Crochet Baby Sweater Pattern: Moss Stitch, Sizes 0-3 to 18-24 Months

Moss stitch, four rectangles, a wide neck and no buttons · US terms



On a hanger you see the whole shape: straight hem, straight sleeves and no buttons.

Finished size: Chest 24 in (0-3 mo) to 27 1/4 in (18-24 mo), boxy and roomy: about 7 to 8 in of room around the chest.

Level: Advanced beginner: sc and ch only, but 4 pieces to seam and a neck to check against the baby's head. Not a first project

Time: About 14 to 17 hours (0-3 mo) to 19 to 22 hours (18-24 mo), with the seaming and the finishing. If this is your first sweater, plan more time: 20 to 30 hours is likely. Estimate, not timed

Counts were checked by software. This pattern has not been crocheted and swatched by a person before publication.

Free pattern online:
https://www.amgroyal.com/crochet-baby-sweater/?utm_source=pdf&utm_medium=referral&utm_campaign=crochet-baby-sweater

Materials, sizes and terms

Materials

Worsted (#4) yarn in one color (Sage in our pictures, the color of our baby blanket): about 260 yd (0-3 mo), 300 yd (3-6 mo), 340 yd (6-12 mo), 360 yd (12-18 mo), 390 yd (18-24 mo).
Yards include a 20 % margin. Skeins = yards ÷ yards per skein, rounded up (example: 300 yd with 200-yd skeins = 2 skeins). Go by the yards on the label, not the grams or the number of skeins.
Look for the number 4 on the label. Many "baby" yarns are #3 and will not give our gauge. If you change yarn, swatch again. Pick a soft yarn whose label says it can be washed the way you will wash the sweater, without loose fuzz or shedding fibers.
Sage is just the color in our pictures; any sage green works. To match the blanket, buy the yarn for both at the same time, from one dye lot.
Yarn needle, scissors, stitch markers (at least 4), measuring tape, pins. No buttons, no ties, no beads.

Sizes

0-3 mo: to fit chest 16 in, finished chest about 24 in
Yarn needed: About 260 yd (estimated, with a 20 % margin): 2 skeins of 200 yd (go by the yards on the label)
Finished size: Body length about 9 1/4 in / armhole depth about 3 3/4 in / sleeve length about 6 1/4 in / sleeve width around about 7 3/4 in / neck opening about 19 3/4 in / room around the chest about 8 in
Counts: Front and back: ch 46, 45 sts, 37 rows (make 2). Sleeves (2): ch 24, 23 sts, 31 rows. Shoulder seams 4 sts each, neck 37 sts open on the front and on the back. Armhole 15 rows.

3-6 mo: to fit chest 17 in, finished chest about 25 in
Yarn needed: About 300 yd (estimated, with a 20 % margin): 2 skeins of 200 yd (go by the yards on the label)
Finished size: Body length about 10 1/4 in / armhole depth about 4 in / sleeve length about 6 3/4 in / sleeve width around about 8 1/4 in / neck opening about 20 3/4 in / room around the chest about 8 in
Counts: Front and back: ch 48, 47 sts, 41 rows (make 2). Sleeves (2): ch 26, 25 sts, 33 rows. Shoulder seams 4 sts each, neck 39 sts open on the front and on the back. Armhole 16 rows.

6-12 mo: to fit chest 18 in, finished chest about 26 1/4 in
Yarn needed: About 340 yd (estimated, with a 20 % margin): 2 skeins of 200 yd (go by the yards on the label)
Finished size: Body length about 10 3/4 in / armhole depth about 4 1/4 in / sleeve length about 7 3/4 in / sleeve width around about 8 3/4 in / neck opening about 21 3/4 in / room around the chest about 8 1/4 in
Counts: Front and back: ch 50, 49 sts, 43 rows (make 2). Sleeves (2): ch 30, 29 sts, 35 rows. Shoulder seams 4 sts each, neck 41 sts open on the front and on the back. Armhole 17 rows.

