Dress bodice to sew a skirt to

Woman M, to fit bust 37 in (94 cm) · US terms



Finished size

About 39 in (99 cm) round and about 19 in (48.5 cm) at the neck

To fit a bust of 37 in (94 cm)

Skill

Easy

Rows with simple increases, buttons, gathered cloth sewn on

Yarn

Light (3), 2 colors

Hook

4.5 mm (US 7)

Gauge

16 stitches and 13½ rows to 4 in (10 cm)

In half double crochet (UK half treble).

What you need

Yarn A: butter **about 600 yd (549 m), an estimate**

Yarn B: white **about 30 yd (27 m), an estimate**

By weight: about 250 g in all, an estimate, where 100 g is 250 yd (229 m).

Hook: 4.5 mm (US 7), or the size that gives you the gauge. Also: yarn needle, scissors, tape measure, buttons ½ in (12 mm) across: 3 for a baby, 4 for a child, 5 for a woman, a sewing machine, if you have one, woven cotton cloth (how much: in the line of your size under SIZES), pins and sewing thread and a sewing needle.

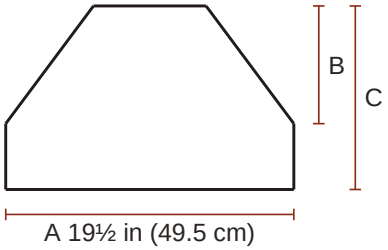
Sizes

Size	Chest	Yarn, an estimate	Around, buttoned	Neck around, buttoned	Yoke depth	From the underarm to the lower edge	Length from the neck to the lower edge	Armhole around	Lower edge, unbuttoned, with the bands	Cloth to buy for this skirt
Baby 3-6 months	17 in (43 cm)	about 170 yd (155 m)	18½ in (47 cm)	11 in (28 cm)	3¾ in (9.5 cm)	2 in (5 cm)	6 in (15 cm)	7 in (18 cm)	19½ in (49.5 cm)	42 in (107 cm)
Baby 6-12 months	18 in (45.5 cm)	about 195 yd (178 m)	19½ in (49.5 cm)	12 in (30.5 cm)	4¼ in (11 cm)	2½ in (6.5 cm)	6½ in (16.5 cm)	8 in (20.5 cm)	20½ in (52 cm)	42 in (107 cm)
Baby 12-18 months	19 in (48.5 cm)	about 245 yd (224 m)	20½ in (52 cm)	13 in (33 cm)	4½ in (11.5 cm)	2¾ in (7 cm)	7¼ in (18.5 cm)	8 in (20.5 cm)	21½ in (54.5 cm)	42 in (107 cm)
Child 4	23 in (58.5 cm)	about 300 yd (274 m)	24½ in (62 cm)	14 in (35.5 cm)	5¼ in (13.5 cm)	3 in (7.5 cm)	8¼ in (21 cm)	9 in (23 cm)	25½ in (65 cm)	42 in (107 cm)

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Child 6	25 in (63.5 cm)	about 350 yd (320 m)	26½ in (67.5 cm)	15 in (38 cm)	5¾ in (14.5 cm)	3¼ in (8.5 cm)	9 in (23 cm)	9 in (23 cm)	27½ in (70 cm)	42 in (107 cm)
Child 8	26½ in (67.5 cm)	about 375 yd (343 m)	28 in (71 cm)	16 in (40.5 cm)	6 in (15 cm)	3¼ in (8.5 cm)	9¼ in (23.5 cm)	10 in (25.5 cm)	29 in (73.5 cm)	42 in (107 cm)
Woman S	33 in (84 cm)	about 555 yd (507 m)	35 in (89 cm)	18 in (45.5 cm)	7½ in (19 cm)	4½ in (11.5 cm)	11¾ in (30 cm)	12 in (30.5 cm)	36 in (91.5 cm)	42 in (107 cm)
Woman M (this file)	**37 in (94 cm)**	**about 630 yd (576 m)**	**39 in (99 cm)**	**19 in (48.5 cm)**	**8 in (20.5 cm)**	**4½ in (11.5 cm)**	**12½ in (32 cm)**	**13 in (33 cm)**	**40 in (101.5 cm)**	**42 in (107 cm)**
Woman L	41 in (104 cm)	about 735 yd (672 m)	43 in (109 cm)	20 in (51 cm)	8½ in (21.5 cm)	4¾ in (12 cm)	13¼ in (33.5 cm)	14 in (35.5 cm)	44 in (112 cm)	42 in (107 cm)

