Tankini with a striped tank

M, to fit bust 37 in (94 cm) · US terms



Finished size

About 36 in (91.5 cm) at the top around at the bust and about 42 in (106.5 cm) at the top around above the slits

To fit a bust of 37 in (94 cm)

Skill

Intermediate

Basic stitches in rounds and rows, simple shaping, picked-up edgings

Yarn

Light (3), 3 colors

Hook

4.5 mm (US 7)

Gauge

16 stitches and 18½ rows to 4 in (10 cm)

In single crochet (UK double crochet).

What you need

Yarn A: navy, main color	**about 950 yd (869 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: white, contrast	**about 500 yd (457 m), an estimate**
Yarn C: red, the edging of the back flap, the edging of the front flap and more	**about 225 yd (206 m), an estimate**

By weight: about 670 g in all, an estimate, where 100 g is 250 yd (229 m).

Hook: 4.5 mm (US 7), or the size that gives you the gauge. Also: yarn needle, scissors, tape measure, about 1¼ yd (1.2 m) of stretch swimsuit lining at least 56 in (142 cm) wide (enough for every size), pins, about 2¾ yd (2.5 m) of elastic ¾ in (2 cm) wide (enough for every size), a safety pin, 2 flat buttons 5/8 in (15 mm) across and sewing thread and a sewing needle.

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	Bust	Yarn, an estimate	Top around at the bust	Top around above the slits	Top long, from the top edge to the hem	Slits long, with the edging	Shelf bra deep, with the top edge	Shelf bra around its lower	Straps long	Around the hips	Side seam, with the waist casing	Front from waist to middle of crotch	Back from waist to middle of crotch	Crotch across, with the edgings	Around each leg opening
XS	29 in (73.5 cm)	about 1,395 yd (1,276 m)	28 in (71 cm)	36 in (91.5 cm)	17 in (43 cm)	3½ in (9 cm)	6¾ in (17 cm)	24½ in (62 cm)	15¼ in (38.5 cm)	31½ in (80 cm)	7¼ in (18.5 cm)	12¾ in (32.5 cm)	15 in (38 cm)	4 in (10 cm)	19 in (48.5 cm)