12-18 mo: to fit chest 19 in, finished chest about 26 1/4 in
Yarn needed: About 360 yd (estimated, with a 20 % margin): 2 skeins of 200 yd (go by the yards on the label)
Finished size: Body length about 11 1/4 in / armhole depth about 4 1/2 in / sleeve length about 8 1/4 in / sleeve width around about 9 1/4 in / neck opening about 21 3/4 in / room around the chest about 7 1/4 in
Counts: Front and back: ch 50, 49 sts, 45 rows (make 2). Sleeves (2): ch 32, 31 sts, 37 rows.

Shoulder seams 4 sts each, neck 41 sts open on the front and on the back. Armhole 18 rows.

18-24 mo: to fit chest 20 in, finished chest about 27 1/4 in

Yarn needed: About 390 yd (estimated, with a 20 % margin): 2 skeins of 200 yd (go by the yards on the label)

Finished size: Body length about 11 3/4 in / armhole depth about 4 3/4 in / sleeve length about 8 1/4 in / sleeve width around about 9 3/4 in / neck opening about 23 in / room around the chest about 7 1/4 in

Counts: Front and back: ch 52, 51 sts, 47 rows (make 2). Sleeves (2): ch 32, 31 sts, 39 rows. Shoulder seams 4 sts each, neck 43 sts open on the front and on the back. Armhole 19 rows.

Size table

Measure	0-3 mo	3-6 mo	6-12 mo	12-18 mo	18-24 mo
To fit chest (in)	16	17	18	19	20
Finished chest (in)	24	25	26 1/4	26 1/4	27 1/4
Ease over largest chest (in)	8	8	8 1/4	7 1/4	7 1/4
Length (in)	9 1/4	10 1/4	10 3/4	11 1/4	11 3/4
Armhole depth (in)	3 3/4	4	4 1/4	4 1/2	4 3/4
Sleeve length (in)	6 1/4	6 3/4	7 3/4	8 1/4	8 1/4
Sleeve width around (in)	7 3/4	8 1/4	8 3/4	9 1/4	9 3/4
Neck opening (in)	19 3/4	20 3/4	21 3/4	21 3/4	23
Front/back: sts x rows	45 x 37	47 x 41	49 x 43	49 x 45	51 x 47
Sleeve: sts x rows	23 x 31	25 x 33	29 x 35	31 x 37	31 x 39

Inches. Approximate, from our suggested gauge: check them against your swatch.

Abbreviations (US)

ch = chain
sc = single crochet
sl st = slip stitch
sp = space
ch-1 sp = the gap under a ch 1 of the row below
st(s) = stitch(es)
RS = right side (the outside of the sweater)
WS = wrong side (the inside)
tch = turning chain (ch 1 here: never counted, never worked into)
0-3 mo (3-6 mo, 6-12 mo, 12-18 mo, 18-24 mo) = numbers for each size: the first is 0-3 mo, the others follow

Gauge

Suggested, not measured: 15 sts and 16 rows = 4 in (10 cm) in moss stitch with a US I-9 (5.5 mm) hook and worsted (#4) yarn, counting each sc and each ch-1 space as 1 st. Measure your swatch and adjust.

Notes

- US crochet terms: see the abbreviations above. Sizes: 0-3 mo, 3-6 mo, 6-12 mo, 12-18 mo, 18-24 mo. Numbers are written 0-3 mo (3-6 mo, 6-12 mo, 12-18 mo, 18-24 mo).
- Turning ch (ch 1): it does not count as a st. Work the first sc in the very first sc and the last sc in the last sc of the row, never in the turning ch.
- Ch-1 sp: the little gap under the ch 1 of the row below. "Sc in the next ch-1 sp" means: insert the hook into that gap (not into the ch itself), yarn over, pull up a loop, yarn over and pull