Schematic



Bodice, buttoned, laid flat
A half the around, buttoned
B 8 in (20.5 cm), the yoke depth
C 12½ in (32 cm), the length from the neck to the lower edge

Gauge

16 stitches and 13½ rows to 4 in (10 cm) in half double crochet.

> **The swatch.** A test piece to measure and pull out. It is not the start of the pattern. Ch 25; begin in the 2nd ch from the hook and work 20 rows of half double crochet on 24 sts, about 6 in (15 cm) wide and 6 in (15 cm) high, and measure 4 in (10 cm) in the middle. Use a larger hook if your swatch is small, a smaller one if it is large. Edgings and bands: single crochet (UK: double crochet), 18.5 rows to 4 in (10 cm). The eyelet row is a row of double crochet (UK: treble), about ½ in (1 cm) high.

Instructions

Woman M, to fit bust 37 in (94 cm). US terms.

hdc half double crochet (UK htr), **ch** chain, **dc** double crochet (UK tr), **sc** single crochet (UK dc), **sl st** slip stitch, **st** stitch.

2 hdc in next st: **both in one stitch**. Hdc in next 4 sts: one in each. **ch-1 sp**: the hole under the chain. The hook goes in the hole, never into a chain.

The ch 1 is not a stitch. Work in the **very first stitch**.

[ ] 5 times: 5 times in all. (86 hdc): the row now has 86; a check, not a step. Not 86? **Pull it back**.

Also: RS right side, sp space.

Every stitch, drawn: flossfield.com/crochet/stitches.

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Bodice

Yarn A, butter.

