Pleated skirt with knife pleats

M, to fit waist 29 in (73.5 cm) · US terms



Finished size

About 30¼ in (77 cm) at the waist and about 41 in (104 cm) at the hip

To fit a waist of 29 in (73.5 cm) and a hip of 39 in (99 cm)

Skill

Intermediate

Post stitches in rounds, pleats folded and worked together, a shaped yoke, a zipper sewn in by hand

Yarn

Fine (2), 2 colors

Hook

4 mm (US G-6)

Gauge

18 stitches and 15 rows to 4 in (10 cm)

In half double crochet (UK half treble).

What you need

Yarn A: navy, main color **about 1,650 yd (1,509 m), an estimate**

Yarn B: cream, contrast **about 105 yd (96 m), an estimate**

By weight: about 500 g in all, an estimate, where 100 g is 350 yd (320 m).

Hook: 4 mm (US G-6), or the size that gives you the gauge. Also: yarn needle, scissors, tape measure, 1 closed-end zipper, 7 in (18 cm) long, navy, a hook and eye, sewing thread and a sewing needle, stitch markers 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 waist	Yarn, an estimate	Waist, closed	Around the hip, where the pleats begin	Hem	Yoke, from the waist to the pleats	Pleats, from the yoke to the hem	Length
XS	23½ in (59.5 cm)	about 1,515 yd (1,385 m)	24¾ in (63 cm)	35½ in (90 cm)	106¾ in (271 cm)	7 in (18 cm)	12¼ in (31 cm)	19¼ in (49 cm)
S	25¾ in (65.5 cm)	about 1,595 yd (1,458 m)	27 in (68.5 cm)	37¼ in (94.5 cm)	112 in (284.5 cm)	7 in (18 cm)	12¼ in (31 cm)	19¼ in (49 cm)
M (this file)	**29 in (73.5 cm)**	**about 1,755 yd (1,605 m)**	**30¼ in (77 cm)**	**41 in (104 cm)**	**122¾ in (312 cm)**	**7 in (18 cm)**	**12¼ in (31 cm)**	**19¼ in (49 cm)**

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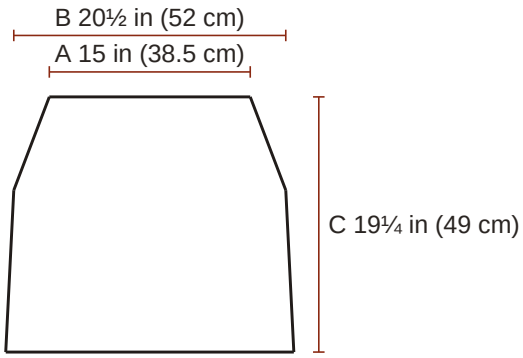
L	33 in (84 cm)	about 1,915 yd (1,751 m)	34¼ in (87 cm)	44½ in (113 cm)	133¼ in (338.5 cm)	7 in (18 cm)	12¼ in (31 cm)	19¼ in (49 cm)
1X	37 in (94 cm)	about 2,050 yd (1,875 m)	38¼ in (97 cm)	48 in (122 cm)	144 in (366 cm)	7 in (18 cm)	12¼ in (31 cm)	19¼ in (49 cm)
2X	41 in (104 cm)	about 2,290 yd (2,094 m)	42¼ in (107.5 cm)	53¼ in (135.5 cm)	160 in (406.5 cm)	7 in (18 cm)	12¼ in (31 cm)	19¼ in (49 cm)
3X	44½ in (113 cm)	about 2,445 yd (2,236 m)	45¾ in (116 cm)	57 in (145 cm)	170¾ in (433.5 cm)	7 in (18 cm)	12¼ in (31 cm)	19¼ in (49 cm)

Schematic



Skirt, laid flat with the pleats folded
A half the waist
B half the hip
C the length

Gauge

18 stitches and 15 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 28; begin in the 2nd ch from the hook and work 22 rows of half double crochet on 27 sts, about 6 in (15 cm) wide and 5¾ in (14.5 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. Pleats: double crochet (UK: treble) with post stitch columns, 18 sts and 9.5 rounds to 4 in (10 cm), laid flat and not folded; a folded pleat, 8 sts, is about 1¾ in (4.4 cm) wide. Waistband and edging: single crochet (UK: double crochet), 18 sts and 21 rows to 4 in (10 cm).

