



CROCHET  
SKILL LEVEL  
EASY



Designed by Sara Kay  
Hartmann

## What you will need:

**RED HEART® Baby Hugs™**  
Medium: 2 balls 4303 Shell

**Susan Bates® Crochet Hook:**  
5.5 mm [US I-9]

Yarn needle, two (three, four, five) 1" (25mm) buttons,  
sewing needle and thread

**GAUGE:** 2½ shells = 4"  
(10 cm); 8 rows = 4" (10 cm)  
in shell st. **CHECK YOUR  
GAUGE. Use any size hook to  
obtain the gauge given.**



**RED HEART® Baby  
Hugs™ Medium, Art  
E404, Oeko-Tex**  
Certified 100% Acrylic baby  
yarn available in 4.5 oz (127 g)  
247 yds (225 m) balls



# Sweet Shell Cardigan

We all agree, there's nothing cuter than a baby wearing a handmade sweater! This little cardigan works up in a fun shell stitch, and is easy to customize with your color and button choices.

**Directions are for size 6 mos. Changes for sizes 12 mos., 18 mos., and 24 mos. are in parentheses.**

**To Fit Chest:** 17 (18, 19, 20)" [43 (45.5, 48, 50.5) cm] chest circumference

**Finished Chest Measurement:** 20 (20, 22, 22)" [51 (51, 56, 56) cm]

## NOTE

This sweater is worked flat in a single piece from the top down. The Back is crocheted first, then the Left Front is joined at the shoulder and seamlessly worked down, followed by the Right Front. Both Sleeves are seamlessly joined and worked down. This construction method creates neat seams with just side and sleeve seams remaining to be sewn.

## Special Abbreviations

**Shell (sh):** work 5 dc in stitch or space indicated

## BACK

Ch 38 (38, 44, 44).

**Row 1 (Right Side):** Sc in 2nd chain from hook, \*sk 2 ch, shell in next ch, sk 2 ch, sc in next ch; repeat from \* across, turn - 6 (6, 7, 7) shells made.

**Row 2 (Wrong Side):** Ch 3 (counts as dc), 2 dc in same st, sc in center dc of next shell, \*shell in next sc, sc in center dc of next shell; repeat from \* across, 3 dc in last sc, turn.

**Row 3:** Ch 1, sc in same st, \*shell in next sc, sc in center dc of next shell; repeat from \* working last sc in last dc, turn.

Repeat Rows 2-3 eight (nine, ten, eleven) times.

Fasten off. Break yarn, leaving a 6" (15.2 cm) tail.

## LEFT FRONT

With Right Side of Back facing, join yarn at 3rd sc from the left edge of foundation row, and pull up a loop.

**Row 1 (Right Side):** Ch 1, sc in same st, shell in base of next shell, sc in base of next sc, shell in base of next shell, sc in base of last sc, turn.

**Row 2:** Ch 3 (counts as dc), 2 dc in same st, sc in center dc of next shell, shell in next sc, sc in center dc of next shell, 3 dc in last sc, turn.

**Row 3:** Ch 1, sc in same st, shell in next sc, sc in center dc of next shell, shell in next sc, sc in last dc, turn.

**Row 4:** Repeat Row 2.

**Row 5:** Repeat Row 3.

## Shape Front Slope

**Row 6 (shaping row):** Ch 3 (counts as dc), 2 dc in same st, sc in center dc of next shell, shell in next sc, sc in center dc of next shell, shell in last sc, turn - 1 shell inc made.

**Row 7:** Ch 3 (counts as dc), 2 dc in same st, \*sc in center dc of next shell, shell in next sc; repeat from \* once more, sc in last dc, turn.

**Row 8:** Ch 3 (counts as dc), 2 dc in same st, \*sc in center dc of next shell, shell in next sc; repeat from \* once more, sc in last dc, turn.

**Row 9 (shaping row):** Ch 3 (counts as dc), 4 dc in same st, \*sc in center dc of next, shell in next sc; repeat from \* once more, sc in last dc, turn - 1 shell inc made.

continued...

SHOP KIT



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**Row 10:** Ch 3 (counts as dc), 2 dc in same st, \*sc in center dc of next shell, shell in next sc; repeat from \* once, sc in center dc of next shell, 3 dc in last dc, turn.

### Work Body

**Row 11:** Ch 1, sc in same st, shell in next sc, sc in center dc of next shell; repeat from \* across, working sc in last dc, turn.

**Row 12:** Ch 3 (counts as dc), 2 dc in same st, sc in center dc of next shell, \*shell in next sc, sc in center dc of next shell; repeat from \* once more, 3 dc in last sc, turn.

Repeat Rows 11-12 three (four, five, six) times.

**Row 19 (21, 23, 25):** Repeat Row 11.

## RIGHT FRONT

With Right Side of Back facing, join yarn at 1st (1st, 1st, 1st) sc on the right edge of foundation row, and pull up a loop.

**Row 1 (Right Side):** Ch 1, sc in same st, shell in base of next shell, sc in base of next sc, shell in base of next shell, sc in base of last sc, turn.

**Row 2:** Ch 3 (counts as dc), 2 dc in same st, sc in center dc of next shell, shell in next sc, sc in center dc of next shell, 3 dc in last sc, turn.

**Row 3:** Ch 1, sc in same st, shell in next sc, sc in center dc of next shell, shell in next sc, sc in last dc, turn.

**Row 4:** Repeat Row 2.

**Row 5:** Repeat Row 3.

### Shape Front Slope

**Row 6 (shaping row):** Ch 3 (counts as dc), 4 dc in same st, sc in center dc of next shell, shell in next sc, sc in center dc of next shell, 3 dc in last sc, turn - 1 shell inc made.

