



Thomasina Cummings
DESIGNS
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PINAFORE DRESS (CHAINS AND SHELLS)



This frilly dress, with chains and shells detail, can be made in a range of sizes from birth to 2 years.

0-6 months

16" (40.5cm) chest

13" (33cm) centre back length

6-12 months

18" (46cm) chest

14" (35.5cm) centre back length

12 - 18 months

20" (51cm) chest

15" (38cm) centre back length

18 - 24 months

22" (56cm) chest

16" (40.5cm) centre back length

Age ranges are approximate. For best fit, please measure, whenever possible.

Worked from the neck down, the length is fully adjustable and could even be worked to a shorter length as a top over a frilly nappy/diaper wrap.

Materials: 270 - 550m DK (8ply) yarn in one or more colours as desired, 3.50mm hook and 1-3 buttons (sized to fit between pairs of trebles in the button band).

Gauge: 12tr and 7 rows to 3" - length is adjustable.

Special stitches/methods

This pattern is written in UK terms. Below are the US equivalents where applicable.

UK abb.	UK term	US abb.	US term
CC	contrasting colour		
ch	chain		
dc	double crochet	sc	single crochet
dtr	double treble	tr	treble
fptr	front post treble	fpdc	front post double crochet
MC	main colour		
miss	miss	skip	skip
rep	repeat		
rnd	round		
RS	right side		
shell	(3tr, 1ch, 3tr) in same sp/st	shell	(3dc, 1ch, 3dc) in same sp/st
sp(s)	space(s)		
ss	slip stitch	sl st	slip stitch
st(s)	stitch(es)		
tr	treble	dc	double crochet

Dress

Instructions are given for 0-6 months with **(6-12 months, 12-18 months, 18-24 months)** in brackets where applicable.

In MC, commence yoke with 50 **(66, 82, 82)** ch.

Row 1: 1tr into 4th ch from hook, 1tr into each ch across, turn - 48 **(64, 80, 80)** sts.

Row 2: (1dc, 2ch) into first st (this dc-ch combo counts as 1tr in this, and subsequent, rows), 1tr into each of next 6 **(8, 10, 10)** sts, [(2tr, 2ch, 2tr) into next st, 1tr into each of next 10 **(14, 18, 18)** sts] 3 times, (2tr, 2ch, 2tr) into next st, 1tr into each of next 7 **(9, 11, 11)** sts, turn - 68 **(84, 100, 100)** sts counting chains as stitches.

In the rows that follow, the (2tr, 2ch, 2tr) group will be worked into the ch-2 space of the previous row, creating eyelets that run from neckline to body.

Row 3: (1dc, 2ch) into first st, 1tr into each of next 8 **(10, 12, 12)** sts, [(2tr, 2ch, 2tr) into ch-2 sp, 1tr into each of next 14 **(18, 22, 22)** sts] 3 times, (2tr, 2ch, 2tr) into ch-2 sp, 1tr into each of next 9 **(11, 13, 13)** sts, turn - 84 **(100, 116, 116)** sts counting chains as stitches.

Row 4: (1dc, 2ch) into first st, 1tr into each of next 10 (**12**, 14, **14**) sts, [(2tr, 2ch, 2tr) into ch-2 sp, 1tr into each of next 18 (**22**, 26, **26**) sts] 3 times, (2tr, 2ch, 2tr) into ch-2 sp, 1tr into each of next 11 (**13**, 15, **15**) sts, turn - 100 (**116**, 132, **132**) sts counting chains as stitches.

Row 5: (1dc, 2ch) into first st, 1tr into each of next 12 (**14**, 16, **16**) sts, [(2tr, 2ch, 2tr) into ch-2 sp, 1tr into each of next 22 (**26**, 30, **30**) sts] 3 times, (2tr, 2ch, 2tr) into ch-2 sp, 1tr into each of next 13 (**15**, 17, **17**) sts, turn - 116 (**132**, 148, **148**) sts counting chains as stitches.

Row 6: **22" chest only:** (1dc, 2ch) into first st, 1tr into each of next 18sts, [(2tr, 2ch, 2tr) into ch-2 sp, 1tr into each of next 34 sts] 3 times, (2tr, 2ch, 2tr) into ch-2 sp, 1tr into each of next 19sts, turn - 164sts counting chains as stitches.

Proceed to Body

Body

In the rounds that follow, the button bands (the three outermost stitches of each row, at the open end of the yoke) will be overlapped and you will work through both layers as if they were one.

The upper band (the one on the hook) will be laid over the lower band so that the three end stitches on the top button band cover the three end stitches on the bottom button band.