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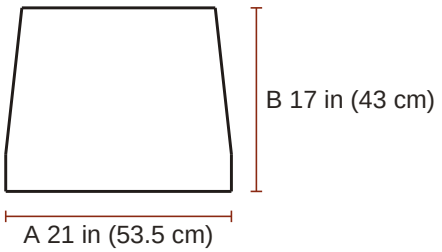
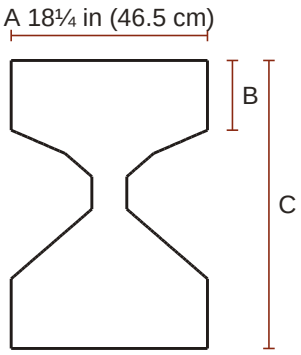
S	33 in (84 cm)	about 1,525 yd (1,394 m)	32 in (81.5 cm)	38 in (96.5 cm)	17 in (43 cm)	3½ in (9 cm)	7 in (18 cm)	28½ in (72.5 cm)	15½ in (39.5 cm)	33½ in (85 cm)	7¼ in (18.5 cm)	13 in (33 cm)	15¼ in (38.5 cm)	4 in (10 cm)	19½ in (49.5 cm)
M (this file)	**37 in (94 cm)**	**about 1,675 yd (1,532 m)**	**36 in (91.5 cm)**	**42 in (106.5 cm)**	**17 in (43 cm)**	**3½ in (9 cm)**	**7¼ in (18.5 cm)**	**32½ in (82.5 cm)**	**16 in (40.5 cm)**	**36½ in (92.5 cm)**	**7½ in (19 cm)**	**13½ in (34.5 cm)**	**15½ in (39.5 cm)**	**4 in (10 cm)**	**20¾ in (52.5 cm)**
L	41 in (104 cm)	about 1,925 yd (1,760 m)	40 in (101.5 cm)	46 in (117 cm)	18½ in (47 cm)	3½ in (9 cm)	7¼ in (18.5 cm)	36½ in (92.5 cm)	16½ in (42 cm)	40½ in (103 cm)	7¾ in (19.5 cm)	13½ in (34.5 cm)	15¾ in (40 cm)	4 in (10 cm)	22¼ in (56.5 cm)
1X	45 in (114.5 cm)	about 2,150 yd (1,966 m)	44 in (112 cm)	50 in (127 cm)	18½ in (47 cm)	3½ in (9 cm)	7½ in (19 cm)	39½ in (100.5 cm)	16¾ in (42.5 cm)	44½ in (113 cm)	8 in (20.5 cm)	14 in (35.5 cm)	16¼ in (41.5 cm)	4½ in (11.5 cm)	23½ in (59.5 cm)
2X	49 in (124.5 cm)	about 2,375 yd (2,172 m)	48 in (122 cm)	56 in (142 cm)	18½ in (47 cm)	3½ in (9 cm)	8 in (20.5 cm)	43½ in (110.5 cm)	16¾ in (42.5 cm)	49½ in (125.5 cm)	8½ in (21.5 cm)	14½ in (37 cm)	16¾ in (42.5 cm)	4½ in (11.5 cm)	25¼ in (64 cm)
3X	53 in (134.5 cm)	about 2,525 yd (2,309 m)	52 in (132 cm)	56 in (142 cm)	18½ in (47 cm)	3½ in (9 cm)	8¼ in (21 cm)	47½ in (120.5 cm)	17¼ in (44 cm)	51½ in (131 cm)	8½ in (21.5 cm)	14¾ in (37.5 cm)	16¾ in (42.5 cm)	4½ in (11.5 cm)	26¼ in (66.5 cm)

Schematic



Tank
A around each leg opening
B the top long, from the top edge to the hem



Brief
A half the way around the hips
B 6½ in (16.5 cm), the upper part
C 26¾ in (68 cm), from top to bottom

Gauge

16 stitches and 18½ rows to 4 in (10 cm) in single 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 28 rows of single 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. Rounds and edgings of single crochet are as high as rows. Fold-down band: 16 sts and 17 rows to 4 in (10 cm) in single crochet worked in back loops only.

Notes

- Women's sizes, by bust, waist and hip.

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- The top is 1 in (2.5 cm) narrower at the bust than the body and stretches to it; above the slits it is from 1½ in (4 cm) to 3½ in (9 cm) wider than the hips, by the size, so that it swings. Around the hips the brief is from 2 in (5 cm) to 3 in (7.5 cm) smaller than the body, by the size, and the fabric stretches to it. No fit is promised beyond the measurements given.
- The turning chain (ch 1 for single crochet) never counts as a stitch. Work the first stitch of every row into the first stitch, at the base of the turning chain.
- The chain at the start of a round never counts as a stitch. Work the first stitch of the round into the stitch at its base, where the round was joined.
- A decrease counts as one stitch. The rounds are not turned; the right side always faces you. Left and right are always as worn. The right-hand end and the left-hand end of an edge are as you hold the piece.
- Cups: a line of increases in each half of the front of the shelf bra makes room for a bust that measures about 4 in (10 cm) more around than the ribs under it.
- Lining: when the brief is worked and before its side seams are sewn, lay it flat with the wrong side up on stretch swimsuit lining, the greater stretch of the lining from side to side, and cut the lining ½ in (1.5 cm) larger all around. Turn ¾ in (2 cm) of it under all around and pin it to the wrong side, so that the fold lies about ¼ in (0.5 cm), which is one st or one row, in from every edge. Where an edge curves inward, snip the part that is turned under so that it lies flat. Sew the fold down with small slanting stitches of sewing thread that do not show on the right side, and stretch the piece a little as you sew. Without a lining the fabric shows what is under it.
- Cotton takes up water: wet, it grows heavier and longer and it dries slowly. A cotton with some elastic in it, whose label says that it is fit for swimwear, keeps its length better. Rinse out salt or chlorine and dry the piece flat, not hanging.
- 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.
- In back loop only: insert the hook under the loop of the stitch that is farther from you, and leave the nearer loop free.
- Mattress stitch: lay the two edges side by side with the right sides up, and with the needle pick up one strand of an edge stitch on one side and then on the other, drawing the yarn up every few stitches.
- To fit waist 29 in (73.5 cm) and hip 39 in (99 cm).