through both loops.
- Skip the next sc: leave that sc of the row below empty; your ch 1 sits over it. In this stitch you never work into a sc of the row below except the first and the last sc of the row.
- Back bump: the bump on the back of each foundation ch, the side away from the V. Row 1 goes in the back bumps, so the V of every ch stays free and the edge looks neat.
- Which row is it? Even rows (Row 2 type) start AND end with 2 sc side by side. Odd rows (Row 3 type) start and end with 1 sc followed by a ch 1. Row 1 is a wrong-side (WS) row.
- Room around the chest = how much bigger the sweater is than the baby's chest: see the size table.
- Join a new skein at the end of a row. Leave 6 in tails.
- Many yarns grow when washed. Wash and dry your swatch and measure it again. Weigh your swatch when you block it.
- Glossary. Drop shoulder: the shoulder seam sits low on the upper arm, and the sleeve is a rectangle. Boat neck: a wide neck opening, straight across the front and the back. Swatch: a small test piece you crochet and measure. Gauge: how many stitches and rows make 4 in. WS: wrong side, the inside of the sweater.
- The neck opening matters most. If your swatch has 16 sts per 4 in instead of 15, the 0-3 mo neck opening measures 18 1/2 in around instead of 19 3/4 in, less than the 18.9 in we want. Go up a hook size and make a new swatch, or choose the next size. Do not sew more of the shoulder: the neck would be too tight.
- Check your yarn amount: weigh your swatch in grams. Yards needed = (swatch grams / swatch area in sq in) x sweater area / grams per yard of your yarn, then add 20 %; the sweater area is about 320 (0-3 mo), 370 (3-6 mo), 420 (6-12 mo), 450 (12-18 mo), 480 (18-24 mo) sq in (front, back and 2 sleeves). If your swatch is looser than ours, buy one more skein.



What you need: worsted (#4) yarn, a US I-9 (5.5 mm) hook, a yarn needle, markers and a tape.

Make the swatch first: the neck depends on it

Make this first. 23 sts and 25 rows, the same for every size.

Foundation

Ch 24.

Stitch count: 24 ch

Row 1 (WS)

Sc in the back bump of the 2nd ch from the hook (the ch you skip is the turning ch, not a st). [Ch 1, skip the next ch, sc in the back bump of the next ch] 11 times.

Stitch count: 23 sts: 12 sc, 11 ch-1 sp

Row 2 (RS)

Ch 1 (does not count as a st), turn. Sc in the first sc, sc in the next ch-1 sp. [Ch 1, skip the next sc, sc in the next ch-1 sp] 10 times. Sc in the last sc. Do not work in the turning ch.

Stitch count: 23 sts: 13 sc, 10 ch-1 sp

Row 3 (WS)

Ch 1 (does not count as a st), turn. Sc in the first sc. [Ch 1, skip the next sc, sc in the next ch-1 sp] 10 times. Ch 1, skip the next sc, sc in the last sc. Do not work in the turning ch.

Stitch count: 23 sts: 12 sc, 11 ch-1 sp

Rows 4 to 25

Repeat Rows 2-3. The last row is an odd row.

Stitch count: 25 rows in all



Close-up of moss stitch: single crochet and chain-1 spaces side by side.

The body: make 2 the same, front and back

Make 2: the front and the back are the same. Worked from the hem up. Sizes: 0-3 mo, 3-6 mo, 6-12 mo, 12-18 mo, 18-24 mo. Numbers are written 0-3 mo (3-6 mo, 6-12 mo, 12-18 mo, 18-24 mo).

Foundation

Ch 46 (48, 50, 50, 52).

Stitch count: 46 (48, 50, 50, 52) ch

Row 1 (WS)

Sc in the back bump of the 2nd ch from the hook (the ch you skip is the turning ch, not a st). [Ch 1, skip the next ch, sc in the back bump of the next ch] 22 (23, 24, 24, 25) times.

Stitch count: 45 (47, 49, 49, 51) sts: 23 (24, 25, 25, 26) sc, 22 (23, 24, 24, 25) ch-1 sp

Row 2 (RS)

Ch 1 (does not count as a st), turn. Sc in the first sc, sc in the next ch-1 sp. [Ch 1, skip the next sc, sc in the next ch-1 sp] 21 (22, 23, 23, 24) times. Sc in the last sc. Do not work in the turning ch.

Stitch count: 45 (47, 49, 49, 51) sts: 24 (25, 26, 26, 27) sc, 21 (22, 23, 23, 24) ch-1 sp

Row 3 (WS)

Ch 1 (does not count as a st), turn. Sc in the first sc. [Ch 1, skip the next sc, sc in the next ch-1 sp] 21 (22, 23, 23, 24) times. Ch 1, skip the next sc, sc in the last sc. Do not work in the turning ch.

