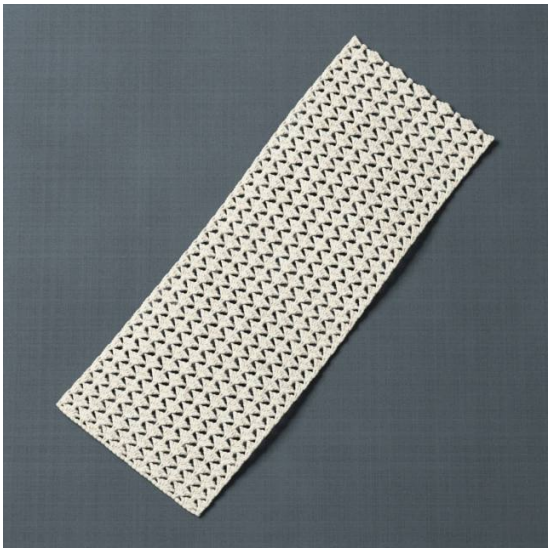
Shell stitch table runner

Short · US terms



Finished size
About 11½ × 36¼ in (29 × 92 cm)
To fit a table about 24 in (61 cm) long

Skill
Easy
Skipped stitches, groups in one place

Yarn
Medium (4)

Hook
5.5 mm (US I-9)

Gauge
13 stitches and 8½ rows to 4 in (10 cm)
In shell stitch.

What you need

Yarn: any one color (ivory in the picture), medium (4) **about 280 yd (256 m), an estimate**
By weight: about 140 g, an estimate, where 100 g is 200 yd (183 m).
Fiber: cotton
Hook: 5.5 mm (US I-9), or the size that gives you the gauge. Also: a yarn needle, scissors and a tape measure.

Sizes

Size	Fits	Finished size, about	Yarn, an estimate
Short (this file)	**a table about 24 in (61 cm) long**	**11½ × 36¼ in (29 × 92 cm)**	**about 280 yd (256 m)**
Medium	a table about 42 in (107 cm) long	11½ × 54 in (29 × 137 cm)	about 420 yd (384 m)
Standard	a table about 60 in (152 cm) long	11½ × 72 in (29 × 183 cm)	about 550 yd (503 m)
Long	a table about 78 in (198 cm) long	11½ × 90 in (29 × 229 cm)	about 690 yd (631 m)

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Gauge

13 stitches and 8½ rows to 4 in (10 cm) in shell stitch.

To check yours 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 8 rows are about 3¾ in (9.5 cm) tall. 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.

> **The swatch.** A test piece to measure and pull out. It is not the start of the pattern. Lay it flat and measure in its middle.
>
> | | |
> |---|---|
> | **Swatch foundation** | Ch 20. |
> | **Swatch row 1 (RS)** | Sc in 2nd ch from hook, **[**sk next 2 chs, 5 dc in next ch, sk next 2 chs, sc in next ch**] 3 times** (4 sc, 15 dc) |
> | **Swatch row 2** | Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn; 2 dc in same st, **[**sk next 2 sts, sc in next st, sk next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st**] 2 times**, sk next 2 sts, sc in next st, sk next 2 sts, 3 dc in last st (16 dc, 3 sc) |
> | **Swatch row 3** | Ch 1, turn; sc in first st, **[**sk next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st, sk next 2 sts, sc in next st**] 2 times**, sk next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st, sk next 2 sts, sc in top of turning ch (4 sc, 15 dc) |
> | **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. |

Instructions

Short. US terms.

sc single crochet (UK dc), **ch** chain, **dc** double crochet (UK tr), **sk** skip, **st** stitch.
2 dc in same st: **both in one stitch**.
The ch 3 is the first dc: skip the first stitch; the last dc goes in the **top of the 3 chains**.
[ ] 6 times: 6 times in all. (7 sc, 30 dc): the row now has that many; a check, not a step.
Every stitch, drawn: flossfield.com/crochet/stitches.

The 77 rows below make this size. For another length, work fewer or more rows in the same order; rows 2 and 3 are the set that is worked over and over, so stop after a row that is worked as row 3, the one that brings the runner nearest to 12 in (30 cm) longer than the table.

Check your width as you go: when row 7 is done, measure the width, across the middle of the rows and not along the chain edge. It is about 11½ in (29 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.

☐ **Start**	Make a slip knot. Ch 38.
☐ **Row 1**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook, **[**sk next 2 chs, 5 dc in next ch, sk next 2 chs, sc in next ch**] 6 times** (7 sc, 30 dc)
☐ **Row 2**	Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn; 2 dc in same st, **[**sk next 2 sts, sc in next st, sk next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st**] 5 times**, sk next 2 sts, sc in next st, sk next 2 sts, 3 dc in last st (31 dc, 6 sc)

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☐ **Row 3**	Ch 1, turn; sc in first st, **[**sk next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st, sk next 2 sts, sc in next st**] 5 times**, sk next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st, sk next 2 sts, sc in top of turning ch	(7 sc, 30 dc)
☐ **Rows 4 to 77**	Repeat rows 2 and 3 in turn: every even-numbered row is worked as row 2, every odd-numbered row as row 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	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										

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

Finishing

- Weave in the ends with the yarn needle, changing direction once or twice.

In all: 77 rows; 2,849 stitches; 2 ends to weave in.

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, with 15 percent added.

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.
- "5 dc in next ch" puts all 5 stitches in that one place.
- Leave a tail of about 6 in (15 cm) when you begin, and weave it in at the end with the others.
- 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.
- Use cotton yarn: it is absorbent and stands up to washing.
- Buy whole balls from one dye lot.
- 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.
- The runner hangs about 6 in (15 cm) over each end.

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

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