# FREE CROCHET BABY CARDIGAN PATTERN

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SKILL LEVEL: INTERMEDIATE | HOOK: 6.5MM (US K-10½) | TIME: WEEKEND PROJECT

## MATERIALS & YARN SPECIFICATIONS

- RED HEART® Soft Essentials™™, Art. E856, 5 oz (140 g), 131 yd (120 m) balls: Terracotta (Color A): 2 balls; Cream (Colc B): 1 ball
- Susan Bates® Crochet Hook: 6.5mm [US K-10½]
- Yarn needle
- Four 1⅛" (27mm) buttons
- Sewing needle and thread for attaching buttons

### SIZING GUIDE & MEASUREMENTS

| Size | To Fit Chest | Finished Dimensions |
|---|---|---|
| **6 months** | 17" [43 cm] | 20" [51 cm] |
| **12 months** | 18" [46 cm] | 22" [56 cm] |
| **18 months** | 19" [48 cm] | 26" [66 cm] |
| **24 months** | 20" [51 cm] | 28" [71 cm] |

**Gauge Swatch (Tension):** 11 sts = 4" (10 cm); 8 rows = 4" (10 cm) in half double crochet. CHECK YOUR GAUGE. Use an size hook to obtain the gauge given.

## ABBREVIATIONS & CRAFT GLOSSARY

| Abbr | Meaning | Abbr | Meaning |
|---|---|---|---|
| **A** | Color A | **B** | Color B |
| **ch** | chain | **dec** | decrease(s)(d)(ing) |
| **hdc** | half double crochet | **inc** | increase(s)(d)(ing) |
| **mm** | millimeters | **sc** | single crochet |
| **Slim Hdc2tog** | Yarn over hook, insert hook into stitch, pull up a loop (3 loops on hook). Insert hook into next stitch, YO hook, pull through stitch and all 3 loops on hook. (This "slim" decrease creates less bulk and a subtler appearance than the standard hdc2tog.) | **st(s)** | stitch(es) |
| **yo** | yarn over needle | **[ ]** | Work directions in brackets the number of time specified. |

**Maker Notes & Tips:**

- Always work a gauge swatch before starting your crochet baby cardigan pattern to ensure your finished garment matches the intended sizing.
- Instructions for larger sizes (12 months, 18 months, and 24 months) are given in parentheses. Circle or highlight your chosen size before you begin for easier tracking.
- This charming sweater is worked in five separate pieces from the bottom up. Pay attention to how the pieces are shaped.

## STEP-BY-STEP PATTERN INSTRUCTIONS

### CARDIGAN: BACK

1. Foundation Row: With A (Terracotta), ch 30 (32, 38, 40); hdc in 3rd ch from hook and each ch across, turn — 28 (30, 36, 38) hdc.
2. Row 1 (Right Side): Ch 2, hdc in each st across, turn.
3. Repeat Row 1 twenty (twenty-four, twenty-six, twenty-eight) times more.
4. Fasten off. Break yarn, leaving a 6" (15 cm) tail.

### CARDIGAN: LEFT FRONT

1. Foundation Row: Ch 12 (14, 18, 19), hdc in 3rd ch from hook and each ch across, turn — 10 (12, 16, 17) hdc.
2. Row 1 (Right Side): Ch 2, hdc in each st across, turn.
3. Repeat Row 1 twelve (fourteen, fourteen, sixteen) times.
4. Dec Row (Wrong Side): Ch 2, slim hdc2tog in first 2 sts, hdc in each st across, turn — 9 (11, 15, 16) hdc.
5. Next row: Ch 2, hdc in each st across, turn.
6. Repeat these 2 rows 3 (4, 5, 5) times — 6 (7, 10, 11) hdc.
7. Fasten off. Break yarn, leaving a 6" (15 cm) tail.

