Preemie cardigan

Preemie, 4 to 5 lb (1.8 to 2.3 kg), to fit chest 11½ in (29 cm) · US terms



Finished size
About 13¼ in (33.5 cm) at the chest and about 9¾ in (25 cm) at the neck
To fit a chest of 11½ in (29 cm)

Skill
Easy
Basic stitches and one piece from the neck down

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.

You will need

Yarn A: soft mint, main — **about 140 yd (128 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: white, contrast — **about 60 yd (55 m), an estimate**
Hook: 4 mm (US G-6), or the size that gives you the gauge. Also: yarn needle, scissors and tape measure.

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	Chest (buttoned)	Neck around (buttoned)	Length from the top of the neckband	Yoke depth, without the neckband	Upper sleeve around	Sleeve from the underarm	Cuff around	Yarn, an estimate
Preemie, 2 to 3 lb (0.9 to 1.4 kg)	9½ in (24 cm)	11½ in (29 cm)	8¼ in (21 cm)	6¼ in (16 cm)	2¾ in (7 cm)	4¼ in (11 cm)	3¼ in (8.5 cm)	3¼ in (8.5 cm)	about 150 yd (137 m)
Preemie, 4 to 5 lb (1.8 to 2.3 kg) (this file)	**11½ in (29 cm)**	**13¼ in (33.5 cm)**	**9¾ in (25 cm)**	**7 in (18 cm)**	**3 in (7.5 cm)**	**5 in (12.5 cm)**	**4 in (10 cm)**	**4 in (10 cm)**	**about 200 yd (183 m)**
Newborn	14 in (35.5 cm)	15½ in (39.5 cm)	11 in (28 cm)	8 in (20.5 cm)	3½ in (9 cm)	5¾ in (14.5 cm)	5 in (12.5 cm)	4½ in (11.5 cm)	about 270 yd (247 m)

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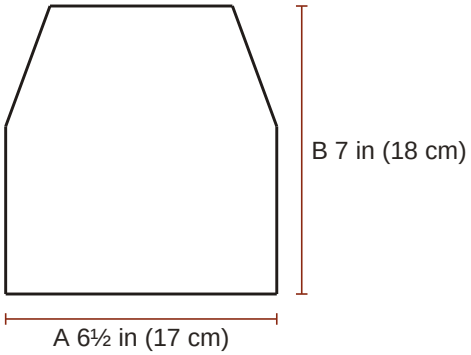
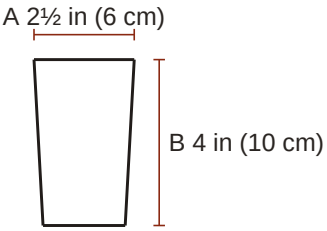
Schematic



Cardigan, buttoned
A half the chest (buttoned)
B the length from the top of the neckband



Sleeve, laid flat
A half the top of the sleeve
B the sleeve

Abbreviations

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

hdc	half double crochet (UK htr, half treble)
sc	single crochet (UK dc, double crochet)
sl st	slip stitch (UK ss, slip stitch)
ch	chain stitch
RS	right side
WS	wrong side
Rnd	round
st	stitch
sp	space

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. It leaves 1 sc2tog for the next row or round.

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. It leaves 1 hdc2tog for the next row or round.

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. Single crochet (UK: double crochet): about 21 rows to 4 in (10 cm).