Stitch count: 45 (47, 49, 49, 51) sts: 23 (24, 25, 25, 26) sc, 22 (23, 24, 24, 25) ch-1 sp

Rows 4 to 37 (41, 43, 45, 47)

Repeat Rows 2-3 (even rows = Row 2, odd rows = Row 3). The last row is always an odd row (Row 3 type).

Stitch count: 37 (41, 43, 45, 47) rows in all



The shoulder seam is short, about 1 in. Sew it firmly and leave the neck open.

The sleeves: make 2

Make 2. The rows run along the arm: Row 1 starts at the cuff.

Foundation

Ch 24 (26, 30, 32, 32).

Stitch count: 24 (26, 30, 32, 32) ch

Row 1 (WS)

Sc in the back bump of the 2nd ch from the hook (the ch you skip is the turning ch, not a st). [Ch 1, skip the next ch, sc in the back bump of the next ch] 11 (12, 14, 15, 15) times.

Stitch count: 23 (25, 29, 31, 31) sts: 12 (13, 15, 16, 16) sc, 11 (12, 14, 15, 15) ch-1 sp

Row 2 (RS)

Ch 1 (does not count as a st), turn. Sc in the first sc, sc in the next ch-1 sp. [Ch 1, skip the next sc, sc in the next ch-1 sp] 10 (11, 13, 14, 14) times. Sc in the last sc. Do not work in the turning ch.

Stitch count: 23 (25, 29, 31, 31) sts: 13 (14, 16, 17, 17) sc, 10 (11, 13, 14, 14) ch-1 sp

Row 3 (WS)

Ch 1 (does not count as a st), turn. Sc in the first sc. [Ch 1, skip the next sc, sc in the next ch-1 sp] 10 (11, 13, 14, 14) times. Ch 1, skip the next sc, sc in the last sc. Do not work in the turning ch.

Stitch count: 23 (25, 29, 31, 31) sts: 12 (13, 15, 16, 16) sc, 11 (12, 14, 15, 15) ch-1 sp

Rows 4 to 31 (33, 35, 37, 39)

Repeat Rows 2-3 (even rows = Row 2, odd rows = Row 3). The last row is always an odd row (Row 3 type). The cuff and the armhole edge are row ends.

Stitch count: 31 (33, 35, 37, 39) rows in all



The sweater next to the blanket: same stitch, same yarn, same color.

Sew it together: shoulders, sleeves, then side seams

Shoulders are sewn stitch to stitch, sleeves and sides row end to row end, so the counts below match.

Weave in ends

Weave in the ends on the wrong side, along a row, going back on yourself for 3 in. Cut the ends short enough that no tail can catch a small finger.

Block

Block the pieces flat before you sew. Pin the shoulder seams, then measure the neck opening along the edge, front plus back: it must be at least 2 in more than the baby's head (size table) before you sew the sides. Follow the yarn label.

Pin first

For every seam, pin the first and the last sts or rows of the seam and the middle first, then add pins every 2 in and sew between the pins.

Shoulder seams

Lay the back flat, right side up. Turn the front around (rotate it half a turn, right side still facing you) so its last row touches the last row of the back and the sides line up. Each shoulder seam is the 4 sts at the side edge. A column is a sc or a ch-1 space: with the needle, go under the V of a sc (or under the ch of a ch-1 space) on the front, then the matching one on the back, and repeat across, sc to sc and ch-1 space to ch-1 space. Sew 4 sts at each side and leave open the middle 37 (39, 41, 41, 43) sts: the neck (4 + 37 (39, 41, 41, 43) + 4 = 45 (47, 49, 49, 51) sts). Sew the shoulders twice, back and forth, so they are strong.

Mark the armholes

On each side edge of the front and of the back, count 15 (16, 17, 18, 19) rows down from the shoulder seam, counting the last row as row 1, and put a marker. This is the underarm marker.

Attach the sleeves

A sleeve has 31 (33, 35, 37, 39) rows (the rows run along the arm). Its middle row, Row 16 (17, 18, 19, 20), goes on the shoulder seam. Sew the armhole edge of the sleeve to the armhole: 15 (16, 17, 18, 19) rows down the front and 15 (16, 17, 18, 19) rows down the back, one row end to one row end (mattress stitch: pick up the 2 bars between the first and second st of a row end on one side, then the same on the other side, row by row, and pull gently every 4 or 5 rows). Do the same with the other sleeve.

