Directions are for size X-Small/Small. Changes for sizes Medium/Large,

## X-Large/2X-Large and 3X-Large/4X-

## Large are in parentheses.

To Fit Bust: 30-34 (36-42, 44-50, 5258)" [76-86.5 (91.5-106.5, 112-127, 132147.5) cm]

Finished Bust/Hip: 42 (48, 56, 65)"
[106.5 (122, 142, 165) cm], after blocking.
Finished Length: 36 (37, 38, 39)" [91.5
(94, 96.5, 99) cm].

## Notes

1. Dress is made from two identical rectangular pieces: Back and Front.
2. Each rectangle is worked from the lower edge upwards beginning with a lacy shell pattern. After an even section of the shell pattern is complete, decreases are worked along one edge to form a sloped top edge.
3. Half double crochet stitches are worked along the sloped edge to begin a bias-shaped section. Decreases are worked along one edge and increases along the other edge of the bias section. This creates a diagonal/sloping section of half double crochet.
4. Following the half double crochet section, another section of the lacy shell pattern is worked. Decreases are worked along both edges of this shell pattern section to accommodate the sloping of the bias-shaped section and to shape the top edge.
5. The bias-shaping means that the pieces will lean slightly to one side until seamed. Once blocked and seamed, dress will even out.
6. Choose size based on bust or hip measurement, whichever is larger.

## Special Stitches

dc2tog (double crochet 2 stitches together) $=$ [Yarn over, insert hook in next stitch, yarn over and pull up loop, yarn over, draw through 2 loops] 2 times yarn over, draw through all 3 loops on hook.
Fdc (foundation double crochet - This technique creates a foundation chain and a row of double crochet stitches in one) =
First st: Place a slip knot on hook, ch 3, yarn over, insert hook in 3rd ch from hook and draw up a loop, yarn over, draw through 1 loop on hook (the "chain"), [yarn over and draw through 2 loops on hook] twice (the "double crochet").
Remaining sts: *Yarn over, insert hook in "chain" of previous stitch and draw up a loop, yarn over, draw through 1 loop on hook (the "chain"), [yarn over and draw through 2 loops on hook] twice (the "double crochet"); repeat from * for desired number of stitches.
hdc2tog (half double crochet 2 stitches together) $=$ [Yarn over, insert hook in next stitch, yarn over and pull up loop] 2 times, yarn over and draw through all 5 loops on hook.
shell = (2 dc, ch 1, 2 dc ) in indicated stitch.
2-dc Cl (2 double crochet cluster) = Yarn over, insert hook in indicated stitch or space and pull up a loop, yarn over and draw through 2 loops on hook (2 loops remain on hook); yarn over, insert hook in same stitch or space and pull up a loop, yarn over and draw through 2 loops on hook; yarn over and draw through all 3 loops on hook.
continued...


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3-dc $\mathbf{C l}$ (3 double crochet cluster) $=$ Yarn over, insert hook in indicated stitch, yarn over and pull up loop, yarn over, draw through 2 loops on hook (2 loops remain on hook); [yarn over, insert hook in same stitch, yarn over and pull up loop, yarn over, draw through 2 loops] 2 times, yarn over, draw through all 4 loops on hook.

## BACK

Fdc 121 (137, 161, 185).

## Lower Shell Pattern Section

Row 1 (wrong side): Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn, dc in next st and each st across. Row 2: Ch 1, turn, sc in first st, *ch
2, skip next 3 sts, shell in next st, ch 2, skip next 3 sts, sc in next st; repeat from * across working the last sc in top beginning ch-3-15 (17, 20, 23) shells.
Row 3: Ch 3, turn, dc in first st (beginning ch-3 and first dc count as 2 -dc Cl), ch 3, sc in ch-1 space of next shell, *ch 3,3 -dc Cl in next sc, ch 3 , sc in ch-1 space of next shell; repeat from * to last sc, ch 3, 2-dc Cl in last sc-16 (18, 21, 24) clusters.

Row 4: Ch 1, turn, sc in first st, *ch 2, shell in next sc, ch 2, sc in next cluster; repeat from * across working the last sc in top of beginning ch-3.
Rows 5-18 (16, 12, 10): Repeat Rows 3 and 4 for $7(6,4,3)$ more times.

## Decrease in Shell Pattern

Row 1: Ch 3, turn, dc in first st (beginning ch-3 and first dc count as 2 -dc Cl), ch 3 , sc in ch-1 space of next shell, *ch 3,3 -dc Cl in next sc, ch 3 , sc in ch-1 space of next shell; repeat from * across working last sc in last ch-1 space; leave remaining sts unworked-15 (17, 20, 23) clusters.