☐ **Start**	The bodice is worked from the neck down, back and forth, and is open down the middle of the back. Row 1 begins at the right back edge (as worn). With yarn A, ch 74.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Hdc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across	(73 hdc)
☐ **Row 2**	Ch 1, turn; hdc in next st, **[**2 hdc in next st, hdc in next 4 sts**] 5 times**, **[**2 hdc in next st, hdc in next 5 sts**] 7 times**, 2 hdc in next st, hdc in next 4 sts	(86 hdc)
☐ **Row 3**	Ch 1, turn; hdc in each st across	(86 hdc)
☐ **Row 4**	Ch 1, turn; hdc in next 6 sts, **[**2 hdc in next st, hdc in next 6 sts**] 10 times**, 2 hdc in next st, hdc in next 7 sts, 2 hdc in next st, hdc in next st	(98 hdc)
☐ **Row 5**	Ch 1, turn; hdc in each st across	(98 hdc)
☐ **Row 6**	Ch 1, turn; hdc in next 2 sts, **[**2 hdc in next st, hdc in next 6 sts**] 6 times**, **[**2 hdc in next st, hdc in next 7 sts**] 6 times**, 2 hdc in next st, hdc in next 5 sts	(111 hdc)
☐ **Row 7**	Ch 1, turn; hdc in each st across	(111 hdc)
☐ **Row 8**	Ch 1, turn; hdc in next 4 sts, **[**2 hdc in next st, hdc in next 7 sts**] 6 times**, **[**2 hdc in next st, hdc in next 8 sts**] 6 times**, 2 hdc in next st, hdc in next 4 sts	(124 hdc)
☐ **Row 9**	Ch 1, turn; hdc in each st across	(124 hdc)
☐ **Row 10**	Ch 1, turn; hdc in next 2 sts, **[**2 hdc in next st, hdc in next 9 sts**] 8 times**, **[**2 hdc in next st, hdc in next 10 sts**] 3 times**, 2 hdc in next st, hdc in next 8 sts	(136 hdc)
☐ **Row 11**	Ch 1, turn; hdc in each st across	(136 hdc)
☐ **Row 12**	Ch 1, turn; hdc in next 8 sts, **[**2 hdc in next st, hdc in next 9 sts**] 7 times**, **[**2 hdc in next st, hdc in next 10 sts**] 5 times**, 2 hdc in next st, hdc in next 2 sts	(149 hdc)
☐ **Row 13**	Ch 1, turn; hdc in each st across	(149 hdc)
☐ **Row 14**	Ch 1, turn; hdc in next 4 sts, **[**2 hdc in next st, hdc in next 10 sts**] 7 times**, **[**2 hdc in next st, hdc in next 11 sts**] 5 times**, 2 hdc in next st, hdc in next 7 sts	(162 hdc)
☐ **Row 15**	Ch 1, turn; hdc in each st across	(162 hdc)
☐ **Row 16**	Ch 1, turn; hdc in next 6 sts, **[**2 hdc in next st, hdc in next 12 sts**] 6 times**, **[**2 hdc in next st, hdc in next 13 sts**] 5 times**, 2 hdc in next st, hdc in next 7 sts	(174 hdc)
☐ **Row 17**	Ch 1, turn; hdc in each st across	(174 hdc)
☐ **Row 18**	Ch 1, turn; hdc in next 3 sts, **[**2 hdc in next st, hdc in next 12 sts**] 8 times**, **[**2 hdc in next st, hdc in next 13 sts**] 4 times**, 2 hdc in next st, hdc in next 10 sts	(187 hdc)
☐ **Row 19**	Ch 1, turn; hdc in each st across	(187 hdc)
☐ **Row 20**	Ch 1, turn; hdc in next 11 sts, **[**2 hdc in next st, hdc in next 13 sts**] 8 times**, **[**2 hdc in next st, hdc in next 14 sts**] 4 times**, 2 hdc in next st, hdc in next 3 sts	(200 hdc)
☐ **Row 21**	Ch 1, turn; hdc in each st across	(200 hdc)

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☐ **Row 22**	Ch 1, turn; hdc in next 6 sts, **[**2 hdc in next st, hdc in next 15 sts**] 4 times**, **[**2 hdc in next st, hdc in next 16 sts**] 7 times**, 2 hdc in next st, hdc in next 10 sts	(212 hdc)
☐ **Row 23**	Ch 1, turn; hdc in each st across	(212 hdc)
☐ **Row 24**	Ch 1, turn; hdc in next 8 sts, **[**2 hdc in next st, hdc in next 15 sts**] 9 times**, **[**2 hdc in next st, hdc in next 16 sts**] 3 times**, 2 hdc in next st, hdc in next 8 sts	(225 hdc)
☐ **Rows 25 to 27** 25 26 27	Ch 1, turn; hdc in each st across	(225 hdc)
☐ **Row 28**	Ch 1, turn; hdc in next 33 sts, ch 8 for the underarm, skip the next 44 sts, one sleeve, hdc in next 71 sts, ch 8 for the underarm, skip the next 44 sts, one sleeve, hdc in next 33 sts	(137 hdc, 16 ch)
☐ **Rows 29 to 39** 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39	Ch 1, turn; hdc in each st across	(153 hdc)
☐ **Row 40**	Ch 2, turn; dc in first st, **[**ch 1, skip next st, dc in next st**] 76 times**	(77 dc, 76 ch-1 sps)
☐ **Row 41**	Ch 1, turn; sc in first st, **[**sc in next ch-1 sp, sc in next st**] 76 times**	(153 sc)
☐ **Row 42**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	(153 sc)
☐	Fasten off. Row 40 is the row of eyelets, and row 42 is the lower edge, 38¼ in (97 cm) long.	