The bands are joined together in two stages. At the end of rnd 1, the last stitch of the upper band is joined to the third stitch of the lower button band. Finally, at the end of rnd 2, the remaining pairs of overlapped stitches will be joined.

Rnd 1: (1dc, 2ch) into first st, 1tr into each of next 14 (**16**, 18, **20**) sts, [(2tr, 2ch, 2tr) into ch-2 sp, 1tr into each of next 26 (**30**, 34, **38**) sts] 3 times, (2tr, 2ch, 2tr) into ch-2 sp, 1tr into each of next 15 (**17**, 19, **21**) sts, bring button bands together (3sts), insert hook into current tr (just below the top) and through to tr behind i.e. the 3rd tr of the lower band - the first 2tr will remain un-joined at this point, ss through both layers to join - 129 (**145**, 161, **177**) sts counting chains as stitches - button band, now overlapped, counts as 3sts not 6sts.

As per the note, the button band is now partially joined. The join will be completed when rnd 2 is worked.

Rnd 2: Continuing from yoke without turning, 3ch - counts as 1tr, 1tr into each of next 14 (**16**, 18, **20**) tr, 2tr into ch-2 sp, miss trebles between and work 2tr into next ch-2 sp (**sleeve opening made**),

1tr into each of next 30 (**34**, 38, **42**) sts, 2tr into ch-2 sp, miss trebles between and work 2tr into next ch-2 sp (**sleeve opening made**),

1tr into each of next 14 (**16**, 18, **20**) sts, working through both layers 1tr into each of last 2sts, ss to top of 3ch to join - 69 (**77**, 85, **93**) sts.

The button bands are now overlapped and joined, completely. You will work one further round before proceeding to the skirt.

Rnd 3: (1dc, 2ch) into first st (this dc-ch combo counts as 1tr in this, and subsequent, rnds), 1tr into each st around, ss to top of 2ch to join - 69 (77, 85, 93) sts. Proceed to skirt.

Skirt

Rnd 1: (3ch, 2tr, 1ch, 3tr) into first st, miss 3 (3, 4, 3) sts, (3tr, 1ch, 3tr) into next st, miss 4 (3, 4, 4) sts, (3tr, 1ch, 3tr) into next st, *miss 4sts, (3tr, 1ch, 3tr) into next st, rep from * until 4, (3, 4, 3) sts remain, ss to top of 3ch to join - 14 (16, 17, 19) shells.

Rnd 2: ss to ch-1 sp of next shell, (3ch, 2tr, 1ch, 3tr) into ch-1 sp, *1ch, miss next 2tr, 1fptr around stem of next tr, 1dtr between the shells into the final rnd of the body - aim for the centre of the missed sts working in sp or st as appropriate, 1fptr around stem of next tr, 1ch, (3tr, 1ch, 3tr) into next ch-1 sp, rep from * to last ch-1 sp, 1ch, miss next 2tr, 1fptr around stem of next tr, 1dtr between the shells as before, 1fptr around stem of next tr, 1ch, ss to top of 3ch to join - 14 (16, 17, 19) shells each pair divided by (1ch, 1fptr, 1dtr, 1fptr, 1ch).

Rnd 3: ss to ch-1 sp of next shell, (3ch, 2tr, 1ch, 3tr) into ch-1 sp, *1ch, 1fptr around stem of each of next 2fptr - ignore other sts between, 1ch, (3tr, 1ch, 3tr) into next ch-1 sp, rep from * to last ch-1 sp, 1ch, 1fptr around stem of each of next 2fptr - ignore other sts between, 1ch, ss to top of 3ch to join - 14 (16, 17, 19) shells each pair divided by (1ch, 2fptr, 1ch).

Rep rnd 3 another 13 (15, 17, 18) times or until the dress is the desired length. Suggested lengths are given on page 1. You may work in MC throughout or, change to CC towards the bottom as in the example. Fasten off and neaten ends. Proceed to armhole edging.

Armhole edging

With RS facing towards you, re-join in MC or CC as desired, at the point where the body meets the bottom of the armhole. The example was worked in two rounds of MC and a final round of CC.

Rnd 1: Work 2dc around the stem of the sideways tr, 1dc into each st around the armhole, 1dc in next 2ch, 2dc into the final sideways tr, ss to join.

Rnd 2: 1ch, 1dc into each st around, ss to join.

Rnd 3: As rnd 2. Fasten off and neaten ends. Proceed to finishing.

Finishing

Securely stitch a button near the top of the lower button band, evenly space further buttons down the button band as required.

Embellish as desired.

The dress will benefit from gentle blocking, such as pinning the skirt into shape and steaming with a steam iron. Ironing, however, is not recommended.