Row 2: Ch 5, turn, sc in next cluster, *ch 2, shell in next sc, ch 2 , sc in next cluster; repeat from * across working the last sc in top of beginning ch-3-14 ( $16,19,21$ ) shells.
Rows 3-28 (32, 38, 44): Repeat Rows 1 and 2 for 13 ( $15,18,21$ ) more times-1 shell.
Row 29 (33, 39, 45): Ch 3, turn, dc in first st (beginning ch-3 and first dc count as 2 -dc Cl ), ch 3 , sc in ch-1 space of shell; leave remaining sts unworked-1 cluster.
$30(34,40,46):$ Ch 5, turn, sc in top of beginning ch-3.
Do not fasten off.

## Half Double Crochet Bias Section

Row 1 (wrong side): Ch 2 (does not count as a st here and throughout), turn, work $121(139,163,187)$ hdc evenly spaced along sloped edge of shell section.
Row 2: Ch 2, turn, hdc in first st, hdc2tog, hdc in each st to last 2 sts, 2 hdc in next st, hdc in last st.
Row 3: Ch 2, turn, hdc in first st, 2 hdc in next st, hdc in each st to last 3 sts, hdc2tog, hdc in last st.
Repeat Rows 2 and 3 until piece measures about $36(37,38,39)$ " $[91.5$ (94, 96.5, 99) cm] from beginning, end by working a wrong side row (Row 3 ).

## Top Shell Pattern Section

Row 1 (right side): Ch 1, turn, sc in first st, *ch 2, skip next 2 sts, shell in next st, ch 2 , skip next 2 sts, sc in next st; repeat from * across-20 $(23,27,31)$ shells
Row 2: Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn, sc in ch-1 space of next shell, *ch 3,3 -dc Cl in next sc, ch 3 , sc in ch-1 space of next shell; repeat from * to last sc, dc in last sc-19 (22, 26, 30) clusters.

Row 3: Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn, 2 dc in first sc, ch 2 , sc in next cluster, *ch 2 , shell in next sc, ch 2 , sc in next cluster; repeat from * to last sc, ch $2,2 \mathrm{dc}$ in last sc , dc in top of beginning ch-3-18 (21, 25,29 ) shells.
Row 4: Ch 3 (counts as hdc, ch 1), turn, $3-\mathrm{dc} \mathrm{Cl}$ in next sc, *ch 3 , sc in ch-1 space of next shell, ch $3,3-\mathrm{dc} \mathrm{Cl}$ in next sc; repeat from * to last $3 \mathrm{dc}, \mathrm{ch} 1$, hdc in top of beginning ch-3-19 (22, 26, 30) clusters.
Row 5: Ch 2 (counts as hdc), turn, sc in next cluster, *ch 2, shell in next sc, ch 2 , sc in next cluster; repeat from * to beginning ch-3 space, hdc in beginning ch-3 space-18 (21, 25, 29) shells.
Row 6: Ch 4 (counts as dc, ch 1), turn, sc in ch-1 space of next shell, *ch 3, 3-dc Cl in next sc, ch 3, sc in ch-1 space of next shell; repeat from * to last sc, ch 1, skip last sc, dc in beginning ch-2 space-17 (20, 24, 28) clusters.
Row 7: Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn, 3 dc in next sc, *ch 2 , sc in next cluster, ch 2 , shell in next sc; repeat from * to last $\mathrm{sc}, 3 \mathrm{dc}$ in last sc, dc in beginning ch-4 space-16 $(19,23,27)$ shells.
Row 8: Ch 2, turn, sc in next dc (beginning ch-2 and following sc count as hdc2tog), ch 1,3 -dc Cl in next sc, *ch 3 , sc in ch-1 space of next shell, ch 3 , 3 -dc Cl in next sc; repeat from * to last 4 dc, ch 1, skip next dc, hdc2tog, leave beginning ch-3 unworked-17 (20, 24, 28) clusters.

Row 9: Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn, sc in next cluster, *ch 2, shell in next sc, ch 2, sc in next cluster; repeat from * to last sc. dc in last sc-16 (19, 23, 27) shells. Row 10: Ch 3, turn, dc in next sc
(beginning ch-3 and following dc count as dc2tog), ch 2, sc in ch-1 space of next shell, *ch 3, 3-dc CI in next sc, ch 3 , sc in

ch-1 space of next shell; repeat from * to last sc, ch 2, dc2tog (worked over last sc and beginning ch-3 space)-15 (18, 22, 26) clusters.

Row 11: Ch 1, turn, sc in first st, shell in next sc, *ch 2, sc in next cluster, ch 2, shell in next sc; repeat from * to beginning ch-3, sc in top of beginning ch-3-16 (19, 23, 27) shells.
Row 12: Turn, slip st in next 2 dc , ch 1 , sc in ch-1 space of same shell, *ch 3, 3-dc Cl in next sc, ch 3 , sc in ch-1 space of next shell; repeat from * to beginning ch-2; leave remaining sts unworked- 15 $(18,22,26)$ clusters.
Row 13: Ch 4 (counts as ch 1, dc), turn, sc in next cluster, *ch 2, shell in next sc, ch 2 , sc in next cluster; repeat from * to last sc, ch 1, dc in last sc-14 (17, 21, 25) shells.
continued...

