



CrochetRooms

Shell Stitch Baby Blanket Pattern

Finished Size & Skill Level

- About 30 in (76 cm) wide x 36 in (91 cm) long, including the border
- **Skill level:** Confident beginner - chain, single crochet, double crochet
- **Time:** about 18-22 hours of relaxed stitching

Materials

- **DK (#3) soft baby yarn:** approx 1,100 yds (1,006 m), in one color or several
- **4.5 mm (US 7) crochet hook**
- Yarn needle, scissors, stitch markers (optional)

Gauge

16 double crochet stitches x 9 rows = 4 in (10 cm). Gauge is not critical for a blanket, but checking it helps you reach the planned 30 x 36 in size. If your swatch is smaller, go up a hook size; if larger, go down one.

Abbreviations (US Terms)

- **ch** = chain | **sc** = single crochet
- **dc** = double crochet (UK: tr) | **st(s)** = stitch(es)
- **sk** = skip | **rep** = repeat

A shell = 5 dc worked into the same stitch. The turning chains do not count as stitches.

Blanket Body

Foundation: Ch 124.

Row 1: Dc in 4th ch from hook and in each ch across. (121 dc - about 30 in wide)

Row 2 (shell row): Ch 1, turn, sc in first st, *sk 2 sts, 5 dc in next st (shell made), sk 2 sts, sc in next st*; rep from * across. (20 shells)

Row 3 (offset row): Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn, 2 dc in first st (half shell), *sk 2 sts, sc in next st (the center of the shell below), sk 2 sts, 5 dc in next st (the sc between shells)*; rep from * 18 more times (19 times total), sk 2 sts, sc in the center of the last shell, sk 2 sts, 3 dc in the last st (half shell).

Row 4: Repeat Row 2. (20 shells, nesting back into the offset centers)

Rows 5 onward: Repeat Rows 3 and 4, alternating the offset. Continue until the blanket measures about 34 in from the starting chain (about 75 rows total), ending with a Row 4. Do not fasten off.

Tips for even shells

- Count your shells after each row: shell rows have 20 full shells; offset rows have 19 full shells plus a half-shell at each edge.
- Keep your tension relaxed so the shells lie flat and the edges stay straight.
- Place a stitch marker in the first and last stitch of every few rows to check your edges.

Scalloped Border

Round 1: Ch 1, do not turn. Work sc evenly around all four sides of the blanket, working 3 sc in each corner. Join with a sl st to the first sc.

Round 2: Ch 1, *sc in next st, sk 2 sts, 5 dc in next st (shell), sk 2 sts*; rep from * around. At each corner, work one shell centered in the middle corner stitch (skipping one stitch on each side of it) so the edge turns smoothly. Join and fasten off.

If the border ripples, you are working too many stitches; if it pulls in, add a shell at the tight spots. Adjust until the edge lies flat.

Finishing

- Weave in all ends with the yarn needle.
- Wash gently according to your yarn label and lay flat to dry, shaping the scalloped edge with your fingers while damp.
- Snuggle test: fold it up and admire the softest thing you have made this year.