Shell stitch halter top

Size M · US terms



Finished size

About 36 in (91.5 cm) at the body and about 9 in (23 cm) at the body below the bib

To fit a bust of 37 in (94 cm)

Skill

Easy

Basic stitches, simple shaping and seams.

Yarn

Light (3), 2 colors

Hook

4.5 mm (US 7)

Gauge

16 stitches and 13½ rounds to 4 in (10 cm)

In half double crochet.

You will need

Yarn A: mustard, the main color — **about 425 yd (389 m), an estimate**

Yarn B: ivory, the second color — **about 55 yd (50 m), an estimate**

Hook: 4.5 mm (US 7). 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 stitches of this size at this gauge.

Sizes

Size	Bust	Body	Body below the bib	Bib height	Bib across the bottom	Bib across the top	Yarn, an estimate
XS	29 in (73.5 cm)	27 in (68.5 cm)	8½ in (21.5 cm)	6 in (15 cm)	11 in (28 cm)	6½ in (16.5 cm)	about 350 yd (320 m)
Size S	33 in (84 cm)	30 in (76 cm)	8½ in (21.5 cm)	6½ in (16.5 cm)	12 in (30.5 cm)	6½ in (16.5 cm)	about 400 yd (366 m)
Size M (this file)	**37 in (94 cm)**	**36 in (91.5 cm)**	**9 in (23 cm)**	**6½ in (16.5 cm)**	**14½ in (37 cm)**	**6½ in (16.5 cm)**	**about 480 yd (439 m)**
Size L	41 in (104 cm)	39 in (99 cm)	9 in (23 cm)	6½ in (16.5 cm)	15½ in (39.5 cm)	6½ in (16.5 cm)	about 510 yd (466 m)
1X	45 in (114.5 cm)	42 in (106.5 cm)	9 in (23 cm)	6¾ in (17 cm)	17 in (43 cm)	6½ in (16.5 cm)	about 565 yd (516 m)
2X	49 in (124.5 cm)	48 in (122 cm)	9 in (23 cm)	8 in (20.5 cm)	19 in (48.5 cm)	6½ in (16.5 cm)	about 645 yd (590 m)
3X	53 in (134.5 cm)	51 in (129.5 cm)	9¾ in (25 cm)	9 in (23 cm)	20½ in (52 cm)	6½ in (16.5 cm)	about 750 yd (686 m)

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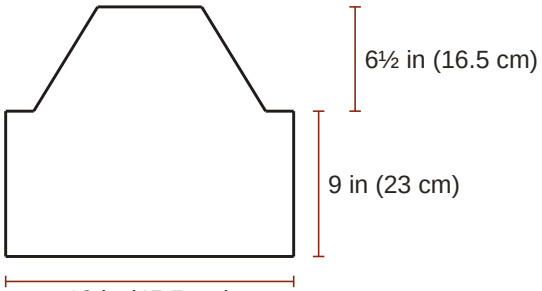
4X	57 in (145 cm)	54 in (137 cm)	9¾ in (25 cm)	9½ in (24 cm)	21½ in (54.5 cm)	6½ in (16.5 cm)	about 775 yd (709 m)
5X	61 in (155 cm)	60 in (152.5 cm)	9¾ in (25 cm)	11 in (28 cm)	24 in (61 cm)	6½ in (16.5 cm)	about 880 yd (805 m)

Schematic



Top, laid flat

Abbreviations

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

ch	chain
sl st	slip stitch (UK ss, slip stitch)
sc	single crochet (UK dc, double crochet)
hdc	half double crochet (UK htr, half treble)
dc	double crochet (UK tr, treble)
st	stitch
rnd	round
RS	right side

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. It leaves 1 hdc2tog for the next row.

Gauge

16 stitches and 13½ rounds 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 25; begin in the 2nd ch from the hook and work 20 rows of half 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. Shell rounds: 1 sc with 1 shell of 5 dc, worked over 6 sts, is 1½ in (3.8 cm) wide; 11.5 rounds to 4 in (10 cm).