### CARDIGAN: RIGHT FRONT

1. Foundation Row: Ch 12 (14, 18, 19), hdc in 3rd ch from hook and each ch across, turn — 10 (12, 16, 17) hdc.
2. Row 1 (Right Side): Ch 2, hdc in each st across, turn.
3. Repeat Row 1 twelve (fourteen, fourteen, sixteen) times.
4. Dec Row (Wrong Side): Ch 2, hdc in each st across to last 2 sts, slim hdc2tog in last 2 sts, turn — 9 (11, 15, 16) hdc.
5. Next Row: Ch 2, hdc in each st across, turn.
6. Repeat these 2 rows 3 (4, 5, 5) times more — 6 (7, 10, 11) hdc.
7. Fasten off. Break yarn, leaving a 6" (15 cm) tail.

### CARDIGAN: SLEEVES (MAKE 2)



1. Foundation Row: Ch 18 (18, 20, 20), hdc in 3rd st from hook and each st across, turn — 16 (16, 18, 18) hdc.
2. Row 1 (Right Side): Ch 2, hdc in each st across, turn.
3. Row 2 (Inc Row): Ch 2, hdc in first st, 2 hdc in next st, hdc across to last 2 sts, 2 hdc in next st, hdc in last st, turn — 18 hdc.
4. Rows 3-4: Ch 2, hdc in each st across, turn.
5. Rows 5-13: Repeat Rows 2-4 three times — 24 hdc.
6. Row 1 (Right Side): Ch 2, hdc in each st across, turn.
7. Row 2 (Inc Row): Ch 2, hdc in first st, 2 hdc in next st, hdc across to last 2 sts, 2 hdc in next st, hdc in last st, turn — 18 hdc.
8. Rows 3-4: Ch 2, hdc in each st across, turn.
9. Rows 5-13: Repeat Rows 2-4 three times — 24 hdc.
10. Row 14: Repeat Row 2 — 26 hdc.
11. Row 15: Ch 2, hdc in each st across, turn.
12. Row 1 (Right Side): Ch 2, hdc in each st across, turn.
13. Row 2 (Inc Row): Ch 2, hdc in first st, 2 hdc in next st, hdc across to last 2 sts, 2 hdc in next st, hdc in last st, turn — 20 hdc.
14. Rows 3-5: Ch 2, hdc in each st across, turn.
15. Rows 6-17: Repeat Rows 2-5 three times more — 26 hdc.
16. Row 18: Repeat Row 2 — 28 hdc.
17. Row 19: Ch 2, hdc in each st across, turn.
18. Row 1 (Right Side): Ch 2, hdc in each st across, turn.
19. Row 2 (Inc Row): Ch 2, hdc in first st, 2 hdc in next st, hdc across to last 2 sts, 2 hdc in next st, hdc in last st, turn — 20 hdc.
20. Rows 3-4: Ch 2, hdc in each st across, turn.
21. Row 5 (Inc Row): Ch 2, hdc in first st, 2 hdc in next st, hdc across to last 2 sts, 2 hdc in next st, hdc in last st, turn — 22 hdc.
22. Rows 6-8: Ch 2, hdc in each st across, turn.
23. Rows 9-15: Repeat Rows 2-8 — 26 hdc.
24. Rows 16-19: Repeat Rows 2-5 — 30 hdc.
25. Rows 20-21: Ch 2, hdc in each st across, turn.
26. Fasten off. Break yarn, leaving a 6" (15 cm) tail.

### FINISHING: SEAMING

1. With A (Terracotta) and yarn needle, sew shoulder, side and sleeve seams. This is a crucial step for assembling your crochet baby cardigan pattern.

## FINISHING: NECK EDGING & BUTTONHOLE BAND

1. With Right Side facing, join B (Cream) at lower Right Front corner.
2. Row 1 (Right Side): Ch 1, sc in first st, evenly space 81 (93, 99, 105) sc along Right Front, Back Neck, and Left Front, turn.
3. Row 2-3: Ch 1, sc in each st across, turn.
4. Row 4: Ch 1, sc in first st, *ch 3, skip 3 sts, sc in next 2 sts; repeat from * 3 times, sc in each remaining st across, turn.
5. Row 5: Ch 1, sc in each st to first ch-3 space, *3 sc in next ch-3 space, sc in next 2 sc; repeat from * 2 times, 3 sc in last ch-3 space, sc in last sc, turn.
6. Rows 6-7: Ch 1, sc in each st across, turn.