Instructions

M, to fit bust 37 in (94 cm). US terms.

ch chain, **sl st** slip stitch, **sc** single crochet (UK double crochet), **Rnd** round, **st** stitch, **sp** space.
RS right side, the one that shows.
2 sc in next st: both in one stitch. **sc in next 18 sts**: one in each. **ch-2 sp**: the gap under two chains; the hook goes in the gap.
[ ] 8 times: work what is inside 8 times in all.
(130 sc): the stitches you have when the round is done. **How to read a pattern**.

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.

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Shelf bra and top edge

Yarn B, white.

☐ **Foundation**	The shelf bra is the inner layer. It is worked up from under the bust to the red top edge. The rounds begin at the left side, as worn, and go over the front first to the right side, then over the back. With yarn B, ch 130; join with sl st in first ch to form a ring, taking care not to twist the chain. Colors: rnds 1 to 34 yarn B; rnds 35 to 37 yarn C.	
☐ **Rnd 1**	Ch 1; sc in each ch around; join with sl st in first sc	(130 sc)
☐ **Rnds 2 to 4** 2 3 4	Ch 1; sc in each st around; join with sl st in first sc	(130 sc)
☐ **Rnd 5**	Ch 1; sc in back loop only of each st around; join with sl st in first sc	(130 sc)
☐ **Rnds 6 to 8** 6 7 8	Ch 1; sc in each st around; join with sl st in first sc	(130 sc)
☐ **Rnd 9**	Ch 1; sc in next 18 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 27 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 83 sts; join with sl st in first sc	(132 sc)
☐ **Rnd 10**	Ch 1; sc in each st around; join with sl st in first sc	(132 sc)
☐ **Rnd 11**	Ch 1; sc in next 18 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 29 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 83 sts; join with sl st in first sc	(134 sc)
☐ **Rnd 12**	Ch 1; sc in each st around; join with sl st in first sc	(134 sc)
☐ **Rnd 13**	Ch 1; sc in next 18 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 31 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 83 sts; join with sl st in first sc	(136 sc)
☐ **Rnd 14**	Ch 1; sc in each st around; join with sl st in first sc	(136 sc)
☐ **Rnd 15**	Ch 1; sc in next 18 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 33 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 83 sts; join with sl st in first sc	(138 sc)
☐ **Rnd 16**	Ch 1; sc in each st around; join with sl st in first sc	(138 sc)
☐ **Rnd 17**	Ch 1; sc in next 18 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 35 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 83 sts; join with sl st in first sc	(140 sc)
☐ **Rnd 18**	Ch 1; sc in each st around; join with sl st in first sc	(140 sc)
☐ **Rnd 19**	Ch 1; sc in next 18 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 37 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 83 sts; join with sl st in first sc	(142 sc)
☐ **Rnd 20**	Ch 1; sc in each st around; join with sl st in first sc	(142 sc)
☐ **Rnd 21**	Ch 1; sc in next 18 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 39 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 83 sts; join with sl st in first sc	(144 sc)
☐ **Rnds 22 to 34** 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34	Ch 1; sc in each st around; join with sl st in first sc	(144 sc)
☐ **Rnd 35**	Ch 1; sc in back loop only of each st around; join with sl st in first sc	(144 sc)

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☐ **Rnds 36 to 37**	Ch 1; sc in each st around; join with sl st in first sc	(144 sc)
36 37		
☐ **End**	Fasten off. Of the 144 sts of each of the last rnds, sts 1 to 79 are the front and sts 80 to 144 are the back.	

