Extra Small Crochet Baby Blanket Pattern

This pattern makes a blanket 20 x 22 inches (for a 22- 30 week baby), however you can adjust the starting chain in multiples of 3 + 2. You want the chain and length of the blanket to be about an inch smaller than the finished size as you're going to sc all around.

Yarn: I used bernat softee baby in white, but any baby/dk weight yarn is fine. Drop a hook size or two if you're using worsted weight.

Hook: 6.5mm

R1: ch 62. (sc, 2dc) in the second ch from the hook, *sk 2 chs, (sc, 2dc) in the next ch, repeat from * until the last 3 chs, sk 2 chs, sc in the last ch. Ch 2, turn.

R2: 2dc in the first sc, *sk next 2 dcs, (sc, 2dc) in the next sc* repeat from * and sc in the top of the turning chain. Ch 2 and turn.

Repeat row 2 until the blanket reaches the desired length.

Finishing: ch 1, and sc evenly around the four edges, with sc, ch 1, sc in each corner. Repeat x 2, or however wide you'd like your edge.

Blanket Sizes: Preemie - Toddler

This crochet baby blanket pattern is written for three sizes: preemie, newborn and toddler. Instructions are written for the smallest size, and changes for the larger sizes are noted in parentheses.

Preemie Size: The smallest blanket measures about 26 inches wide by 34 inches long. This measurement was taken without any edging; if you wish to add an edging, your finished blanket will obviously be a little bit bigger. You will need 2 balls / 10 oz / 280 g of yarn for the blanket itself, plus more for crocheting your gauge swatch. So if you crochet your blanket using Bernat Softee, you'll need to get 3 5-oz skeins of yarn to complete this project. As far as yardage goes, you'll need about 724 yards / 662 meters for the blanket itself, plus more for your gauge swatch.

Newborn / Receiving Blanket Size: The mid-sized blanket is 30 inches square. It could be made a little bit longer as well, if you prefer a more rectangular shape for the blanket. If so, aim for 3" x 34". You will need 2-3 of the 5 oz balls of Bernat Softee for this size. 2 balls is likely to be just enough or not quite enough depending on how tightly you crochet. Buy the third ball just in case you need it.

Toddler Size: The largest of the blankets is about 36 inches by 44 inches. You'll need 4 of the 5 oz balls of Bernat Softee to crochet this size.

Additional Materials Required

- **Crochet Hook:** The pattern calls for a size I crochet hook. You might need a slightly different size hook to achieve the correct gauge.
- **Tapestry Needle:** You'll use this for weaving in ends when you are finished crocheting your blanket.
- **Safety Pin:** You'll need a stitch marker or safety pin for temporarily marking a stitch at the beginning of your work.

Abbreviations Used in This Pattern:

- ch = chain
- ch-1 sp = chain-1 space, the space formed when you crocheted a chain stitch in the previous row
- rep = repeat
- sc = single crochet
- st = stitch

Gauge:

- **Stitch gauge:** 4 stitches = 1 inch when crocheting the stitch pattern as instructed below.
- **Row gauge:** The row gauge is not important for this pattern.

Crochet a Gauge Swatch:

To check your gauge, you'll want to crochet a gauge swatch as follows: Work a starting chain of 25 stitches and crochet using the blanket pattern instructions until your piece is square. End off. Measure your swatch to see how many stitches per inch you are crocheting. Compare your gauge against that recommended in the pattern (above). If you are crocheting fewer stitches per inch than recommended, you might want to consider starting over with a smaller crochet hook; if you are crocheting more stitches per inch, you might want to start over using a larger hook.

The swatching process is necessary because you want your baby blanket to be a useable size. If your gauge is drastically different, your baby blanket could turn out to be way too large, or way too small. Another worry: if your blanket is significantly wider than the suggested size, you risk running out of yarn before you are finished crocheting. That said, if you have plenty of yarn and you don't care specifically about the finished size of the blanket then feel free to skip this step.

Design Notes:

In the pattern directions you'll be instructed to crochet into the ch-1 spaces. If you have difficulty finding these -- sometimes they seem to vanish -- try carefully poking your finger at the row of stitches from back to front. It can be easier to locate the spaces by touch than it is by sight.

Baby Blanket Pattern Instructions:

Ch 105 (121, 145). *Remember, the instructions are for the small size (with the medium, large in the parenthesis).*

Row 1: Place a safety pin or other marker in the first ch from your hook. Sc in 3rd ch from hook. [Ch 1, skip next ch, sc in next ch.] Rep across entire row. Ch 1, turn.

Row 2: [Sc in the next ch-1 sp, ch 1.] Rep the sequence in brackets across the rest of the row. At the end of the row, work a sc st into the st where you placed the marker; you can remove the marker before working the stitch. Ch 1, turn.

Rows 3 and Up: The rest of the rows are all exactly the same as row 2, with one minor difference: at the end of the row you'll work your last sc st into the turning chain of the previous row. Rep this row until the baby blanket is the length you want it to be.

Finishing the Baby Blanket:

When you are satisfied that the baby blanket is the length you want it to be, cut the yarn, leaving an extra-long length of yarn (approximately six inches.) Thread your tapestry needle using this end of yarn and use the needle to weave the loose end of yarn into the blanket. Repeat with any other loose ends you may have hanging from the blanket (which occur when you switch from one ball of yarn to the next.)

This crochet pattern works fine without any additional edging and can be considered complete at this stage. However, you can feel free to add an edging if you want to. There are many baby blanket edgings to choose from. A simple single crochet stitch around the entire edge of the blanket is an easy choice that goes well with the single crochet design in this pattern.