Armhole edging: make 2

Yarn B, white.

☐ **Start**	Neck up, right side facing: join yarn B in the free side of the underarm chain just left of the middle, 8 in (20 cm) hanging; ch 1, sc in that ch and in each of the next 3 underarm chs, sc in each of the 44 sleeve sts and sc in each of the 4 underarm chs left (52 sc); join with sl st in first sc. This is round 1.	
☐ **Round 2**	Ch 1; **[**sc in next st, skip next st, 3 dc in next st, skip next st**] 13 times**; join with sl st in first sc	(13 sc, 39 dc)
☐	Fasten off.	

Button band

Yarn A, butter.

☐ **Start**	Hold the bodice with the right side facing and the left back edge (as worn) uppermost. Join yarn A in the end of row 42, at the waist; ch 1, sc in the end of each of the 2 sc rows, 2 sc in the end of the eyelet row, then along the 39 hdc rows, met from row 39 to row 1, sc in the end of each of the next 4 rows, [2 sc in the end of the next row, sc in the end of each of the next 4 rows] 7 times (50 sc). This is row 1, a right side row.	
☐ **Rows 2 to 4** 2 3 4	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	(50 sc)
☐	Fasten off.	

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Buttonhole band

Yarn A, butter.

☐ **Start**	Hold the bodice with the right side facing and the right back edge (as worn) uppermost. Join yarn A in the end of row 1, at the neck; ch 1, along the 39 hdc rows, met from row 1 to row 39, [sc in the end of each of the next 4 rows, 2 sc in the end of the next row] 7 times, sc in the end of each of the next 4 rows, then 2 sc in the end of the eyelet row and sc in the end of each of the 2 sc rows (50 sc). This is row 1, a right side row.
☐ **Row 2**	Ch 1, turn; sc in next 2 sts, **[**ch 2, skip next 2 sts, sc in next 9 sts**] 4 times**, ch 2, skip next 2 sts, sc in next 2 sts (40 sc, 5 ch-2 sps)
☐ **Row 3**	Ch 1, turn; sc in next 2 sts, **[**2 sc in next ch-2 sp, sc in next 9 sts**] 4 times**, 2 sc in next ch-2 sp, sc in next 2 sts (50 sc)
☐ **Row 4**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across (50 sc)
☐	The 5 ch-2 sps of row 2 are the buttonholes. Fasten off.

Neck edging

Yarn B, white.

☐ **Start**	Hold the bodice with the right side facing and the foundation chain uppermost. Join yarn B in the end of row 4 of the button band, at the right-hand end; ch 1, sc in the end of each of the 4 rows of the button band, sc in each of the 73 chs of the foundation chain along their free side, sc in the end of each of the 4 rows of the buttonhole band (81 sc). The 1 ch that was skipped at the start of row 1 of the bodice is passed over. This is row 1, a right side row.
☐ **Row 2**	Ch 1, turn; sc in first st, **[**skip next st, 3 dc in next st, skip next st, sc in next st**] 20 times** (21 sc, 60 dc)
☐	Fasten off.

Assembly

1. Buttons: lay the buttonhole band over the button band, edge on edge. Mark the place under each of the 5 buttonholes on the button band and sew a button there with sewing thread, so that it holds a pull: take the thread through each button six times or more and fasten it off well.

2. Skirt, measuring: put the bodice on the wearer and measure straight down from its lower edge to where the hem shall be. That is the length of the skirt. The numbers below are for a skirt of 27 in (68.5 cm); for another length add 2½ in (6.5 cm) to your own, cut the pieces that high, and buy 2 in (5 cm) of cloth more or less for every 1 in (2.5 cm) that your skirt is longer or shorter.

