

Triangular Summer Top

Materials

1 & ¼ Balls #10 Cotton Crochet Thread (For a Bust Size of 32 in.)
Steel Crochet Hook (Any size you like. I prefer a Boye 2.75mm.)
Measuring Tape
Scissors
Sewing Needle (Optional)
Sewing Thread (Optional)
¼ Meter of Cotton Fabric (Any Fabric With "Give") (Optional)

Finished Size

Example (in pictures) was designed for a 32 inch bust, but instructions allow for the item to be made in any size(s).

Gauge

Gauge will be determined by measurements taken before the project is begun. Any size or type of steel crochet hook can be used in order to match the measurements as closely as possible. An even, consistent tension is important.

Abbreviations

Beg = Beginning
Ch = Chain
Dc = Double Crochet
Lp = Loop
Sc = Single Crochet
Sk = Skip
Sl St = Slip Stitch
Sp = Space
St = Stitch

Measurements

(Measure with a taut but comfortable tension and keep the tape straight.)

(Measurements can be taken in either inches or centimeters.)

#1 (Below Bust) _____ (Circle measuring tape around torso directly below point where breast-flesh begins to rise.)

#2 (Hip-to-Below Bust) _____ (Hold one end of the measuring tape against the hip, or wherever you want the bottom of the shirt reach, then stretch the tape straight upward over stomach and rib-cage to rest directly below point where breast-flesh begins to rise.)

Body

Row 1: Ch 4, work 6 dc in 4th ch from hook. Turn.

Row 2: Ch 3, work 5 dc in top of previous row's final dc, sk 2 dc, sc in 3rd dc, sk 2 dc, work 6 dc in the 4th (top) ch of previous row's beg ch-4. Turn.

Row 3: Ch 3, work 5 dc in top of previous row's final dc. Sk 2 dc, sc in 3rd dc, sk 2 dc, work 5 dc in next sc. Sk 2 dc, sc in 3rd dc, sk 2 dc, work 6 dc in 3rd (top) ch of previous row's beg ch-3. Turn.

Row 4: Ch 3, work 5 dc in top of previous row's final dc, sk 2 dc, sc in 3rd dc. * Sk 2 dc, work 5 dc in sc, sk 2 dc, sc in 3rd dc. Repeat from * until you reach the middle of the row's last 5-dc shell, then sk 2 dc, and work 6 dc in the 3rd ch of the previous row's beg ch-3. Turn.

Row 5: Repeat Row 4 until the length from the beginning to the end (or the end to the beginning) of a current row matches/meets your #1 (Below Bust) measurement. Turn.

Row 6: Ch 6, sk 3 dc, sc in 4th dc. *Ch 3, sk 2 dc, then (dc, ch 3, dc) in next sc. Ch 3, sk 2 dc, sc in 3rd dc.



Measurements



Repeat from * to middle of the final 5-dc shell, then ch 3, sk 2 dc, dc in 3rd (& final) dc (or ch-3). Turn.

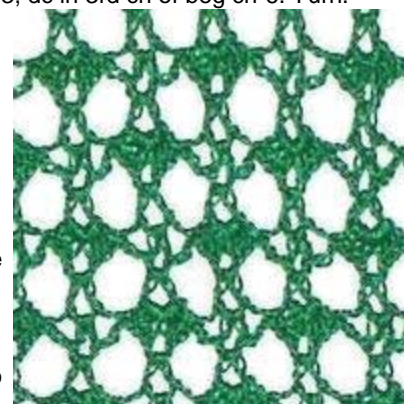
Row 7: Ch 6, dc in ch-3 sp, ch 4, sk next ch-3 sp, (dc, ch 3, dc) in ch-3 sp between 2 dc's. *Ch 4, sk 2 ch-3 sps, (dc, ch3, dc) in next ch-3 sp between 2 dc's. Repeat from * to final ch-3 sp between dc's. Ch 4, dc in ch-6 sp. Ch 3, dc in 3rd ch of ch-6 sp. Turn.

Row 8: Ch 6, dc in ch-3 sp. Ch 3, sc in ch-4 sp. *Ch 3, (dc, ch 3, dc) in next ch-3 sp. Work 3 dc, ch 3, 3 dc, in next ch-3 sp, sc in next ch-4 sp. Repeat from * until placing a sc in the row's final ch-4 sp. Ch 3, dc in ch-3 sp, ch 3, dc in 3rd ch of beg ch-6. Turn.

Row 9: Ch 6, dc in next ch-3 sp. *Ch 4, (dc, ch3, dc) in ch-3 sp which is between either 1 or 3 dc on each side, depending on how the previous row ended. Repeat from * so that the "dc, ch 3, dc" is alternately placed in the "dc, ch3, dc" sp and the "3 dc, ch 3, 3 dc" sp. End with a ch 4, (dc, ch 3, dc) in 3rd ch of previous row's beg ch-6. Turn.

