Easy baby dress for beginners

6-12 months, to fit chest 18 in (45.5 cm) · US terms



Finished size
About 20 in (51 cm) at the chest and about 16½ in (42 cm) long
To fit a chest of 18 in (45.5 cm)

Skill
Beginner
Basic stitches: rows, rounds and simple seams

Yarn
Light (3), 2 colors

Hook
4.5 mm (US 7)

Gauge
16 stitches and 8½ rows to 4 in (10 cm)
In double crochet (UK treble).

What you need

Yarn A: butter yellow, main color **about 300 yd (274 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: warm coral, contrast **about 65 yd (59 m), an estimate**
By weight: about 150 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 and pins.

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.

Sizes

Size	To fit chest	Yarn, an estimate	Chest	Length from the shoulder	Bodice from the waist to the shoulder	Skirt length	Armhole depth	Neck width	Neck opening around (before the edging)	Hem around
0-3 months	16 in (40.5 cm)	about 285 yd (261 m)	18 in (45.5 cm)	13½ in (34.5 cm)	6 in (15 cm)	7½ in (19 cm)	3¾ in (9.5 cm)	5 in (12.5 cm)	18½ in (47 cm)	27 in (68.5 cm)
3-6 months	17 in (43 cm)	about 340 yd (311 m)	19 in (48.5 cm)	15 in (38 cm)	6½ in (16.5 cm)	8½ in (21.5 cm)	4¼ in (11 cm)	5 in (12.5 cm)	18½ in (47 cm)	28½ in (72.5 cm)
6-12 months (this file)	**18 in (45.5 cm)**	**about 365 yd (334 m)**	**20 in (51 cm)**	**16½ in (42 cm)**	**7 in (18 cm)**	**9¼ in (23.5 cm)**	**4¾ in (12 cm)**	**5 in (12.5 cm)**	**18½ in (47 cm)**	**30 in (76 cm)**
12-18 months	19 in (48.5 cm)	about 420 yd (384 m)	21 in (53.5 cm)	17¼ in (44 cm)	7½ in (19 cm)	9¾ in (25 cm)	4¾ in (12 cm)	5½ in (14 cm)	20½ in (52 cm)	31½ in (80 cm)

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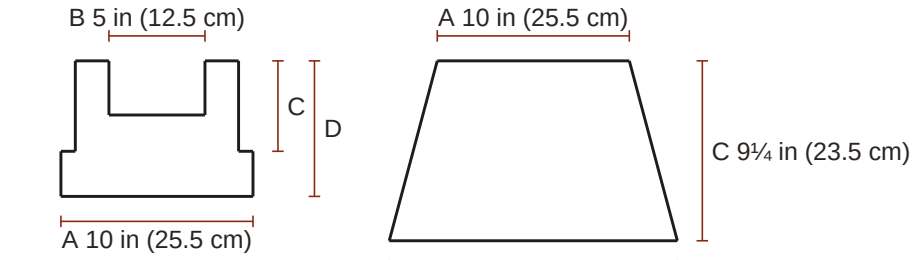
18-24 months	20 in (51 cm)	about 470 yd (430 m)	22 in (56 cm)	18¾ in (47.5 cm)	8 in (20.5 cm)	10¾ in (27.5 cm)	5¼ in (13.5 cm)	6 in (15 cm)	21½ in (54.5 cm)	33 in (84 cm)

Schematic



Front
A half the chest
B across the top
C 4¾ in (12 cm), how deep the neck is
D 7 in (18 cm), how deep the neck is

Skirt, laid flat
A across the top
B half the hem
C from top to bottom

Gauge

16 stitches and 8½ rows to 4 in (10 cm) in double crochet.

> **The swatch.** A test piece to measure and pull out. It is not the start of the pattern. Ch 26; begin in the 3rd ch from the hook and work 13 rows of 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. Single crochet (heart and edgings): 16 sts and 18.5 rows to 4 in (10 cm).

Notes

- The finished chest is 2 in (5 cm) wider than the body measurement at each size. Choose by the finished measurement you like; no fit is promised beyond the measurements given.
- The turning chain (ch 1 for single 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.
- The rounds of the skirt and of the edgings are not turned; the right side always faces you. The chain at the start of a round (ch 1 for single crochet, ch 2 for double crochet) never counts as a stitch: work the first stitch into the stitch at its base.
- Odd-numbered rows of the bodice are right side rows. The front and the back are alike but for the neck, which is deeper in the front.
- The dress goes on over the head. Its neck is wide and has no buttons; the bows on the shoulders are sewn down and do not open.
- A decrease counts as one stitch.
- Where row ends are named, work around the stitch at the edge of the row, not into one loop of it.
- Color changes in rounds: work the sl st that joins the round before with the new yarn. Cut the old yarn, leaving an end of about 6 in (15 cm), or, if it is needed again within 6 rnds, carry it loosely up the inside at the join.