Notes

- Women's sizes, by waist and hip; choose by the larger of the two. The skirt ends above the knee.
- The closed waist is 1¼ in (3 cm) wider than the body measurement, and around the hip, where the pleats begin, the skirt is from ¾ in (2 cm) to 2½ in (6.5 cm) wider than the body, by the size. No fit is promised beyond the measurements given.
- The skirt is worked in rounds that are joined and not turned; the right side always faces you. The yoke is worked in rows that are turned.

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- The chain at the start of a round or a row (ch 1 for single and half double crochet, ch 2 for double crochet) never counts as a stitch. Work the first stitch into the stitch at its base; in a row, into the first stitch.
- A decrease counts as one stitch.
- A pleat of 24 sts is 8 sts wide when it is folded. Seen from the right side, the edges of all the pleats point to the left.
- In the yoke the odd-numbered rows are right side rows.
- Left and right are those of the person who wears the skirt; "right-hand" and "left-hand" are as you look at the work.
- Color changes in rows: work the last yarn over of the last stitch of the row before with the new yarn. Cut the old yarn, leaving an end of about 6 in (15 cm), or, if it is needed again at the same edge within 6 rows and that edge is straight, carry it loosely up the edge.
- 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.

Instructions

M, to fit waist 29 in (73.5 cm). US terms.

ch chain, **sl st** slip stitch, **sc** single crochet (UK double crochet), **hdc** half double crochet (UK half treble), **dc** double crochet (UK treble), **Rnd** round, **st** stitch.
[ ] 23 times: work what is inside 23 times in all.
(552 sc): the stitches you have when the round is done. **How to read a pattern**.

Special stitches

hdc2tog (half double crochet 2 stitches together (UK half treble 2 together)): [yarn over, insert the hook in the next stitch and pull up a loop] twice (5 loops on the hook); yarn over and pull through all 5 loops.

fpdc (front post double crochet (UK front post treble)): Yarn over, insert the hook from the front to the back and to the front again around the post of the stitch named, pull up a loop, [yarn over and pull through 2 loops] twice. The front is the side that faces you. A post stitch takes the place of the stitch it is worked around: do not work into the top of that stitch as well.

bpdc (back post double crochet (UK back post treble)): As fpdc, but insert the hook from the back to the front and to the back again around the post.

Skirt

Yarn A, navy.

☐ **Foundation**	The skirt is worked from the hem up. Work the foundation chain loosely and put a marker in every 24th ch: there are 23 pleats of 24 chs. With yarn A, ch 552; join with sl st in first ch to form a ring, taking care not to twist the chain. Colors: rnds 1 and 2 yarn A; rnd 3 yarn B; rnd 4 yarn A; rnd 5 yarn B; rnds 6 to 30 yarn A.	
☐ **Rnd 1**	Ch 1; sc in each ch around; join with sl st in first sc	(552 sc)
☐ **Rnd 2**	Ch 2; dc in each st around; join with sl st in first dc	(552 dc)
☐ **Rnds 3 to 29**	Ch 2; **[**dc in next 7 sts, fpdc around next st, dc in next 7 sts, bpdc around next st, dc in next 8 sts**] 23 times**; join with sl st in first dc	(506 dc, 23 fpdcs, 23 bpdcs)

3 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

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☐ **Rnd 30**	Ch 1; sc in each st around; join with sl st in first sc	(552 sc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off. The beginning of the rounds is the left side, as worn. Hide the ends at the joins. Wet the skirt, or steam it as the yarn label allows, lay it on a board a few pleats at a time, and fold it all the way along each column: the fpdc columns stand out as the edges of the pleats, and the bpdc columns lie inside as their back folds. Pin the folds and let them dry, so that they are sharp before the yoke is worked.	

Yoke

Yarn A, navy.