Underarm and side seams

Sew the foundation-ch edge of the sleeve to its last-row edge (23 (25, 29, 31, 31) sts to 23 (25, 29, 31, 31) sts, matching sc to sc and ch-1 space to ch-1 space), then continue down the side of the body: 22 (25, 26, 27, 28) rows of the front to 22 (25, 26, 27, 28) rows of the back. At the underarm marker four edges meet: sew the sleeve seam up to the marker, go twice through the marker point to close the gap, then go on down the side: one seam from cuff to hem. Repeat on the other side.

Cuffs

The sleeve is a straight rectangle, wider than a baby's wrist: fold each cuff back once, about 1 1/2 in, so hands are free and the cuff does not cover the fingers. The fold is not sewn.

Finish

Weave in the seaming ends. The neck, the hem and the cuffs are left as they are: no border, no band, no buttons, no ties. Check every seam by pulling gently.

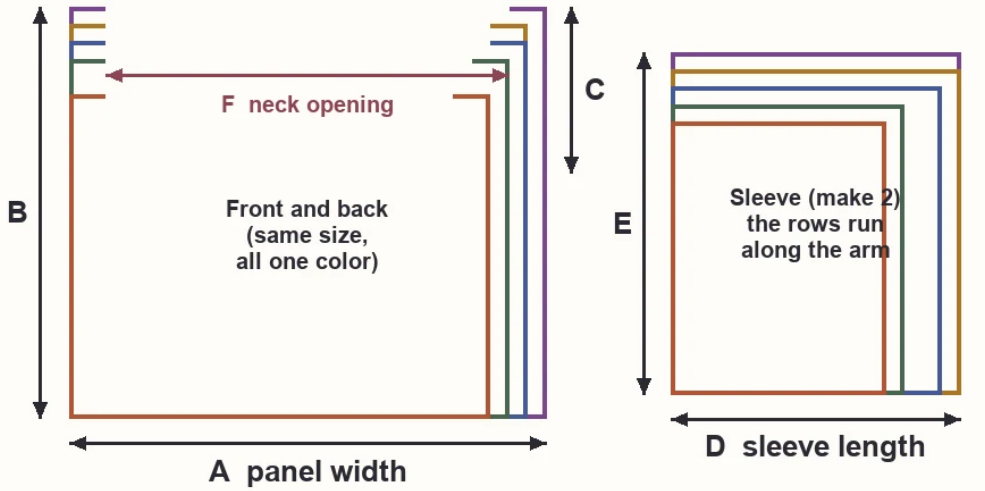


The sleeve is as wide at the cuff as at the armhole, so you turn the cuff back.