Row 14: Ch 2 (counts as hdc), turn, 3-dc Cl in next sc, *ch 3, sc in ch-1 space of next shell, ch 3,3 -dc Cl in next sc; repeat from * to beginning ch-4 space, hdc in beginning ch-4 space-15 (18, 22, 26) clusters.

Row 15: Ch 1, turn, sc in first cluster, *ch 2, shell in next sc, ch 2 , sc in next cluster; repeat from * across; leave beginning ch-2 unworked-14 (17, 21, 25) shells.
Row 16: Ch 2 (counts as hdc), turn, sc in ch-1 space of next shell, *ch 3, 3-dc Cl in next sc, ch 3 , sc in ch-1 space of next shell; repeat from * across, hdc in last dc of same shell; leave remaining sts unworked-15 (18, 22, 26) clusters. Row 17: Ch 3, turn, dc in next sc (beginning ch-3 and following dc count as dc2tog), ch 2, sc in next cluster, *ch 2, shell in next sc, ch 2 , sc in next cluster; repeat from * to last sc, ch 2, dc2tog (worked over last sc and beginning ch-2 space) $-14(17,21,25)$ shells.
Row 18: Ch 2 (counts as hdc), turn, 3-dc Cl in next sc, *ch 3, sc in ch-1 space of next shell, ch $3,3-\mathrm{dc} \mathrm{Cl}$ in next sc; repeat from * to last $2 \mathrm{dc}, \mathrm{hdc}$ in top of beginning ch-3-15 $(18,22,26)$ clusters.
Row 19: Ch 1, turn, sc in first cluster,
*ch 2, shell in next sc, ch 2 , sc in next cluster; repeat from * across-14 (17, 21, 25) shells.

Rows 20-55 (55, 73, 91): Repeat Rows 2-19 for $2(2,3,4)$ more times-2 $(5,3$, 1) shells.

Beginning with Row 2, work until no more shells or clusters remain in last row.
Do not fasten off.

## Top Edging

Row 1: Ch 1, working in ends of rows, work 95 (112, 130, 148) sc evenly spaced along top edge.
Row 2: Ch 1, turn, sc in each st across.
Row 3: Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn, dc in next $14(17,20,23)$ sts, hdc in each st to last $15(18,21,24)$ sts, dc in last $15(18,21$, 24) sts.

Row 4: Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn, dc in next $14(17,20,23)$ sts, slip st in each st to last $15(18,21,24)$ sts, dc in last 15 (18, 21, 24) sts.
Fasten off.

## FRONT

Make same as back

## FINISHING

Block pieces to schematic
measurements, straightening edges to ensure that each piece is rectangular.

## Seaming

Note: To ensure your piece seams evenly, try working a slip stitch or single crochet seam. This will provide added strength, allowing the piece to hold its shape longer.

Sew shoulder seams, leaving about 11 $\left(11 \frac{1}{2}, 12,12^{1 / 2}\right)^{\prime \prime}[28(29,30.5,32) \mathrm{cm}]$ at center unsewn for neck opening.

Sew side seams, leaving about $9(91 / 2,10$, $\left.10^{1 / 2}\right)^{\prime \prime}[23(24,25.5,26.5) \mathrm{cm}]$ at top of sides unsewn for armholes.
Weave in ends

## ABBREVIATIONS

$\mathbf{c h}=$ chain; $\mathbf{d c}=$ double crochet; $\mathbf{h d c}=$ half double crochet; $\mathbf{s c}=$ single crochet; st(s) = stitch(es); () = work directions in parentheses into same st; [ ] = work directions in brackets the number of times specified; * = repeat whatever follows the * as indicated.

See next pages for charts and alternate photos

[53.5 $(61,71,82.5) \mathrm{cm}]$


Half Double Crochet Bias Section



## Lower Shell Pattern Section



| KEY |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| - = slip stitch (sl st) | $\widehat{\text { f }}$ 2-double crochet cluster (Cl or 2-dc Cl) |
| - = chain (ch) |  |
| $\times$ = single crochet (sc) |  |
| $T$ = half double crochet (hdc) | $\forall f=3$-double crochet cluster (3-dc Cl) |
| $F$ = double crochet (dc) | 巩 = shell (2 dc, ch 1, 2dc) |
| F = foundation double crochet (Fdc) | $\bigwedge$ = half double crochet 2 together (hdc2tog) |
| L | $\neq=\text { double crochet } 2 \text { together (dc2tog) }$ |