☐ **Foundation**	Colors: rows 1 to 25 yarn A; row 26 yarn B; rows 27 and 28 yarn A. Hold the skirt with the right side facing and rnd 30 uppermost. Count the sts of rnd 30 from its join: every 24 sts are one pleat, sts 1 to 8 its face, sts 9 to 16 the part that is folded back behind the face, and sts 17 to 24 the part that is folded forward again behind both. The column of fpdc below st 8 is the edge of the pleat, and points to the left; the column of bpdc is below st 16. Fold the first pleat: st 9 and st 24 now lie behind st 8, and st 16 and st 17 lie behind st 1. Join yarn A through sts 1, 16 and 17 together, with the hook through the tops of all three from front to back; ch 1, sc through sts 1, 16 and 17, then sc through sts 2, 15 and 18, through sts 3, 14 and 19, through sts 4, 13 and 20, through sts 5, 12 and 21, through sts 6, 11 and 22, through sts 7, 10 and 23, and through sts 8, 9 and 24 (8 sc on the first pleat). Fold each of the other 22 pleats and work 8 sc through it in this order, all around (184 sc). Do not join: the opening for the zipper begins here, at the left side. This is row 1, a right side row.	
☐ **Rows 2 to 3** 2 3	Ch 1, turn; hdc in each st across	(184 hdc)
☐ **Row 4**	Ch 1, turn; **[**hdc in next 21 sts, hdc2tog**] 8 times**	(176 hdc)
☐ **Rows 5 to 6** 5 6	Ch 1, turn; hdc in each st across	(176 hdc)
☐ **Row 7**	Ch 1, turn; **[**hdc in next 17 sts, hdc2tog**] 4 times**, **[**hdc in next 18 sts, hdc2tog**] 5 times**	(167 hdc)
☐ **Rows 8 to 9** 8 9	Ch 1, turn; hdc in each st across	(167 hdc)
☐ **Row 10**	Ch 1, turn; hdc in next 18 sts, hdc2tog, **[**hdc in next 19 sts, hdc2tog**] 7 times**	(159 hdc)
☐ **Rows 11 to 12** 11 12	Ch 1, turn; hdc in each st across	(159 hdc)
☐ **Row 13**	Ch 1, turn; hdc in next 17 sts, hdc2tog, **[**hdc in next 18 sts, hdc2tog**] 7 times**	(151 hdc)
☐ **Rows 14 to 15** 14 15	Ch 1, turn; hdc in each st across	(151 hdc)
☐ **Row 16**	Ch 1, turn; [hdc in next 14 sts, hdc2tog] twice, **[**hdc in next 15 sts, hdc2tog**] 7 times**	(142 hdc)

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☐ **Rows 17 to 18** 17 18	Ch 1, turn; hdc in each st across	(142 hdc)
☐ **Row 19**	Ch 1, turn; [hdc in next 15 sts, hdc2tog] twice, **[**hdc in next 16 sts, hdc2tog**] 6 times**	(134 hdc)
☐ **Rows 20 to 23** 20 21 22 23	Ch 1, turn; hdc in each st across	(134 hdc)
☐ **Rows 24 to 28** 24 25 26 27 28	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	(134 sc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off.	

Assembly

1. Edging of the opening: Hold the skirt with the right side facing and the opening at the left side, as worn, toward you. Join yarn A in the end of row 28 at the right-hand edge of the opening; ch 1, then work down that edge to the foot of the opening and, without a stitch between, up the left-hand edge: along rows 1 to 28 of the yoke, met from the last of them, [2 sc in the end of the next row, sc in the end of each of the next 6 rows] 4 times (32 sc); along rows 1 to 28 of the yoke, [sc in the end of each of the next 6 rows, 2 sc in the end of the next row] 4 times (32 sc). There are 64 sc in all. This is row 1, a right side row, and the only row. Fasten off.

2. Zipper: close the zipper and turn the top ends of its tape under. Pin it behind the opening, with its right side outward, its pull at the waist and its lower stop at the foot of the opening, so that the two edgings meet over its teeth and hide them. Open it, and with sewing thread backstitch each edging to the tape along row 1 of the edging, from the waist down; sew the outer edges of the tape to the wrong side of the yoke with small stitches that do not show. If the zipper is longer than the opening, sew over and over its teeth at the foot to make a new stop, and cut it off ½ in (1.5 cm) below.

3. Hook and eye: sew them with sewing thread to the wrong side of the waist above the zipper, the hook at the front edge and the eye at the back edge, so that the edges meet. Wash the skirt by hand, fold the pleats along their columns while it is wet, and dry it flat.

Finishing

- Weave in all the ends. Pin or baste the pleats along their edges and press them once more, as the yarn label allows; take the basting out when they are dry.

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

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