

Patriotic Cardigan

baby yarn version:

small preemie

US C/D crochet hook

yarn:

(MC) white - 2 ounces

(C1) red - 1/2 ounce

(C2) blue - 1/2 ounce

gauge: 12 hdc/7 hdc row = 5 cm (2")

DK version:

medium/large preemie

US E/F crochet hook

yarn:

(MC) white - 2 1/4 ounces

(C1) red - 1/2 ounce

(C2) blue - 1/2 ounce

gauge: 10 hdc/5 hdc row = 5 cm (2")

worsted weight version:

newborn

US F/G crochet hook

yarn:

(MC) white - 3 ounces

(C1) red - 1/2 ounce

(C2) blue - 1/2 ounce

gauge: 7.5 hdc/4.5 hdc row = 5 cm (2")

all sizes: 24" of 1/4 or 3/8" satin ribbon, three 1/2" - 3/4" buttons

abbreviations:

ch: chain

FPhdc: front post half double crochet

hdc: half double crochet

dec: decrease

note: ch 2 at beginning of any round will count as an hdc

sc: single crochet

BPhdc: back post half double crochet

sl st: slip stitch

using C2 and larger hook, ch 62. turn

row 1: in 3rd ch from hook, hdc. hdc in each ch across. (60 st)

rows 2-4: turn. ch 2 (counts as 1 hdc). hdc in each stitch across. tie off and clip.

row 5: working from the **right** side, attach C1. ch 1. sc in each of the next 5 stitches. *ch 10. sc in next stitch. sc in each of the next 5 stitches. repeat from * across.

row 6: working from the **wrong** side, attach MC. ch 2, hdc in each sc across, pushing the ch-10 loops created on the previous round to the **right** side of the sweater. (see inset on next page for more detail about the chain loop braids)

row 7: working again from the **wrong** side with C1, draw up a loop in the top of the ch 2 from the last round. ch1. sc in each of the next 5 stitches. *ch 10. sc in next stitch. sc in each of the next 5 stitches. repeat from * across. columns of loops should align.

row 8: working from the **right** side with MC. ch 2, hdc in each sc across, keeping the ch-10 loops created on the previous round on the **right** side of the sweater.

row 9: working again from the **right** side with C1, draw up a loop in the top of the ch 2 from the last round. ch1. sc in each of the next 5 stitches. *ch 10. sc in next stitch. sc in each of the next 5 stitches. repeat from * across. columns of loops should align.

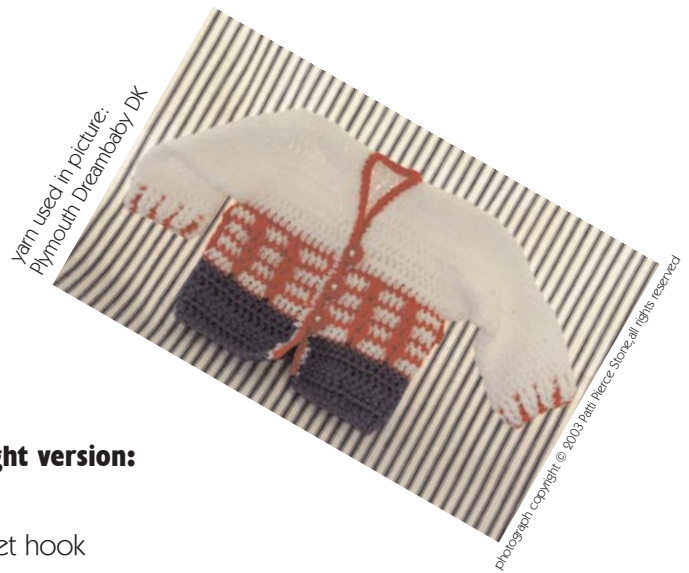
row 10: working from the **wrong** side with MC. ch 2, hdc in each sc across, pushing the ch-10 loops created on the previous round to the **right** side of the sweater.