Before you start

- Women's sizes.

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- The finished bust is from 1 in (2.5 cm) to 3 in (7.5 cm) narrower than the body measurement, by the size, and the fabric stretches to it. Choose by the finished measurement you like; no fit is promised beyond the measurements given.
- The body is worked in rounds from its lower edge up. The rounds are not turned; the right side always faces you.
- The bib is worked back and forth in rows; its row 1 is a right side row.
- The chain at the start of a round or 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, unless the round says otherwise.
- The sizes of the bib are of the bib itself; the top edging adds about ½ in (1.5 cm) at the top and at each side.
- A decrease counts as one stitch.
- Stitches worked evenly along row ends: about 6 sc in every 5 rows.

Instructions

Chosen: Size M. Square brackets [ ] hold a repeat: work what is inside as many times as it says. The count in round brackets at the end of a line is what that line leaves. Tick the box when a round is done. In UK terms sl st is slip stitch, sc is double crochet, hdc is half treble and dc is treble.

Body

Yarn A, mustard.

☐ **Foundation**	With yarn A, ch 144; join with sl st in first ch to form a ring, taking care not to twist the chain.	
☐ **Rnd 1**	Ch 1; hdc in each ch around; join with sl st in first hdc	**(144 hdc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	Ch 1; **[**sc in next st, skip next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st, skip next 2 sts**] 24 times**; join with sl st in first sc	**(24 sc, 120 dc)**
☐ **Rnd 3**	Ch 2; **[**5 dc in next st, skip next 2 sts, sc in next st, skip next 2 sts**] 24 times**; join with sl st in first dc	**(120 dc, 24 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 4**	Sl st in each of next 2 dc (the second is the middle of the shell), ch 1; sc in same st, skip next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st, skip next 2 sts, **[**sc in next st, skip next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st, skip next 2 sts**] 23 times**; join with sl st in first sc	**(24 sc, 120 dc)**
☐ **Rnd 5**	Ch 2; **[**5 dc in next st, skip next 2 sts, sc in next st, skip next 2 sts**] 24 times**; join with sl st in first dc	**(120 dc, 24 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 6**	Sl st in each of next 2 dc (the second is the middle of the shell), ch 1; sc in same st, skip next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st, skip next 2 sts, **[**sc in next st, skip next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st, skip next 2 sts**] 23 times**; join with sl st in first sc	**(24 sc, 120 dc)**
☐ **Rnd 7**	Ch 2; **[**5 dc in next st, skip next 2 sts, sc in next st, skip next 2 sts**] 24 times**; join with sl st in first dc	**(120 dc, 24 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 8**	Sl st in each of next 2 dc (the second is the middle of the shell), ch 1; sc in same st, skip next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st, skip next 2 sts, **[**sc in next st, skip next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st, skip next 2 sts**] 23 times**; join with sl st in first sc	**(24 sc, 120 dc)**
☐ **Rnd 9**	Ch 2; **[**5 dc in next st, skip next 2 sts, sc in next st, skip next 2 sts**] 24 times**; join with sl st in first dc	**(120 dc, 24 sc)**