Plan of the pieces

Pieces to scale

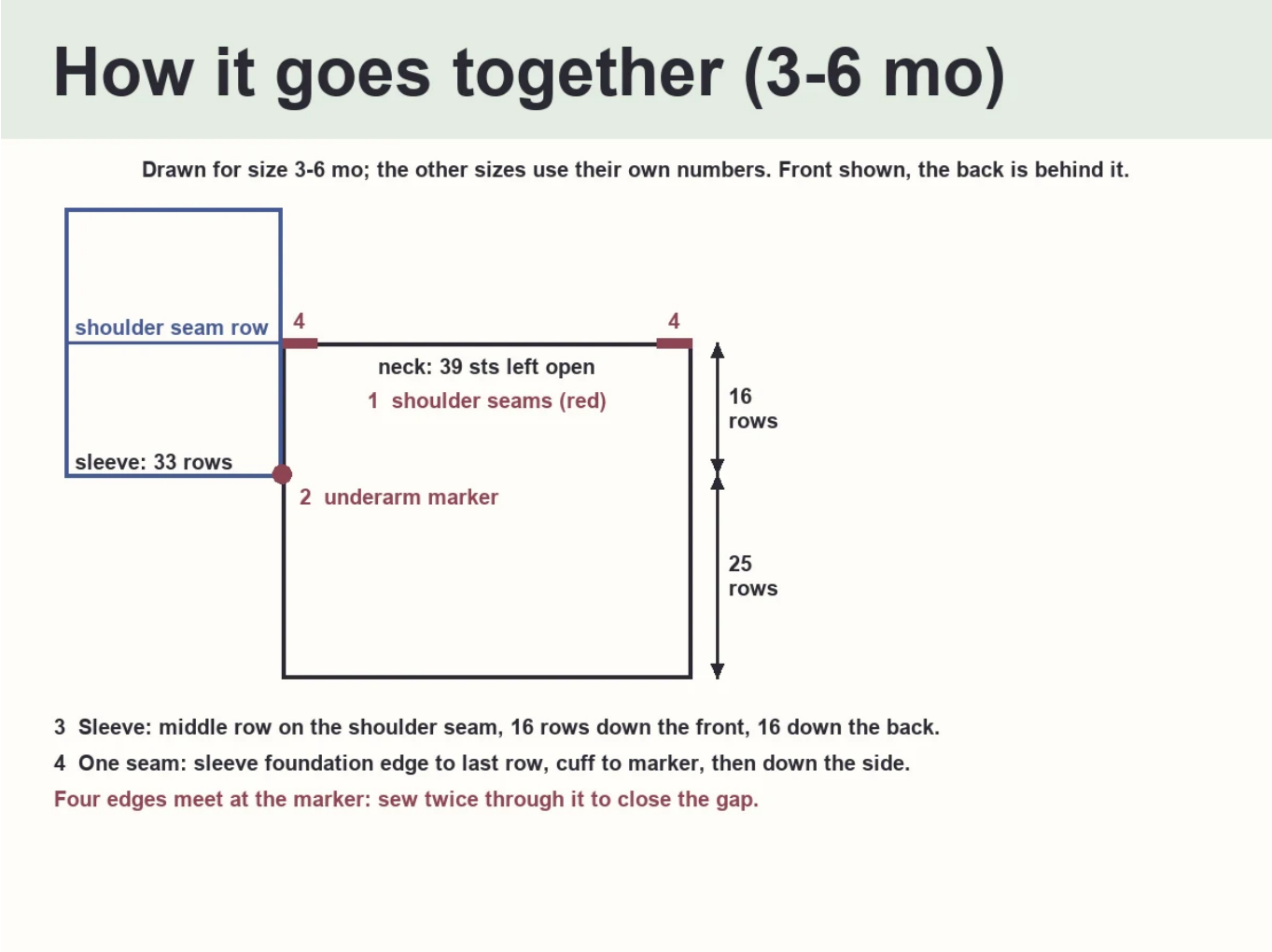
Nested outlines, to scale; colors match the legend. E = width around (cuff = armhole).



- 0-3 mo: A 12 x B 9 1/4 | C 3 3/4 | D 6 1/4 | E 7 3/4 | F 9 3/4 | shoulder 1 in
- 3-6 mo: A 12 1/2 x B 10 1/4 | C 4 | D 6 3/4 | E 8 1/4 | F 10 1/2 | shoulder 1 in
- 6-12 mo: A 13 x B 10 3/4 | C 4 1/4 | D 7 3/4 | E 8 3/4 | F 11 | shoulder 1 in
- 12-18 mo: A 13 x B 11 1/4 | C 4 1/2 | D 8 1/4 | E 9 1/4 | F 11 | shoulder 1 in
- 18-24 mo: A 13 1/2 x B 11 3/4 | C 4 3/4 | D 8 1/4 | E 9 3/4 | F 11 1/2 | shoulder 1 in

Body and sleeve of all sizes to scale, with the neck opening. The letters match the size table. Open it full size.