Tank

Yarn A, navy.

☐ **Foundation**	Colors, counted from rnd 1: 4 rnds yarn A, 2 rnds yarn B; repeat these 6 rnds to the end (the last repeat may stop part way). Hold the shelf bra with the right side facing and the foundation chain uppermost. The front loops of rnd 34 of the shelf bra lie free under the top edge. Join yarn A in the free front loop of the first st of rnd 34, at the left side as worn; ch 1, sc in the free front loop of each of the 144 sts of rnd 34 (144 sc); join with sl st in first sc. This is rnd 1. The tank is worked from here down to the hips and hangs over the shelf bra. Its rounds begin at the left side, as worn, and go over the back first to the right side, then over the front.	
☐ **Rnds 2 to 13**	Ch 1; sc in each st around; join with sl st in first sc	(144 sc)
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13		
☐ **Rnd 14**	Ch 1; **[**sc in next 17 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 8 times**; join with sl st in first sc	(152 sc)
☐ **Rnds 15 to 29**	Ch 1; sc in each st around; join with sl st in first sc	(152 sc)
15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29		
☐ **Rnd 30**	Ch 1; sc in next 10 sts, **[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 18 sts**] 7 times**, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 8 sts; join with sl st in first sc	(160 sc)
☐ **Rnds 31 to 45**	Ch 1; sc in each st around; join with sl st in first sc	(160 sc)
31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45		
☐ **Rnd 46**	Ch 1; **[**sc in next 19 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 8 times**; join with sl st in first sc	(168 sc)
☐ **Rnds 47 to 60**	Ch 1; sc in each st around; join with sl st in first sc	(168 sc)
47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60		
☐ **End**	Fasten off.	

Back flap

Yarn A, navy.

☐ **Foundation**	With the right side facing and the hem uppermost, join yarn A in st 1 of rnd 60 of the tank, counted from the beginning of the round. The back flap is worked in rows on that st and the next 75 sts, to st 76 (76 sts). Colors, counted from row 1: 4 rows yarn A, 2 rows yarn B; repeat these 6 rows to the end (the last repeat may stop part way).	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Ch 1; sc in each st across	(76 sc)
☐ **Rows 2 to 14**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	(76 sc)
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14		
☐ **End**	Fasten off.	

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Front flap

Yarn A, navy.

☐ **Foundation**	With the right side facing and the hem uppermost, join yarn A in st 77 of rnd 60 of the tank, counted from the beginning of the round. The front flap is worked in rows on that st and the next 91 sts, to st 168 (92 sts). Colors, counted from row 1: 4 rows yarn A, 2 rows yarn B; repeat these 6 rows to the end (the last repeat may stop part way).	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Ch 1; sc in each st across	(92 sc)
☐ **Rows 2 to 14**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14	(92 sc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off.	

Edging of the back flap

Yarn C, red.

☐ **Foundation**	Hold the tank with the right side facing and the hem of the back flap uppermost. Join yarn C in the end of row 1 of the back flap, at the top of the slit at the wearer's left side (this slit is at the right-hand end of the flap as you hold it); ch 1, then in order: along rows 1 to 14 of the back flap, sc in the end of each of the next 3 rows, skip the end of the next row, sc in the end of each of the next 6 rows, skip the end of the next row, sc in the end of each of the next 3 rows (12 sc); 3 sc in the st at the right-hand end of row 14 of the back flap, sc in each of the next 74 sts, 3 sc in the st at the left-hand end (80 sc); along rows 1 to 14 of the back flap, met from the last of them, sc in the end of each of the next 3 rows, skip the end of the next row, sc in the end of each of the next 6 rows, skip the end of the next row, sc in the end of each of the next 3 rows (12 sc). There are 104 sc in all. This is row 1, a right side row.	
☐ **Row 2**	Ch 1, turn; sc in next 13 sts, 3 sc in next st, sc in next 76 sts, 3 sc in next st, sc in next 13 sts	(108 sc)
☐ **End**	The 3 sc of each corner of row 2 go in the middle st of the 3 sc of row 1. Fasten off.	