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Instructions

6-12 months, to fit chest 18 in (45.5 cm). US terms.

ch chain, **sl st** slip stitch, **sc** single crochet (UK double crochet), **dc** double crochet (UK treble), **Rnd** round, **st** stitch.
RS right side, the one that shows.
2 dc in next st: both in one stitch. **dc in next 34 sts**: one in each.
[ ] 40 times: work what is inside 40 times in all.
(40 dc): the stitches you have when the row is done. **How to read a pattern**.

Special stitches

sc2tog (single crochet 2 stitches together (UK double crochet 2 together)): Insert the hook in the next stitch and pull up a loop, insert the hook in the following stitch and pull up a loop (3 loops on the hook); yarn over and pull through all 3 loops.

Front

Yarn A, butter yellow.

☐ **Foundation**	With yarn A, ch 42.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Dc in 3rd ch from hook and in each ch across	(40 dc)
☐ **Rows 2 to 5** 2 3 4 5	Ch 2, turn; dc in each st across	(40 dc)
☐ **Row 6**	Fasten off and turn. Skip the first 3 sts and join yarn A in the next st; ch 2, and beginning in that st, dc in next 34 sts, leave the last 3 sts unworked	(34 dc)
☐ **Rows 7 to 9** 7 8 9	Ch 2, turn; dc in each st across	(34 dc)
☐ **End**	Do not fasten off.	

Front, first strap

Yarn A, butter yellow.

☐ **Foundation**	Go on from row 9 of the front.	
☐ **Row 10**	Ch 2, turn; dc in next 7 sts, leave the last 27 sts unworked	(7 dc)
☐ **Rows 11 to 15** 11 12 13 14 15	Ch 2, turn; dc in each st across	(7 dc)
☐ **End**	The 7 sts left are the top of the strap. Fasten off, leaving an end of about 12 in (30 cm) for sewing.	

Front, second strap

Yarn A, butter yellow.

☐ **Foundation**	Go back to row 9 of the front, with the same side facing you as for row 10 of the first strap. Skip the next 20 unworked sts of row 9 for the neck and join yarn A in the next st. The first st of row 10 goes in the joining st.	
☐ **Row 10**	Ch 2; dc in each st across	(7 dc)

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☐ **Rows 11 to 15** 11 12 13 14 15	Ch 2, turn; dc in each st across	(7 dc)
☐ **End**	The 7 sts left are the top of the strap. Fasten off, leaving an end of about 12 in (30 cm) for sewing.	

Back

Yarn A, butter yellow.

☐ **Foundation**	With yarn A, ch 42.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Dc in 3rd ch from hook and in each ch across	(40 dc)
☐ **Rows 2 to 5** 2 3 4 5	Ch 2, turn; dc in each st across	(40 dc)
☐ **Row 6**	Fasten off and turn. Skip the first 3 sts and join yarn A in the next st; ch 2, and beginning in that st, dc in next 34 sts, leave the last 3 sts unworked	(34 dc)
☐ **Rows 7 to 12** 7 8 9 10 11 12	Ch 2, turn; dc in each st across	(34 dc)
☐ **End**	Do not fasten off.	

Back, first strap

Yarn A, butter yellow.

☐ **Foundation**	Go on from row 12 of the back.	
☐ **Row 13**	Ch 2, turn; dc in next 7 sts, leave the last 27 sts unworked	(7 dc)
☐ **Rows 14 to 15** 14 15	Ch 2, turn; dc in each st across	(7 dc)
☐ **End**	The 7 sts left are the top of the strap. Fasten off.	

Back, second strap

Yarn A, butter yellow.

☐ **Foundation**	Go back to row 12 of the back, with the same side facing you as for row 13 of the first strap. Skip the next 20 unworked sts of row 12 for the neck and join yarn A in the next st. The first st of row 13 goes in the joining st.	
☐ **Row 13**	Ch 2; dc in each st across	(7 dc)
☐ **Rows 14 to 15** 14 15	Ch 2, turn; dc in each st across	(7 dc)
☐ **End**	The 7 sts left are the top of the strap. Fasten off.	

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Skirt

Yarn B, warm coral.

☐ **Foundation**	Work this at step 5 of Assembly. Colors: rnd 1 yarn B; rnds 2 to 17 yarn A; rnd 18 yarn B; rnd 19 yarn A; rnds 20 and 21 yarn B. With the right side facing and the dress turned so that the foundation chains are uppermost, join yarn B in the first ch to the left of a side seam; ch 1, sc in each of the 40 chs along one piece and in each of the 40 chs along the other piece (80 sc); join with sl st in first sc. The 2 chs skipped at the start of row 1 of each piece are in the seams and are left. This is rnd 1.	
☐ **Rnd 2**	Ch 2; **[**dc in next st, 2 dc in next st**] 40 times**; join with sl st in first dc	(120 dc)
☐ **Rnds 3 to 20**	Ch 2; dc in each st around; join with sl st in first dc	(120 dc)
	3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20	
☐ **Rnd 21**	Ch 1; sc in each st around; join with sl st in first sc	(120 sc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off.	

Heart patch

Yarn B, warm coral.