**Row 7:** Ch 1, sc in same st, \*shell in next st, sc in center dc of next shell; repeat from \* once more, 3 dc in last dc, turn.

**Row 8:** Ch 1, sc in same st, \*shell in next sc, sc in center dc of next shell; repeat from \* once more, 3 dc in last dc, turn.

**Row 9 (shaping row):** Ch 1, sc in same st, \*shell in next dc, sc in center dc of next shell; repeat from \* once more, shell in last dc, turn - 1 shell inc made.

**Row 10:** Ch 3 (counts as dc), 2 dc in same st, \*sc in center dc of next shell, shell in next sc; repeat from \* once, sc in center dc of next shell, 3 dc in last sc, turn.

### Work Body

**Row 11:** Ch 1, sc in same st, shell in next sc, sc in center dc of next shell; repeat from \* across working sc in last dc, turn.

**Row 12:** Ch 3 (counts as dc), 2 dc in same st, sc in center dc of next shell, \*shell in next sc, sc in center dc of next shell; repeat from \* once more, 3 dc in last sc, turn.

Repeat Rows 11-12 three (four, five, six) times.

## SLEEVES (make 2)

With Right Side of garment facing, join yarn at 9th (9th, 9th, 11th) row of Back/Front, and pull up a loop.

**Row 1:** Ch 1, sc in same st, \*shell in next edge st, sc in next edge sc; repeat from \* 4 (4, 4, 5) more times, turn, centering sleeve over shoulder seam - 5 (5, 5, 6) shells made.

**Proceed to instructions for the appropriate size.**

### SIZES 6 mos (12 mos.):

**Row 2:** Ch 3 (counts as dc), 2 dc in same st, sc in center dc of next shell, \*shell in next sc, sc in center dc of next shell; repeat from \* across, 3 dc in last sc, turn.

**Row 3:** Ch 1, sc in same st, \*shell in next sc, sc in center dc of next shell; repeat from \* working last sc in last dc, turn.

### Shape Sleeve

**Row 4 (dec row):** Sl st to center dc of next shell, ch 1, sc in same dc, \*shell in next sc, sc in center dc of next shell; repeat from \* across, working 3 dc in last sc, turn - ½ shell dec.

**Rows 5-7:** Ch 1, sc in same st, shell in next sc, \*sc in center dc of next shell, shell in next sc; repeat from \* working 3 dc in last sc, turn.

**Row 8 (dec row):** Ch 1, sc in same st, \*shell in next sc, sc in center dc of next shell; repeat from \* three times more, turn - ½ shell dec.

**Row 9:** Repeat Row 2.

### Size 6 mos. Only:

Fasten off, break yarn leaving 12" (30.5 cm) tail for seaming.

### Size 12 mos. only:

**Row 10:** Repeat Row 3.

**Row 11:** Repeat Row 2.

### SIZES 18 mos. (24 mos.):

**Row 2:** Ch 3 (counts as dc), 2 dc in same st, sc in center dc of next shell, \*shell in next sc, sc in center dc of next shell; repeat from \* across, 3 dc in last sc, turn.

**Row 3:** Ch 1, sc in same st, \*shell in next sc, sc in center dc of next shell; repeat from \* working last sc in last dc, turn.

**Rows 4-5:** Repeat Rows 2-3.

### Shape Sleeve

**Row 6 (dec row):** Sl st to center dc of next shell, ch 1, sc in same dc, \*shell in next sc, sc in center dc of next shell; repeat from \* across, working 3 dc in last sc, turn - ½ shell decreased.

**Row 7-11:** Ch 1, sc in same st, shell in next sc, \*sc in center dc of next shell, shell in next sc; repeat from \* working 3 dc in last sc, turn.

**Row 12:** (decrease row): Ch 1, sc in same st, \*shell in next sc, sc in center dc of next shell; repeat from \* three (four) times more, turn - ½ shell decreased.

**Row 13:** Repeat Row 2.

### Size 18 mos. Only:

Fasten off, break yarn leaving 12" (30.5 cm) tail for seaming.

### Size 24 mos. Only:

**Row 14:** Repeat Row 3.

**Row 15:** Repeat Row 2.

**Rows 16-19:** Work as for Rows 14-15.

Repeat on opposite side for second sleeve.

## FINISHING

With Right Sides facing, sew or slip st side and Sleeve seams.

### Buttonhole Band

With right side of garment facing, join yarn at Right Front hem corner and pull up a loop.

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**Row 1:** Ch 1, sc in same st, \*skip 1 edge st, (3 dc, ch 3, 3 dc) in next edge st, skip next edge st, sc in next edge st; repeat from \* 1 (2, 3, 4) times, evenly working buttonhole shells along flat section of Right Front; do not fasten off, do not turn. Continue to Neckband - 2 (3, 4, 5) buttonhole shells made.

### Neckband

**Row 1:** Sc evenly around neck and down Left Front to lower Left Front hem, turn.

### Button Band

**Set-Up Row:** Sc in next 14 (17, 21, 25) sc, turn.

**Rows 1-3:** Sc in each sc across, turn. Fasten off.

Sew 2 (3, 4, 5) buttons in place on button band, aligning them evenly with buttonholes.

With yarn needle, weave in all loose ends. Block as desired.

### ABBREVIATIONS

**ch** = chain; **dc** = double crochet; **dec** = decrease(s)(d)(ing); **inc** = increase(s)(d)(ing); **mm** = millimeters; **sc** = single crochet; **st(s)** = stitch(es); \* = repeat whatever follows the \* as indicated.