Edging of the front flap

Yarn C, red.

☐ **Foundation**	Hold the tank with the right side facing and the hem of the front flap uppermost. Join yarn C in the end of row 1 of the front flap, at the top of the slit at the wearer's right side (this slit is at the right-hand end of the flap as you hold it); ch 1, then in order: along rows 1 to 14 of the front flap, sc in the end of each of the next 3 rows, skip the end of the next row, sc in the end of each of the next 6 rows, skip the end of the next row, sc in the end of each of the next 3 rows (12 sc); 3 sc in the st at the right-hand end of row 14 of the front flap, sc in each of the next 90 sts, 3 sc in the st at the left-hand end (96 sc); along rows 1 to 14 of the front flap, met from the last of them, sc in the end of each of the next 3 rows, skip the end of the next row, sc in the end of each of the next 6 rows, skip the end of the next row, sc in the end of each of the next 3 rows (12 sc). There are 120 sc in all. This is row 1, a right side row.	
☐ **Row 2**	Ch 1, turn; sc in next 13 sts, 3 sc in next st, sc in next 92 sts, 3 sc in next st, sc in next 13 sts	(124 sc)
☐ **End**	The 3 sc of each corner of row 2 go in the middle st of the 3 sc of row 1. Fasten off.	

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Strap: make 2

Yarn C, red.

☐ **Foundation**	With yarn C, ch 7.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across	(6 sc)
☐ **Rows 2 to 58**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	(6 sc)

2 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

☐ **Row 59**	Ch 1, turn; sc in next 2 sts, ch 2, skip next 2 sts, sc in next 2 sts	(4 sc, 1 ch-2 sp)
☐ **Row 60**	Ch 1, turn; sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next ch-2 sp, sc in next 2 sts	(6 sc)
☐ **Rows 61 to 72**	Repeat Rows 57 to 60, 3 more times	(6 sc)

61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72

☐ **Rows 73 to 74**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	(6 sc)

73 74

☐ **End**	Each strap comes to about 1½ in (3.8 cm) wide and 16 in (40.5 cm) long (6 sts, 74 rows). The 4 ch-2 spaces are buttonholes. Fasten off.

Brief

Yarn A, navy.

☐ **Foundation**	With yarn A, ch 74.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across	(73 sc)
☐ **Rows 2 to 30**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	(73 sc)

2 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

☐ **Rows 31 to 40**	Ch 1, turn; sc2tog twice, sc in each st across to last 4 sts, sc2tog twice	(33 sc)

31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40

☐ **Rows 41 to 50**	Ch 1, turn; sc2tog, sc in each st across to last 2 sts, sc2tog	(13 sc)

41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50

☐ **Rows 51 to 64**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	(13 sc)

51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64

☐ **Rows 65 to 94**	Ch 1, turn; 2 sc in first st, sc in each st across to last st, 2 sc in last st	(73 sc)

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 92 93 94

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☐ **Rows 95 to 124**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	(73 sc)

95 96 97 98 99 100 101 102 103 104 105 106 107 108 109 110 111 112 113 114 115 116 117 118 119 120 121 122 123 124

☐ **End**	Fasten off. Line the brief now (see NOTES), while it is flat: the lining as it is cut is about 19¼ in (49 cm) wide and 27¾ in (70.5 cm) long, measured at its widest and at its longest. Then the side seams: fold the brief at the crotch with the right side outward, so that row 124 lies behind the foundation chain. At each side, with a new length of yarn A of about 20 in (50 cm), sew the ends of rows 1 to 30 to the ends of rows 124 to 95 with mattress stitch, row 1 to row 124, row 2 to row 123 and so on (30 row ends to 30). Rows 31 to 94 stay open for the legs.

