Open shell stitch baby blanket

Standard · US terms



Finished size
About 31¾ × 40½ in (81 × 103 cm)

Skill
Easy
Skipped stitches, groups in one place, chain spaces

Yarn
Medium (4)

Hook
5.5 mm (US I-9)

Gauge
13 stitches and 9 rows to 4 in (10 cm)
In open shell stitch.

What you need

Yarn: any color, medium (4) **about 1,175 yd (1,074 m), an estimate**
By weight: about 590 g, an estimate, where 100 g is 200 yd (183 m).
Hook: 5.5 mm (US I-9). Also: yarn needle, scissors and tape measure.

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Gauge

13 stitches and 9 rows to 4 in (10 cm) in open shell stitch. Along a row, count every stitch and every chain between stitches as one.

Use any hook that gives you this. If you count more stitches than this in 4 in (10 cm), change to a larger hook; if you count fewer, to a smaller one.

To count your gauge in the middle of the test piece: two repeats of the bracketed group side by side (12 foundation chains' worth) are about 3¾ in (9.5 cm) wide, and 10 rows are about 4 3/8 in (11.5 cm) tall.

The pattern also stops you to measure after row 7.

> **The swatch.** Work the test piece first. This piece is wide, and starting again after the first place to stop means working its first rows a second time. A test piece to measure and pull out. It is not the start of the pattern. Gauge is counted over 4 in (10 cm), so make the swatch bigger than that: about 6 in (15 cm) each way, and count in the middle of it.
>
> **Swatch foundation** — Ch 20.
>
> **Swatch row 1 (RS)** — Sc in 2nd ch from hook,
> **[**sk next 2 chs, (2 dc, ch 1, 2 dc) in next ch, sk next 2 chs, sc in next ch**] 3 times**
> (4 sc, 12 dc, 3 ch-1 sps)
>
> **Swatch row 2** — Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn; dc in same st,
> **[**sk next 2 sts, sc in next ch-1 sp, sk next 2 sts, (2 dc, ch 1, 2 dc) in next st**] 2 times**,
> sk next 2 sts, sc in next ch-1 sp, sk next 2 sts, 2 dc in last st (12 dc, 3 sc, 2 ch-1 sps)
>
> **Swatch row 3** — Ch 1, turn; sc in first st, sk next st, (2 dc, ch 1, 2 dc) in next st,
> **[**sk next 2 sts, sc in next ch-1 sp, sk next 2 sts, (2 dc, ch 1, 2 dc) in next st**] 2 times**,
> sk next st, sc in top of turning ch (4 sc, 12 dc, 3 ch-1 sps)
>
> **Swatch rows 4 to 13** — Repeat swatch rows 2 and 3 in turn: every even-numbered row is worked as swatch row 2, every odd-numbered row as swatch row 3.

For another width, add or take away 6 chains at a time: each 6 chains adds one more repeat of each bracketed group. Measure your own gauge first.

Instructions

Standard. US terms.

sc single crochet (UK dc), **ch** chain, **dc** double crochet (UK tr), **sk** skip, **st** stitch.
2 dc in last st: **both in one stitch**. **ch-1 sp**: the hole under the chain. The hook goes in the hole, never into a chain.
The ch 3 is the first dc: skip the first stitch; the last dc goes in the **top of the 3 chains**.
[ ] 17 times: 17 times in all. ( ) in one place: all of it there. (18 sc, 68 dc, 17 ch-1 sps): the row now has that many; a check, not a step.
Also: sp space.
Every stitch, drawn: flossfield.com/crochet/stitches.

☐ **Start** — Make a slip knot. Ch 104.

☐ **Row 1** — Sc in 2nd ch from hook,
[sk next 2 chs, (2 dc, ch 1, 2 dc) in next ch, sk next 2 chs, sc in next ch**] 17 times**
(18 sc, 68 dc, 17 ch-1 sps)

☐ **Row 2** — Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn; dc in same st,
[sk next 2 sts, sc in next ch-1 sp, sk next 2 sts, (2 dc, ch 1, 2 dc) in next st**] 16 times**,
sk next 2 sts, sc in next ch-1 sp, sk next 2 sts, 2 dc in last st (68 dc, 17 sc, 16 ch-1 sps)

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☐ **Row 3** Ch 1, turn; sc in first st, sk next st, (2 dc, ch 1, 2 dc) in next st,
[sk next 2 sts, sc in next ch-1 sp, sk next 2 sts, (2 dc, ch 1, 2 dc) in next st**] 16 times**,
sk next st, sc in top of turning ch (18 sc, 68 dc, 17 ch-1 sps)

☐ **Rows 4 to 7** Repeat rows 2 and 3 in turn: every even-numbered row is worked as row 2, every odd-numbered row as row 3.

The heavy box is where you stop and measure.

4 5 6 **7**

Stop and measure now, after row 7. Width, across the middle of the rows and not along the chain edge: about 31¾ in (81 cm). If it is wider, start again with a smaller hook; if it is narrower, with a larger one. If only the chain edge is tight, make the chain with a larger hook.

☐ **Rows 8 to 91** Repeat rows 2 and 3 in turn: every even-numbered row is worked as row 2, every odd-numbered row as row 3.

Repeat until the piece measures about 40½ in (103 cm), ending with a row worked as row 3: at our gauge that is row 91. Go by the tape measure, not the count.

8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35
36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63
64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91

☐ Fasten off, leaving a 6 in (15 cm) tail.

Finishing

- Weave in the ends.
- This pattern has no border, and every size given here is without one.

In all: 91 rows; 7,781 stitches; 2 ends to weave in.

Also makes: open shell stitch scarf, from the same stitch pattern. See the pattern's page at flossfield.com/crochet/patterns/open-shell-stitch-baby-blanket/.

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 size of the blanket, at 0.9 yd of yarn for each square inch. A fabric with open spaces may take less. To measure your own: work the swatch and measure it, mark the yarn where the swatch begins and ends, pull the swatch out and measure the yarn it took; divide by the area of the swatch and multiply by the area of the piece.

Notes

- The ch 3 at the start of a row counts as a dc. The last stitch of the next row is worked into the top of it.
- The ch 1 at the start of a row does not count as a stitch.
- Row 1 is the right side.
- Stitches in parentheses, or several of one stitch, are all worked into the one place named after them.
- The number of rows is our estimate: yours may differ, and the length does not change the stitch count.
- Leave a tail of about 6 in (15 cm) when you begin, and weave it in at the end with the others.
- One yarn is used throughout: a variegated, self-striping or cake yarn of the same weight and length can take its place, and its colors fall where the yarn has them.

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

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