Row 10: Ch 6, dc in next ch-3 sp. Ch 3, sc in ch-4 sp. Now, look 2 rows below where you last did shells, and determine whether or not a "3 dc, ch 3, 3 dc" shell is placed directly below the current row's next ch-3 sp. If the answer is "Yes, there is a 3 dc, ch 3, 3 dc shell below" then * ch-3 (dc, ch 3, dc) in ch-3 sp, ch 3, sc in ch-4 sp. Then work (3 dc, ch 3, 3 dc) in the next ch-3 sp, sc in next ch-4 sp, and repeat from * up to the row's final ch-4 sp. However, if the answer is "No, there is not a 3 dc, ch 3, 3 dc shell below", then reverse the order to work the (3 dc, ch 3, 3 dc) shell before the (dc, ch 3, dc) shell, and repeat up to the row's final ch-4 sp. End with a ch 3, (dc, ch 3, dc) in 3rd ch of previous row's beg ch-6. Turn.

Row 11: Repeat Rows 9 & 10, in that order, until the length from the beginning of Row 6 to the end of a current row matches/meets your #2 (Hip-to-Below Bust) measurement. Turn. (Do not tie off.)



Edging

Ch 1, sc in top of previous row's final dc along the bottom edge of the lace. Work 3 sc in each ch-3 sp, 1 sc in each sc, and 1 sc in each dc along the bottom of the lace, so that there is a sc worked for each st worked in the previous row. Work 7 sc in the final ch-6 sp at the opposite bottom corner of the lace, rounding the corner in preparation for working up the 1st side of the lace. Work 3 sc evenly along each ch-3 sp & each dc post up the 1st side of the lace, until you reach the point where the mass of solid dc shells begins. Sc in the top of the next dc, it being the bottom corner of the mass of solid dc shells. Ch 51, or however many you think is appropriate for 1/2 of the tie in the back, then sc in the back (bottom, single) lp of the 2nd ch from hook, and in the back lp of each ch until you return to the shirt's body. Sc in the same sp as sc worked immediately before chaining.

Work 3 sc, or as many/few sc as necessary to gently tighten edges, along each dc post as you work your way up the 1st side of the solid mass of dc shells, until you reach the top. Work 1 sc in the 1st ch of the entire project, located at the very top of the triangle. *Ch 125, or however many you believe will create a nice length for 1/2 of the tie around the back of the neck. Sc in the back (bottom, single) lp of the 2nd ch from hook, and in each ch back to the beg, until you return to the top of the triangle. Sc in beg sp (top of triangle), then repeat from * once more, chaining the exact same length as before. Sc for the 3rd and final time back into the 1st sc or the entire project at the top of the triangle.



Sc evenly down 2nd side of the mass of solid dc shells, as you worked up the 1st side, then work 3 sc in each ch-3 sp or dc post down 2nd side of lace, as you worked up the 1st side of the lace. End with a sl st in edging's beg sc. Tie off. Weave in ends.

Lining (Optional)

There are two methods that I know of that can be used to sew fabric to the back of the shirt, but you are welcome to think up your own methods if they would make the process more simple for you. Method #1 is to spread the shirt, front-side-down (front-side being whichever side you choose to be the front), on a flat surface, and then spread the fabric over the back, pin it to the edges, and cut away the excess fabric with about an 1/4" remaining to be tucked under. Method #2 (which I use and greatly prefer) is to gently stretch the shirt out to the degree that it will be stretched when worn, and pin it front-side-down to a cardboard box (or any flat surface that you can get your pins into), and then spread the fabric over it, pin the fabric down as well, and cut away the excess fabric along the edges of the shirt, here again leaving the approximate 1/4" of extra fabric to tuck under as you sew.

Either method that you choose, the actual sewing is very much the same. The fabric should be stretched over the back of whichever parts of the shirt that you want lined, and cut along the outside edges. Beginning anywhere you like, use a hidden stitch to sew the fabric to the row of sc edging on every side, making knots every five or six inches, so that if the thread ever breaks, you will not have to re-line the entire shirt.

The hidden stitch is worked by choosing a place to begin, and there securing the end of your thread to the back of a sc. *Tuck the fabric under so that the cut edge disappears between the fabric that you see, and the crochet, so that the crease of your tuck lays against the row of sc, then snag a bit of fabric along the crease by pushing your needle into the crease directly above where you secured the end, then pushing it back out of the crease just a bit to the left (or right, if you are left-handed) of where you pushed it in. Now snag the backs of approximately 2 or 3 sc by pushing your needle through the backs of them, beginning directly below where that you came out of the fabric.

Repeat from * around the entire shirt, with more elaborate tucks required at the corners. If you have excess fabric showing from the front, you can stop sewing about 4 or 5 inches away from where you began, and tie off securely. Turn the shirt wrong-side-out

through this gap, and trim away the excess fabric wherever necessary. Turn the shirt right-side-out and sew up the gap with hidden stitches. If necessary, cut away the excess material along the newly sewn gap, by reaching your scissors in through the front of the shirt. But be careful, as it is difficult to repair a severed crochet stitch at this point!

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