Edging of the right leg, as worn

Yarn C, red.

☐ **Foundation**	Hold the brief with the right side facing and the right leg opening, as worn, uppermost. Join yarn C in the end of row 31, the first row of the front past the side seam; ch 1 and go around the opening: along rows 31 to 40, 2 sc in the end of each of the next 10 rows (20 sc); along rows 41 to 50, [sc in the end of each of the next 2 rows, 2 sc in the end of the next row] 3 times, sc in the end of the next row (13 sc); along rows 51 to 64, sc in the end of each of the next 3 rows, skip the end of the next row, sc in the end of each of the next 6 rows, skip the end of the next row, sc in the end of each of the next 3 rows (12 sc); along rows 65 to 94, [sc in the end of each of the next 2 rows, 2 sc in the end of the next row] 8 times, sc in the end of each of the next 6 rows (38 sc). There are 83 sc in all; join with sl st in first sc. This is rnd 1.	
☐ **Rnd 2**	Ch 1; sc in each st around; join with sl st in first sc	(83 sc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off.	

Edging of the left leg, as worn

Yarn C, red.

☐ **Foundation**	Hold the brief with the right side facing and the left leg opening, as worn, uppermost. Join yarn C in the end of row 94, the first row of the back past the side seam; ch 1 and go around the opening: along rows 65 to 94, met from the last of them, sc in the end of each of the next 6 rows, [2 sc in the end of the next row, sc in the end of each of the next 2 rows] 8 times (38 sc); along rows 51 to 64, met from the last of them, sc in the end of each of the next 3 rows, skip the end of the next row, sc in the end of each of the next 6 rows, skip the end of the next row, sc in the end of each of the next 3 rows (12 sc); along rows 41 to 50, met from the last of them, sc in the end of the next row, [2 sc in the end of the next row, sc in the end of each of the next 2 rows] 3 times (13 sc); along rows 31 to 40, met from the last of them, 2 sc in the end of each of the next 10 rows (20 sc). There are 83 sc in all; join with sl st in first sc. This is rnd 1.	
☐ **Rnd 2**	Ch 1; sc in each st around; join with sl st in first sc	(83 sc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off.	

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Waist casing

Yarn C, red.

☐ **Foundation**	Hold the brief with the right side facing and the waist edge uppermost. Join yarn C at the left side seam, as worn, in the first ch of the foundation chain, at the front; ch 1, sc in each of the 73 chs of the foundation chain along their free side, then sc in each of the 73 sts of row 124 (146 sc); join with sl st in first sc. This is rnd 1.	
☐ **Rnds 2 to 5** 2 3 4 5	Ch 1; sc in each st around; join with sl st in first sc	(146 sc)
☐ **Rnd 6**	Ch 1; sc in back loop only of each st around; join with sl st in first sc	(146 sc)
☐ **Rnds 7 to 10** 7 8 9 10	Ch 1; sc in each st around; join with sl st in first sc	(146 sc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving an end of about 94 in (240 cm) for sewing.	

Fold-down band

Yarn A, navy.

☐ **Foundation**	With yarn A, ch 12.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across	(11 sc)
☐ **Rows 2 to 146** 2 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 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100 101 102 103 104 105 106 107 108 109 110 111 112 113 114 115 116 117 118 119 120 121 122 123 124 125 126 127 128 129 130 131 132 133 134 135 136 137 138 139 140 141 142 143 144 145 146	Ch 1, turn; sc in back loop only of each st across	(11 sc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving an end of about 10 in (25 cm) for sewing. The fold-down band comes to about 2¾ in (7 cm) wide and 34¼ in (87 cm) long (11 sts, 146 rows). With that end, sew the 11 sts of row 146 to the 11 chs of the foundation chain, so that the band is a ring with its ribs running up and down.	