☐ **Foundation**	With yarn B, ch 2.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook	(1 sc)
☐ **Row 2**	Ch 1, turn; 3 sc in next st	(3 sc)
☐ **Row 3**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	(3 sc)
☐ **Row 4**	Ch 1, turn; 2 sc in next st, sc in next st, 2 sc in next st	(5 sc)
☐ **Row 5**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	(5 sc)
☐ **Row 6**	Ch 1, turn; 2 sc in next st, sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st	(7 sc)
☐ **Row 7**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	(7 sc)
☐ **Row 8**	Ch 1, turn; 2 sc in next st, sc in next 5 sts, 2 sc in next st	(9 sc)
☐ **Row 9**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	(9 sc)
☐ **Row 10**	Ch 1, turn; 2 sc in next st, sc in next 7 sts, 2 sc in next st	(11 sc)
☐ **Row 11**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	(11 sc)
☐ **End**	Do not fasten off.	

Heart patch, first lobe

Yarn A, butter yellow.

☐ **Foundation**	Go on from row 11 of the heart patch. With the point at the bottom and the right side facing, this is the lobe at the left.	
☐ **Row 12**	Ch 1, turn; sc in next 5 sts, leave the last 6 sts unworked	(5 sc)
☐ **Row 13**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	(5 sc)

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☐ **Row 14**	Ch 1, turn; sc2tog, sc in each st across to last 2 sts, sc2tog	(3 sc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off.	

Heart patch, second lobe

Yarn B, warm coral.

☐ **Foundation**	Go back to row 11 of the heart patch, with the same side facing you as for row 12 of the first lobe. Skip the next unworked st of row 11, which is the middle of the heart, and join yarn B in the next st. The first st of row 12 goes in the joining st.	
☐ **Row 12**	Ch 1; sc in each st across	(5 sc)
☐ **Row 13**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	(5 sc)
☐ **Row 14**	Ch 1, turn; sc2tog, sc in each st across to last 2 sts, sc2tog	(3 sc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off.	

Shoulder bow: make 2

Yarn B, warm coral.

☐ **Foundation**	With yarn B, ch 42.	
☐ **Row 1**	Sl st in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across	(41 sl sts)
☐ **End**	Each shoulder bow is about 9 in (23 cm) long (the slip stitches draw the chain in). Fasten off.	

Assembly

1. Neck edging: Work this at step 2 of Assembly. With the right side facing, join yarn B at the right shoulder seam (as worn); ch 1, 2 sc in the end of each of the 3 rows down the strap of the back, sc in each of the 20 sts of the back neck, 2 sc in the end of each of the 3 rows up the other strap of the back, 2 sc in the end of each of the 6 rows down the strap of the front, sc in each of the 20 sts of the front neck and 2 sc in the end of each of the 6 rows up the other strap of the front (76 sc); join with sl st in first sc. Fasten off.

2. Armhole edging (make 2): Work this at step 2 of Assembly. With the right side facing, join yarn B at the side seam; ch 1, sc in each of the 3 skipped sts to the left of the seam, 2 sc in the end of each of the 10 rows up to the shoulder seam, 2 sc in the end of each of the 10 rows down to the underarm and sc in each of the 3 skipped sts to the side seam (46 sc); join with sl st in first sc. Fasten off.

3. Heart patch edging: With the right side facing and the lobes uppermost, join yarn B in the st at the right-hand end of the last row of the lobe at the right; ch 1, sc in each of the 3 sts of that row; down its inner side, sc in the end of each of the 3 rows of the lobe; sc in the st of row 11 between the lobes; up the other lobe, sc in the end of each of its 3 rows; sc in each of the 3 sts of its last row; down the left side, sc in the end of each of the 3 rows of the lobe and of each of the 11 rows of the heart; 3 sc in the ch at the point; up the right side, sc in the end of each of the 11 rows of the heart and of each of the 3 rows of the lobe (44 sc); join with sl st in first sc. This is rnd 1. Fasten off, leaving an end of about 25 in (65 cm) for sewing.

4. Seams: lay the front and the back with their right sides together. With the yarn needle and the ends left there, sew the 7 sts at the top of each strap of the front to the 7 sts at the top of a strap of the back, st to st. With a length of about 15 in (40 cm) of yarn A for each side, sew the side edges together from the foundation chain up to the skipped sts, the ends of rows 1 to 5 of the front to the ends of rows 1 to 5 of the back. Turn the dress right side out.

5. Skirt and edgings: work the skirt, the neck edging and the two armhole edgings, as written above.

6. Heart: the middle of the front lies between sts 17 and 18 of the 34 sts of row 9, the last row below the front neck.

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Lay the heart there, right side up, its point downward, the middle st of its row 11 under this place and the tops of its lobes level with the top of row 8. Pin it flat. With the yarn needle and the end left there, sew it to the front with small stitches all around, 1 stitch through each sc of its edging.

7. Bows: lay the middle of a shoulder bow cord across a shoulder seam, in the middle of the strap, and tie it there in a small flat bow with loops about 1 in (2.5 cm) long and ends of about 1½ in (4 cm). With yarn B sew through the knot and the strap 6 times or more, and with a few stitches sew down the middle of each loop as well, so that the bow cannot be pulled open. Do the same on the other shoulder.

Finishing

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

In all: 5 pieces; 3,479 stitches.

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

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