

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.

You will need

Yarn: any color, medium (4)

about 1,175 yd (1,074 m), an estimate

Hook: 5.5 mm (US I-9). Also: yarn needle, scissors and tape measure.

To find how many balls: divide by the length on your yarn's label and round up. 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.

Abbreviations

Written in US terms. Where the UK name differs it is given beside the US one.

ch	chain stitch
sc	single crochet (UK dc, double crochet)
dc	double crochet (UK tr, treble)
RS	right side
sk	skip
sp	space
st	stitch

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.

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 3.7 in (9.4 cm) wide, and 10 rows are about 4.4 in (11.3 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.

Before you start

- 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.

Instructions

Chosen: Standard. Square brackets [] hold a repeat: work what is inside as many times as it says. Round brackets () inside a line hold stitches that all go into one place. The count in round brackets at the end of a line is what that line leaves. Tick the box when a row is done. In UK terms sc is double crochet and dc is treble.

- ☐ **Foundation** Ch 104.
- ☐ **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] **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)**
- ☐ **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 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.

A box for each row, 4 to 91: tick them off as you go. The heavy box is where you stop and measure.

4	5	6	7	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																															

Stop and measure when you have worked 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.

- ☐ **End** 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/.

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