3. Skirt, cutting: wash and press the cloth first and cut its ends straight. Cut 2 pieces, one below the other on the cloth, each 36 in (91.5 cm) wide and 29½ in (75 cm) high. Lay them with right sides together, sew one side of both, an edge that is 29½ in (75 cm) high, ½ in (1.5 cm) from the edge, finish the raw edges with zigzag or overcast stitch and press the seam open: it is the middle of the front, and the piece is now 71 in (180.5 cm) wide. The width is 1¾ times the lower edge of the bodice with its bands, 40 in (101.5 cm), and ½ in (1.5 cm) at each side; the height has ½ in (1.5 cm) for the seam at the top and 2 in (5 cm) for the hem.

4. Skirt, back seam and hem: lay the two side edges of the cloth together, right sides inside. From the top edge down leave 7 in (18 cm) open and sew the rest of the seam, down to the lower edge, ½ in (1.5 cm) from the edge. Finish the two raw edges of the seam with zigzag or overcast stitch and press the seam open; along the open part turn the ½ in (1.5 cm) of each edge to the wrong side, turn its raw edge under and sew it down. At the lower edge turn ½ in

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(1.5 cm) to the wrong side, then 1½ in (4 cm) more, and sew the hem down along its upper fold. Finish the raw top edge with zigzag or overcast stitch.

5. Skirt, gathering: from one edge of the opening to the other, sew two lines of long stitches along the top edge, one ¼ in (6 mm) and one ½ in (1.5 cm) from the edge, and leave the thread ends long. Mark the middle of the edge with a pin. Draw up both lines by the thread ends until the edge is 40 in (101.5 cm) long, spread the gathers evenly and knot the thread ends.

6. Joining: unbutton the bodice. Its lower edge, with the 4 row ends of a band at each end, is 161 sts and row ends long. Lay it, right side up, over the right side of the cloth, so that it lies on the gathering line that is ½ in (1.5 cm) from the edge of the cloth. Pin the middle st of row 42, st 77, to the pin of the cloth and the outer edges of the two bands to the two edges of the opening, and spread the gathers between. With doubled sewing thread sew the edge down with small backstitches, one in each of the 153 sts of row 42 and one in the end of each of the 4 rows of each band.

Finishing

- Weave in all the ends. Wash as the yarn label says and lay flat to the measurements to dry.

In all: 6,945 stitches (6,470 in the bodice, 52 in each armhole edging, 150 in the button band, 140 in the buttonhole band, 81 in the neck edging).

To find how many balls: divide by the length on your yarn's label and round up. Buy them from one dye lot. The estimate is from the stitches of this size at this gauge.

Notes

- Three sizes for a baby, three for a child and three for a woman. Choose by the chest or bust.
- The buttoned bodice is from 1½ in (4 cm) to 2 in (5 cm) wider than the body measurement, by the size. Choose by the finished measurement you like; no fit is promised beyond the measurements given.
- The turning chain (ch 1 for single and half double crochet, ch 2 for double crochet) never counts as a stitch. Work the first stitch of every row into the first stitch, at the base of the turning chain. Work the last stitch into the last stitch of the row below, and never into the turning chain.
- The chain at the start of a round never counts as a stitch. Work the first stitch of the round into the stitch at its base, where the round was joined.
- At the underarms, work into each of the new chains as into a stitch on the next row. The armhole edgings are worked into the free side of these chains.
- The bodice ends high, above the waist. The right back laps over the left back.
- Cloth: the length to buy is that of the pieces of the skirt, one below the other, with 5 in (12.5 cm) 100 more, because new cotton shrinks in the wash, and 2 in (5 cm) for cutting the ends straight.
- For a baby or a child sew each button on firmly and look at it before every wear: a loose button is a danger to a small child.
- Cloth to buy for this skirt, 42 in (107 cm) wide or wider, in length 64 in (162.5 cm).
- Length from the neck to the lower edge, without the neck edging 12½ in (32 cm).

Found a mistake in this pattern? Tell us at flossfield.com, under Make a request.

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