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Before you start

- Three sizes, chosen by the chest.
- No fit is promised beyond the measurements given. The finished chest is about 1¼ to 2 in (3 to 5 cm) wider than the chest it is for, and the whole front opens, so nothing is pulled over the head.
- The cardigan is worked from the neck down in one piece. Its yoke and body are worked back and forth in rows; row 1 is a right side row. The sleeves are worked in rounds with the right side facing.
- The chain at the start of a row or round (ch 1) never counts as a stitch. Work the first stitch into the stitch at its base.
- A ch-1 sp marks each of the four raglan lines. The ch-1 sps are counted apart from the stitches.
- At the underarms, work into each of the new chains as into a stitch on the next row. The sleeves are worked into the free side of these chains.
- A decrease counts as one stitch.
- To work into a chain space, put the hook under the whole chain.
- Row 1 of each band is the row that is picked up along the edge. With the cardigan buttoned, the buttonhole band lies over the button band.
- Use a soft yarn that can be washed often. Weave the ends in well and sew the buttons on firmly, and look at them before each wear.
- 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

Chosen: Preemie, 4 to 5 lb (1.8 to 2.3 kg), to fit chest 11½ in (29 cm). 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 hdc is half treble, sc is double crochet and sl st is slip stitch.

Yoke

Yarn A, soft mint.

☐ **Foundation**	With yarn A, ch 41. Colors: rows 1 and 2 yarn A; rows 3 and 4 yarn B; rows 5 and 6 yarn A; rows 7 and 8 yarn B; rows 9 to 11 yarn A.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Hdc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across	**(40 hdc)**
☐ **Row 2 (WS)**	Ch 1, turn; hdc in next 7 sts, ch 1, hdc in next 6 sts, ch 1, hdc in next 14 sts, ch 1, hdc in next 6 sts, ch 1, hdc in next 7 sts	**(40 hdc, 4 ch-1 sps)**
☐ **Rows 3 to 8**	Ch 1, turn; **[**hdc in each st to next ch-1 sp, (hdc, ch 1, hdc) in next ch-1 sp**] 4 times**, hdc in each st across	**(88 hdc; 4 ch-1 sps)**

A box for each row, 3 to 8: tick them off as you go.

3 4 5 6 7 8

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☐ **Rows 9 to 11**	Ch 1, turn; **[**hdc in each st to next ch-1 sp, ch 1, skip next ch-1 sp**] 4 times**, hdc in each st across	**(88 hdc, 4 ch-1 sps)**

A box for each row, 9 to 11: tick them off as you go.

9 10 11

☐ **End**	Do not fasten off.	

Body

Yarn A, soft mint.

☐ **Foundation**	Go on from row 11 of the yoke. Colors: rows 12 to 22 yarn A; rows 23 to 25 yarn B.	
☐ **Row 12**	Ch 1, turn; hdc in each st to next ch-1 sp, ch 2 (underarm), skip next ch-1 sp, next 18 sts and next ch-1 sp (one sleeve), hdc in each st to next ch-1 sp, ch 2 (underarm), skip next ch-1 sp, next 18 sts and next ch-1 sp (one sleeve), hdc in each st across	**(52 hdc, 4 ch)**
☐ **Rows 13 to 22**	Ch 1, turn; hdc in each st across	**(56 hdc)**

A box for each row, 13 to 22: tick them off as you go.

13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22

☐ **Rows 23 to 25**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	**(56 sc)**

A box for each row, 23 to 25: tick them off as you go.

23 24 25

☐ **End**	Fasten off.	

Sleeve: make 2

Yarn A, soft mint.

☐ **Foundation**	Colors: rnds 1 to 13 yarn A; rnds 14 to 16 yarn B. With the right side facing and the hem downward, join yarn A in the left-hand one of the 2 underarm chs, on their free side; ch 1, hdc in that ch, hdc in the ch-1 sp, hdc in each of the 18 sleeve sts, hdc in the next ch-1 sp and hdc in the underarm ch left (22 hdc); join with sl st in first hdc. This is rnd 1.	
☐ **Rnds 2 to 4**	Ch 1; hdc in each st around; join with sl st in first hdc	**(22 hdc)**

A box for each round, 2 to 4: tick them off as you go.

2 3 4

☐ **Rnd 5**	Ch 1; hdc2tog, hdc in each st around to last 2 sts, hdc2tog; join with sl st in first hdc2tog	**(20 hdc)**
☐ **Rnds 6 to 9**	Repeat Rnds 2 to 5, once more	**(18 hdc)**

A box for each round, 6 to 9: tick them off as you go.