rows 11/12: repeat rows 7 and 8

row 13: create chain loop braids as described in inset on next page

row 14: working from the **right** side with C1, draw up a loop in the top of the ch 2 from the last round. ch1. sc in next 5 stitches. *put hook through top ch-10 loop, sc in next stitch. sc in the next 5 stitches. repeat from * across. loops should now be attached to the sweater.

row 15: working from the **wrong** side with MC. ch 2, hdc in each sc across (60 st)



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split for armholes -- remainder of body will be worked in with MC. decreases are worked at neck edge.

right front:

rows 16-18: turn. ch 2. hdc in the next 14 stitches. (15 st)
row 19: turn. ch 2. 12 hdc. dec 1. (14 st)
row 20: turn. ch 2. dec 1. 11 hdc. (13 st)
row 21: turn. ch 2. 10 hdc. dec 1. (12 st)
row 22: turn. ch2. dec 1. 9 hdc. tie off & clip. (11 st)

left front:

so that row faces match, with the right side facing join MC at the 14th st from the left edge.

rows 16-18: ch 2. hdc in the next 14 stitches. (15 st)
row 19: turn. ch 2. 12 hdc. dec 1. (14 st)
row 20: turn. ch 2. dec 1. 11 hdc. (13 st)
row 21: turn. ch 2. 10 hdc. dec 1. (12 st)
row 22: turn. ch2. dec 1. 9 hdc. tie off & clip. (11 st)

back:

with right side facing, attach MC 4 st to the left of the right-front section.

row 16: ch 2. 21 hdc. row ends 4 stitches from left-front section. (22 st)

rows 17-21: turn. ch2. 21 hdc

row 22: 9 hdc, 4 sc, 9 hdc. tie off.

weave together shoulder seams, easing in extra 2 stitches on front sides. weave in ends.

sleeves:

worked directly on the sweater so no additional sewing is required.

beginning at right front underarm, attach MC (on outside of sweater)

rnd 1: ch 2. 4 hdc (last hdc will be worked in same st as a ch 2 from back row). working up the side of the armhole, make 1 st around the 1st hdc post and 1 st between the rows. sl st in top of ch 2. (32 st)

rnd 2-3: ch 2. hdc in each stitch around. sl st in top of ch 2.

rnd 4: ch 2. 2 hdc, dec 1 around. sl st in top of ch 2. (24 st)

rnds 5-12: ch 2. hdc in each stitch around. sl st in top of ch 2.

ribbing:

rnd 1: 2 FPhdc using MC, 1 BPhdc using C1. repeat around.

rnd 2: 2 FPhdc using MC, 1 BPhdc using C1. repeat around. tie off and clip. weave in ends.

finishing:

row 1: using smaller hook and MC, attach yarn at the lower edge of the right front and work 2 sc in each hdc post, 1 sc in the side of each sc around to bottom of left front.

row 2: attach C1 at the lower edge of the right front. 10 sc. *ch 6 (or a loop long enough to fit your button). 4 sc. repeat from * 2 times (3 button loops created). sc in remaining stitches. tie off and clip. weave in ends.

chain-loop braid

On selected rows, you will create a ch-10 loop which will be joined, with other loops, several rows later.

When working the rows after the loops are created, be sure to push all the loops to the right side of the fabric before making the next stitch.

Briefly, here are the steps for working the loops

- sc. ch 10. sc in next stitch. continue, according to pattern
- on the next row, work each stitch, including the ones that anchor the chain loops. be sure to push the loop to the right side of the fabric when crocheting across the new row.
- when it's time to "braid" the loops, starting with the bottom loop, give the loop a half twist to the left (so the right side of the loop crosses over the left)
- make the same twist with the loop in the row above. now pull the upper loop through the loop below.
- repeat this process until all loops in the column have been worked.
- when crocheting the next row, where you would have made the chain loop, you will now create your next stitch **through** the upper-most loop in the column. this process will anchor the top of the "braid" to the crocheted fabric.