Assembly

1. Edge of the band: Hold the fold-down band with the right side facing and one of its two open edges uppermost. Join yarn C in the end of row 1 of the fold-down band; ch 1, sc in the end of each of the 146 rows around (146 sc); join with sl st in first sc. This is rnd 1. Fasten off. This is the lower edge of the band when it is folded down.

2. Shelf bra: turn rnds 1 to 4 to the inside along the ridge of rnd 5, and with a new length of yarn B of about 84 in (215 cm) sew the foundation chain to the back of rnd 8, 130 chs to 130 sts; leave about 2 in (5 cm) open at the left side. Cut a piece of elastic ¾ in (2 cm) wide and 32 in (81.5 cm) long, draw it through with a safety pin, lap its two ends 1 in (2.5 cm) and sew them together firmly with sewing thread. Sew the rest of the casing shut. The elastic is 31 in (78.5 cm) around and should sit snugly on the ribs under the bust: try it on before you sew its ends, and take it in or let it out as you like.

3. Lining of the shelf bra: cut a strip of stretch swimsuit lining 37 in (94 cm) long and 6 5/8 in (16.8 cm) deep. Cut it with the greater stretch of the lining along its length. Sew its two short ends together with a seam of ½ in (1.5 cm), and turn ½ in (1.5 cm) of both long edges to the wrong side: the ring is then 36 in (91.5 cm) around and 5 5/8 in

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(14.3 cm) deep. Slip it inside the shelf bra with its wrong side against the wrong side of the shelf bra and its seam at the left side, and pin its upper fold along the top of rnd 34 and its lower fold along the top of rnd 8, just above the casing. Along rnd 8 the lining is 3½ in (9 cm) longer than the shelf bra: lay it flat along the back and at the sides, and below each of the two lines of increases of the front lay a tuck that takes up 1¾ in (4.5 cm) of it, half of the extra length. These tucks make the room for the cups. Sew both folds down all around, and the tucks with the lower one, with small slanting stitches of sewing thread that do not show outside; stretch the fabric a little as you sew.

4. Slits: at the top of each slit lay the end of the edging of the front flap over the end of the edging of the back flap, and sew both to rnd 60 of the tank and to each other with a new length of yarn C of about 8 in (20 cm).

5. Straps: the top edge has 144 sts. Sew the foundation chain of one strap to the wrong side of rnd 37, behind sts 23 to 28 of the front, and that of the other behind sts 52 to 57, each with a new length of yarn C of about 10 in (25 cm). Sew two buttons to the right side of rnd 36, one at st 97 and one at st 127, on the back. Each strap goes straight over its shoulder and is buttoned on the outside of the back through the buttonhole that gives the right length.

6. Brief: turn rnds 6 to 10 of the casing to the inside along the ridge of rnd 6, and sew the top of rnd 10 to the back of rnd 1, 146 sts to 146 sts, with the end of the casing; leave about 2 in (5 cm) open at the middle of the back. Cut a piece of elastic ¾ in (2 cm) wide and 28 in (71 cm) long, draw it through with a safety pin, lap its two ends 1 in (2.5 cm) and sew them together firmly with sewing thread. Sew the rest of the casing shut. The elastic is 27 in (68.5 cm) around, 2 in (5 cm) less than the waist: try it on before you sew its ends and take it in or let it out as you like.

7. Fold-down band: the front loops of rnd 5 of the waist casing lie free along the ridge at the top of the brief. Slip the band over the casing with its right side outward, its plain open edge along the ridge and its red edge below, its seam at the left side seam. With a new length of yarn A of about 94 in (240 cm) sew the ends of the 146 rows of the band to the 146 free front loops, row end to loop. Wear the band folded down over the casing, or turn it up for a high waist.

Finishing

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

In all: 5 pieces; 28,138 stitches.

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

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