6 7 8 9

☐ **Rnds 10 to 13**	Ch 1; hdc in each st around; join with sl st in first hdc	**(18 hdc)**

A box for each round, 10 to 13: tick them off as you go.

10 11 12 13

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☐ **Rnds 14 to 16**	Ch 1; sc in each st around; join with sl st in first sc	**(18 sc)**

A box for each round, 14 to 16: tick them off as you go.

14 15 16

☐ **End**	Fasten off.	

Neckband

Yarn B, white.

☐ **Foundation**	With the right side facing and the foundation chain uppermost, join yarn B at the right front edge (as worn) in the first ch made, under the last hdc of row 1 of the yoke; ch 1, sc in the free side of each of the 40 chs under row 1, to the left front edge (40 sc); the ch skipped at the start of row 1 is left out. This is row 1.	
☐ **Rows 2 to 3**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	**(40 sc)**

A box for each row, 2 to 3: tick them off as you go.

2 3

☐ **End**	Fasten off.	

Button band

Yarn B, white.

☐ **Foundation**	With the right side facing, join yarn B at the neckband end of the left front edge (as worn). Ch 1; going down to the hem, sc in the end of each of the 3 neckband rows, then along the yoke and the body, [sc in the end of each of the next 4 rows, 2 sc in the end of the next row] 4 times, sc in the end of each of the next 2 rows (26 sc), then sc in the end of each of the last 3 rows of the body (32 sc in all). This is row 1.	
☐ **Rows 2 to 4**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	**(32 sc)**

A box for each row, 2 to 4: tick them off as you go.

2 3 4

☐ **End**	Fasten off.	

Buttonhole band

Yarn B, white.

☐ **Foundation**	With the right side facing, join yarn B at the hem of the right front edge (as worn). Ch 1; going up to the neck, sc in the end of each of the last 3 rows of the body, then along the rest of the body and the yoke, [sc in the end of each of the next 4 rows, 2 sc in the end of the next row] 4 times, sc in the end of each of the next 2 rows (26 sc), then sc in the end of each of the 3 neckband rows (32 sc in all). This is row 1.	
☐ **Row 2**	Ch 1, turn; sc in next st, **[**ch 2, skip next 2 sts, sc in next 7 sts**] 3 times**, ch 2, skip next 2 sts, sc in next 2 sts	**(24 sc, 4 ch-2 sps)**
☐ **Row 3**	Ch 1, turn; sc in next 2 sts, **[**2 sc in next ch-2 sp, sc in next 7 sts**] 3 times**, 2 sc in next ch-2 sp, sc in next st	**(32 sc)**
☐ **Row 4**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	**(32 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off.	

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Soft button: make 4

Yarn A, soft mint.

☐ **Foundation**	With yarn A, ch 3; join with sl st in first ch to form a ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1**	Ch 1; 8 sc in ring; join with sl st in first sc	**(8 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	Ch 1; sc2tog 4 times; join with sl st in first sc2tog	**(4 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving an end of about 12 in (30 cm). Tuck the beginning end into the button as a stuffing, run the last end through the tops of the 4 sts, pull it tight and fasten it. The button is about ½ in (1.3 cm) across; keep the end for sewing it on.	

Assembly

1. Close any small gaps at the underarms with the yarn ends there.

2. Buttons: lay the buttonhole band over the button band, neck edge on neck edge. Mark the button band under the middle of each of the 4 buttonholes, between rows 2 and 3 of the band. Sew a soft button there with its own end, through the band and through the back of the button several times, firmly. The buttonholes take up sts 2 and 3, 11 and 12, 20 and 21, 29 and 30 of row 1 of the button band, counted from the neck.

Finishing

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

In all: 5 pieces; 2,008 stitches (344 in the yoke, 784 in the body, 284 in each sleeve, 80 in the neckband, 96 in the button band, 88 in the buttonhole band, 12 in each soft button).

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

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