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☐ **Rnd 10**	Sl st in each of next 2 dc (the second is the middle of the shell), ch 1; sc in same st, skip next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st, skip next 2 sts, **[**sc in next st, skip next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st, skip next 2 sts**] 23 times**; join with sl st in first sc	**(24 sc, 120 dc)**
☐ **Rnd 11**	Ch 2; **[**5 dc in next st, skip next 2 sts, sc in next st, skip next 2 sts**] 24 times**; join with sl st in first dc	**(120 dc, 24 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 12**	Sl st in each of next 2 dc (the second is the middle of the shell), ch 1; sc in same st, skip next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st, skip next 2 sts, **[**sc in next st, skip next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st, skip next 2 sts**] 23 times**; join with sl st in first sc	**(24 sc, 120 dc)**
☐ **Rnd 13**	Ch 2; **[**5 dc in next st, skip next 2 sts, sc in next st, skip next 2 sts**] 24 times**; join with sl st in first dc	**(120 dc, 24 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 14**	Sl st in each of next 2 dc (the second is the middle of the shell), ch 1; sc in same st, skip next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st, skip next 2 sts, **[**sc in next st, skip next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st, skip next 2 sts**] 23 times**; join with sl st in first sc	**(24 sc, 120 dc)**
☐ **Rnd 15**	Ch 2; **[**5 dc in next st, skip next 2 sts, sc in next st, skip next 2 sts**] 24 times**; join with sl st in first dc	**(120 dc, 24 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 16**	Sl st in each of next 2 dc (the second is the middle of the shell), ch 1; sc in same st, skip next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st, skip next 2 sts, **[**sc in next st, skip next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st, skip next 2 sts**] 23 times**; join with sl st in first sc	**(24 sc, 120 dc)**
☐ **Rnd 17**	Ch 2; **[**5 dc in next st, skip next 2 sts, sc in next st, skip next 2 sts**] 24 times**; join with sl st in first dc	**(120 dc, 24 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 18**	Sl st in each of next 2 dc (the second is the middle of the shell), ch 1; sc in same st, skip next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st, skip next 2 sts, **[**sc in next st, skip next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st, skip next 2 sts**] 23 times**; join with sl st in first sc	**(24 sc, 120 dc)**
☐ **Rnd 19**	Ch 2; **[**5 dc in next st, skip next 2 sts, sc in next st, skip next 2 sts**] 24 times**; join with sl st in first dc	**(120 dc, 24 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 20**	Sl st in each of next 2 dc (the second is the middle of the shell), ch 1; sc in same st, skip next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st, skip next 2 sts, **[**sc in next st, skip next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st, skip next 2 sts**] 23 times**; join with sl st in first sc	**(24 sc, 120 dc)**
☐ **Rnd 21**	Ch 2; **[**5 dc in next st, skip next 2 sts, sc in next st, skip next 2 sts**] 24 times**; join with sl st in first dc	**(120 dc, 24 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 22**	Sl st in each of next 2 dc (the second is the middle of the shell), ch 1; sc in same st, skip next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st, skip next 2 sts, **[**sc in next st, skip next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st, skip next 2 sts**] 23 times**; join with sl st in first sc	**(24 sc, 120 dc)**
☐ **Rnd 23**	Ch 2; **[**5 dc in next st, skip next 2 sts, sc in next st, skip next 2 sts**] 24 times**; join with sl st in first dc	**(120 dc, 24 sc)**

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☐ **Rnd 24**	Sl st in each of next 2 dc (the second is the middle of the shell), ch 1; sc in same st, skip next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st, skip next 2 sts, **[**sc in next st, skip next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st, skip next 2 sts**] 23 times**; join with sl st in first sc	**(24 sc, 120 dc)**
☐ **Rnd 25**	Ch 1; sc in each st around; join with sl st in first sc	**(144 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off.	

Bib

Yarn A, mustard.