Assembly plan

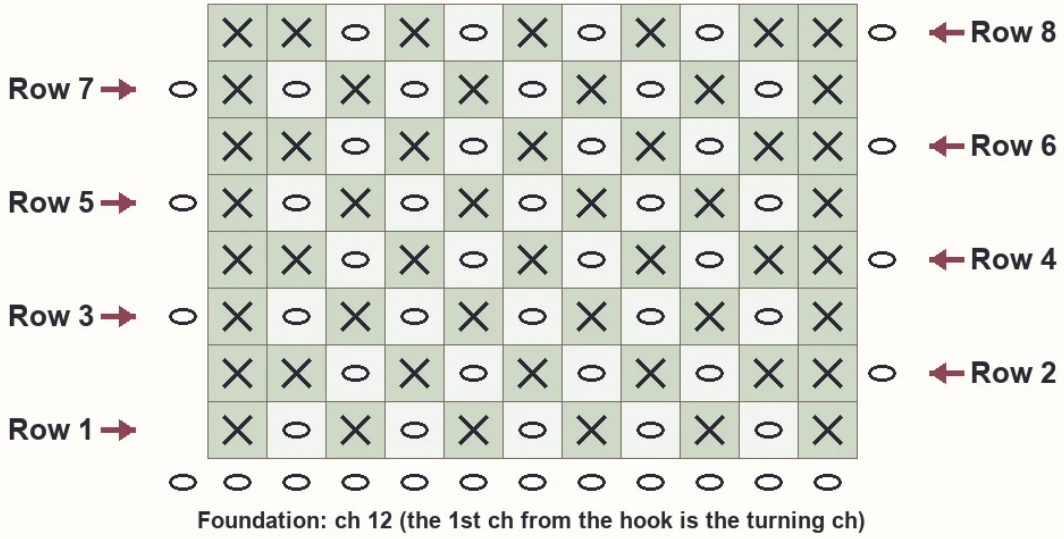


How the pieces go together, drawn for size 3-6 mo (the other sizes use their own numbers in the Assembly rows). Open it full size.

Stitch diagram

Moss stitch chart

Seen from the right side: odd rows go left to right, even rows right to left.
Every sc sits in the ch-1 space below it, except the first and last sc of a row (in the sc below).



Moss stitch, 11 sts and 8 rows: each sc goes in the ch-1 space of the row below. Open it full size.

The pieces, size by size

0-3 mo: the four rectangles

Front and back (2) 25 sts x 37 rows, about 12 x 9 1/4 in
Sleeves (2) 23 sts x 31 rows, about 6 1/4 x 7 3/4 in

3-6 mo: the four rectangles

Front and back (2) 27 sts x 41 rows, about 12 1/2 x 10 1/4 in
Sleeves (2) 25 sts x 33 rows, about 6 3/4 x 8 1/4 in

6-12 mo: the four rectangles

Front and back (2) 29 sts x 43 rows, about 13 x 10 3/4 in
Sleeves (2) 29 sts x 35 rows, about 7 3/4 x 8 3/4 in

12-18 mo: the four rectangles

Front and back (2) 29 sts x 45 rows, about 13 x 11 1/4 in
Sleeves (2) 31 sts x 37 rows, about 8 1/4 x 9 1/4 in

18-24 mo: the four rectangles

Front and back (2) 31 sts x 47 rows, about 13 1/2 x 11 3/4 in
Sleeves (2) 31 sts x 39 rows, about 8 1/4 x 9 3/4 in



In the pictures the neck looks narrower than in the pattern. Follow the stitch counts and the size table: the real neck opening is about 82 to 84 % of the panel width. Measure your baby's head (see "Will it fit my baby's head?").

Finishing

Check that every end is woven in, the seams are firm and the neck opening is at least 2 in more than the baby's head.

- Never add small parts or cords: no buttons, no ribbons, no pompoms, no cords, no beads and no appliques, because small parts and cords are a choking and strangling risk. Not a toy.

- Sew the seams firmly and weave in every end. Count your pins and stitch markers before you finish: none may stay in the seams. The holes between stitches are about 1/4 in or more: check little fingers and toes when you dress and change the baby.
- Dress a baby in it only when an adult is watching. Do not use this sweater in a car seat: bulky clothes can leave the harness loose. Do not layer it over a thick coat, and do not overdress the baby.
- The wide neck can slide off one shoulder: a plain bodysuit underneath keeps the baby warm. If the edge rides up near the face, take the sweater off.
- The American Academy of Pediatrics advises a bare sleep space (healthychildren.org, A Parent's Guide to Safe Sleep). Taking this sweater off for sleep is our own extra precaution. Selling baby clothes in the US has legal rules (CPSC/CPSIA): check them before you sell. We make no safety or certification claim for this pattern or for any yarn.



Fold the cuff back as the baby grows, and check that it does not cover the fingers.

Thank you!

This pattern online (photos, FAQ):
https://www.amgroyal.com/crochet-baby-sweater/?utm_source=pdf&utm_medium=referral&utm_campaign=crochet-baby-sweater

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