is sc, dc. The second row is dc into the sc and sc into the dc. Each row will begin with a sc and end with a dc. Ch an odd number of chs about 6" long. Crochet a swatch in pattern about 6 inches by 4 inches. Count the number of sts in 5 ½ inches (_____sts). Multiply by 2. (_____sts) This is the number of sts for the back. Count the number of sts in 5 inches (_____sts). This is the number of sts for the sleeve. For both measurements, add a st if you don't have an even number of sts. Anytime your measurement doesn't quite match the pattern measurement, each time choose either the slightly larger (or smaller) measurement. The sweater will be slightly larger (or smaller). As my mother might have said, on a wiggly baby it won't make much difference. Yarn- 4-6 ounces depending on yarn weight and hook size. It takes less with sport yarn, more with worsted.

Back

Chain _____sts plus 1.

Sc into second chain from hook. Sc across.

Work rows of sc about 1" with an odd number of rows. The right side is facing you. Mark it with a piece of yarn. Chain 1, turn.

Work in rows of sc, dc pattern until back is 7 ½" long. End off.

Sleeves

Chain _____sts loosely. Attach at end off point on back. Pattern to end of row.

Chain _____sts plus 1 loosely.

Sc in second ch from hook. Dc in next ch. Work in pattern across entire row.

Work in pattern until sleeve is 3 ½" wide.

Front and first sleeve

Fold sweater in half lengthwise to find center of back. Place markers 2 ½" on either side of center. This marks the back of the neck.

Row 1: Work in pattern to marker, ending with a dc. Ch 1, turn

Row 2: *2 sc in first st, dc in next, work in pattern to end

Row 3: Work in pattern across, Ch 1, turn

Row 4: Sc, dc in 1st st, dc in next, work pattern across.

Row 5: Work pattern across next row

Repeat from * until underarm to center of front measures 4 ½"-5". (Use back and sleeve for reference) Remember you have to increase an even number of times to keep the 2 st pattern.

Here is a chart to help you keep track of the increases. Start at the arrow and turn the chart upside down with each row change.

									Row 5
									←
→	Row 4	sc	dc	sc	dc	sc	dc	sc	dc
									Row 3
									←
*	Row 2		sc	sc	dc	sc	dc	sc	dc
									Row 1
									←

Continue working pattern until sleeve is 7" wide, ending at neck edge. Work back in pattern to underarm, ending with dc, (sleeve is 5" long). Ch 1, turn.

Work front in pattern until it is the same length as the back without the edge rows. Ch 1, turn.

Right side is now facing you.

Sc same number of rows as back. See note below with front bands.

Second front and sleeve.

Row 1: Join yarn at neck at second marker in dc st. Ch 1, sc in same st, dc in next st, pattern to end of row.

Row 2: * Work pattern across. Work dc, sc in last st. Ch 1, turn.

Row 3: Ch 3, sc in next st, dc in next st. Work in pattern across

Row 4: Work in pattern to last st. sc, dc in last st.

Row 5: Work in pattern across

Repeat from * until underarm to center of front measures 4 ½"-5". (Use back and sleeve for reference) Remember you have to increase an even number of times to keep the 2 st pattern.

Here is a chart to help you keep track of the increases. Start at the arrows and turn the chart upside down with each row change.

								Row 5
								←
→	Row 4							
								Row 3
								←
*	→	Row 2						
								Row 1
								←

Continue as for 1st front panel, except end at end of sleeve. End off. Turn. Using the pattern of sts as a guide, join yarn at underarm in dc st. Ch 1 sc in same st, dc in next. Continue in pattern. Continue as in first front.

With a little planning you can do most of the front bands, neck and ties without ending off each time.

Front bands

Starting on right side, pick up sc sts evenly up center front, stopping (or starting) at last neck increase. Make sure to pick up the same number of sts on both fronts. Sc odd number of rows to make front about 5 ½" wide.

Neck band

Starting on right side pick up sc sts evenly around neck and top of front bands
Sc same as front bands.

Ties are 7" chains. Attach onto neck band.

Sleeve bands

On right side, pick up sc sts evenly across end of sleeve.

Sc odd number of rows until sleeve is 6" long. End off leaving a long tail for sewing seam.

Sew arm and side seam from the right side.

Other Sizes

1 year size:

12" back

9" to arm hole (end off at 8 ½")

7" total sleeve length

5" back of neck

8" sleeve width

5-5 ½" front without band

Smaller size:

10" back

7 ½" to arm hole (end off at 7")

5 ½" total sleeve length

4 ½" back of neck

6 ½" sleeve width

4-4 ½" front without band