## FINISHING: CUFF EDGING (WORK FOR BOTH CUFFS)

1. With Right Side facing, join B (Cream) at sleeve seam.
2. Round 1: Ch 1, sc in each st around cuff, slip st to first sc to join round.
3. Fasten off. Break yarn, leaving a 6" (15 cm) tail.

## FINISHING: HEM EDGING

1. With Right Side facing, join B (Cream) at lower corner of left Button Band.
2. Row 1: Ch 1, sc in each st around.
3. Fasten off. Break yarn, leaving 6" (15 cm) tail.

## FINISHING: ATTACH BUTTONS

1. Align and mark button placement on button band.
2. Sew buttons in place with sewing needle and thread. These thoughtful details complete your free crochet cardigan patterns for women.

## FINISHING, BLOCKING & GARMENT CARE

### Weaving Ends & Assembly

Once all your crochet pieces are joined, take some time to weave in all remaining yarn tails securely on the wrong side. A neat finish makes all the difference for a professional-looking garment like this crochet baby cardigan pattern.

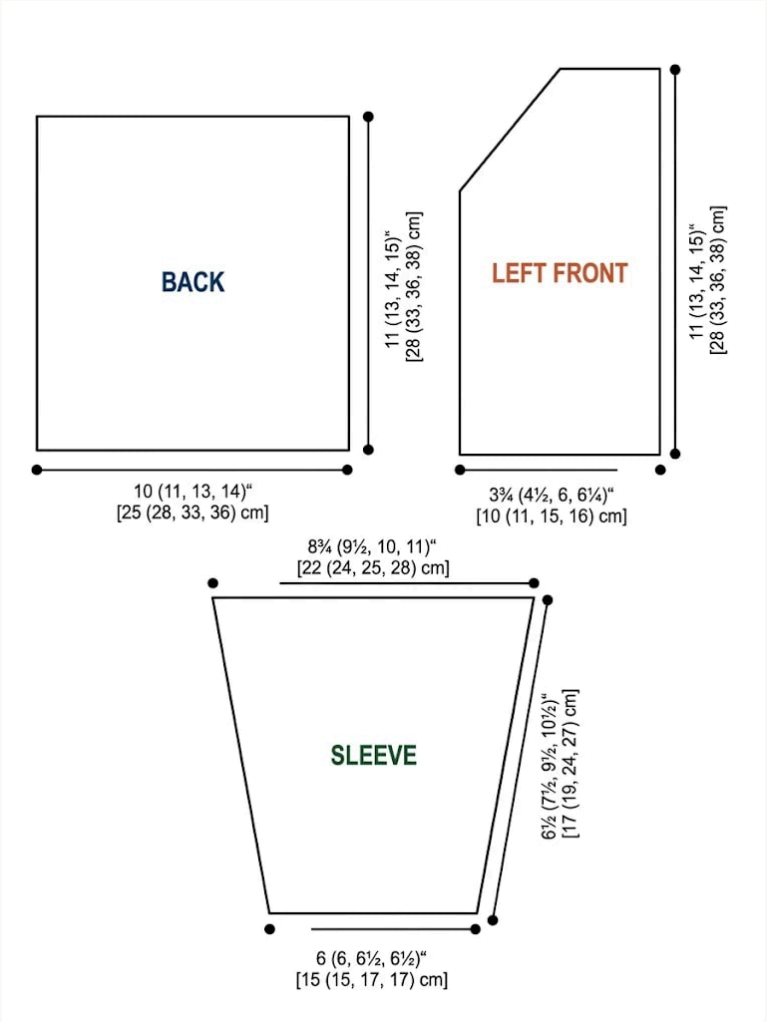
### Blocking for Perfect Drape

Give your completed sweater a gentle steam block or pin it flat to the finished measurements. This process helps to relax the fibers, even out your stitches, and achieve that perfect, soft drape essential for baby clothes.

### Washing & Garment Care

To care for your beautiful handmade baby cardigan, hand-wash it gently in cool water with a wool-safe wash. Roll the garment in a clean towel to remove excess moisture before laying it flat to dry. Avoid hanging to prevent stretching.

## VISUAL GUIDES, CHARTS & TECHNICAL SCHEMATICS








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