☐ **Foundation**	Lay the body flat, right side facing, with the beginning of the rounds at the right-hand side edge. Count 7 sts to the left along the front from that edge and leave them unworked. Join yarn A in the next st; that st is the first of the 58 sts of the bib, which is worked in rows on the next 58 sts.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Ch 1; hdc in each st across	**(58 hdc)**
☐ **Row 2**	Ch 1, turn; hdc2tog, hdc in each st across to last 2 sts, hdc2tog	**(56 hdc)**
☐ **Row 3**	Ch 1, turn; hdc2tog, hdc in each st across to last 2 sts, hdc2tog	**(54 hdc)**
☐ **Row 4**	Ch 1, turn; hdc2tog, hdc in each st across to last 2 sts, hdc2tog	**(52 hdc)**
☐ **Row 5**	Ch 1, turn; hdc2tog, hdc in each st across to last 2 sts, hdc2tog	**(50 hdc)**
☐ **Row 6**	Ch 1, turn; hdc in each st across	**(50 hdc)**
☐ **Row 7**	Ch 1, turn; hdc2tog, hdc in each st across to last 2 sts, hdc2tog	**(48 hdc)**
☐ **Row 8**	Ch 1, turn; hdc2tog, hdc in each st across to last 2 sts, hdc2tog	**(46 hdc)**
☐ **Row 9**	Ch 1, turn; hdc2tog, hdc in each st across to last 2 sts, hdc2tog	**(44 hdc)**
☐ **Row 10**	Ch 1, turn; hdc in each st across	**(44 hdc)**
☐ **Row 11**	Ch 1, turn; hdc2tog, hdc in each st across to last 2 sts, hdc2tog	**(42 hdc)**
☐ **Row 12**	Ch 1, turn; hdc2tog, hdc in each st across to last 2 sts, hdc2tog	**(40 hdc)**
☐ **Row 13**	Ch 1, turn; hdc2tog, hdc in each st across to last 2 sts, hdc2tog	**(38 hdc)**
☐ **Row 14**	Ch 1, turn; hdc in each st across	**(38 hdc)**
☐ **Row 15**	Ch 1, turn; hdc2tog, hdc in each st across to last 2 sts, hdc2tog	**(36 hdc)**
☐ **Row 16**	Ch 1, turn; hdc2tog, hdc in each st across to last 2 sts, hdc2tog	**(34 hdc)**
☐ **Row 17**	Ch 1, turn; hdc2tog, hdc in each st across to last 2 sts, hdc2tog	**(32 hdc)**
☐ **Row 18**	Ch 1, turn; hdc in each st across	**(32 hdc)**
☐ **Row 19**	Ch 1, turn; hdc2tog, hdc in each st across to last 2 sts, hdc2tog	**(30 hdc)**
☐ **Row 20**	Ch 1, turn; hdc2tog, hdc in each st across to last 2 sts, hdc2tog	**(28 hdc)**
☐ **Row 21**	Ch 1, turn; hdc2tog, hdc in each st across to last 2 sts, hdc2tog	**(26 hdc)**
☐ **Row 22**	Ch 1, turn; hdc in each st across	**(26 hdc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off.	

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Top edging

Yarn B, ivory.

☐ **Foundation**	With the right side facing, join yarn B at the middle of the back.	
☐ **Rnd 1**	Ch 1, sc in each of the next 43 sts to the bib, 26 sc evenly up the side of the bib, sc in each of the 26 sts across its top, 26 sc evenly down the other side and sc in each of the last 43 sts; join with sl st in first sc	**(164 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	Ch 1; sc in each st around; join with sl st in first sc	**(164 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off.	

Lower edging

Yarn B, ivory.

☐ **Foundation**	Turn the top so that the foundation chain is uppermost. With the right side facing, join yarn B in the foundation chain at the start of rnd 1.	
☐ **Rnd 1**	Ch 1, sc in each ch around; join with sl st in first sc	**(144 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	Ch 1; **[**sc in next st, skip next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st, skip next 2 sts**] 24 times**; join with sl st in first sc	**(24 sc, 120 dc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off.	

Neck tie: make 2

Yarn B, ivory.

☐ **Foundation**	With yarn B, ch 93.	
☐ **Row 1**	Sl st in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across	**(92 sl sts)**
☐ **End**	Each neck tie is about 20 in (51 cm) long (the slip stitches draw the chain in). Fasten off.	

Putting it together

Sew one end of each neck tie to a top corner of the bib, on the wrong side of the top edging.

Finishing

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

In all: 6 pieces; 5,304 stitches (3,600 in the body, 904 in the bib, 328 in the top edging, 288 in the lower edging, 92 in each neck tie); 12 ends to weave in.

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

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