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Little Girl's Shell Dress

By Linda Gustafson

DIRECTIONS

Intermediate

SIZE

Sizes 18 months (2, 3) Chest: 21 (23, 25) inches Finished length: 14 (17, 20) inches

MATERIALS

- 3-ply sport weight yarn: 6 (8-10) oz light pink pompadour yarn
- Crochet hook size E/4
- 4 pink 12mm shank buttons
- 1 2/3 yds 3/8-inch-wide burgundy ribbon
- Tapestry needle

GAUGE

20 sts = 4 inches; 22 sc rows = 4 inches

PATTERN NOTE

Weave in loose ends as work progresses.

BODICE

Row 1: Ch 107 (117-127), sc in 2nd ch from hook, sc in each rem ch across, turn. (106-116-126)

Row 2 (**Eyelet Row**): Ch 1, sc in first 2 sc, [ch 2, sk 1 sc, sc in next 2 sc] rep across, making sure to end with 2 sc in bodice edge, turn.

Row 3: Ch 1, sc in next 2 sc, [1 sc over ch-2 sp, sc in next 2 sc] rep across, turn.

Row 4: Ch 1, sc in each sc across,

[Rep Row 4] 12(14-15) times.

Left back bodice

[Ch 1, sc in next 12 (25-27) sc, turn] 14 (16-18) rows. At the end of last rep, fasten off.

Left back shoulder shaping

Sk 14 (15-16) sts, attach yarn in next sc, [ch 1, sc in next 9 (10-11) sts, turn] 6 (8-8) rows. At the end of last rep, fasten off.

Front bodice

Sk next 7 (8-9) sts for underarm, attach yarn in next sc, ch 1, sc in same sc as beg ch-1 and across 45 (49-53) sc, turn.

[Ch 1, sc in each sc across, turn] 11 (13-15) times.

Front shoulder shaping

Work sc over 9 (10-11) sc on each side of bodice front for 8 (10-10) rows. At the end of last rep, fasten off.

Right back bodice

Work in same manner as left back bodice, reversing shaping.

Sew shoulder seams.

BACK OPENING & NECKLINE TRIM

Row 1: Beg at bottom left back bodice, attach yarn, ch 1, sc evenly sp up left back bodice, 3 sc in corner of neckline, sc evenly sp around neckline, 3 sc at right back bodice corner, sc evenly sp down right back bodice, turn.

Row 2: Ch 1, sc in each sc around, working 4 buttonholes in left back bodice evenly sp as follows: Ch 2, sk 1 sc, sc in each sc to next placement of buttonhole, turn.

Row 3: Ch 1, sc around, working 3 sc in each corner st at neckline and 1 sc over each ch-2 sp of buttonholes, fasten off.

Lap left back button band over right back button band and stitch in place at bottom. Sew buttons opposite buttonholes.

SKIRT

Rnd 1: Attach yarn at bottom button band, ch 3, dc in next st, [sk 1 st, shell of 2 dc, ch 2, 2 dc in next st, sk 1 st, 2 dc in next st] rep around,

adjusting as needed to end with a shell before joining in top of beg ch-3.

Rnd 2: Ch 3, dc in next dc, ch 1, shell in ch-2 sp of shell, ch 1, [dc in each next 2 dc between shells, ch 1, shell in ch-2 sp of shell, ch 1] rep around, sl st to join in top of beg ch-3.

Rnds 3-13 (16-19): Rep Rnd 2.

Bottom ruffle

Rnd 1: Ch 3, dc in same st as beg ch-3, ch 2, 2 dc in next dc, [2 dc, ch 2] twice and 2 dc in next ch-2 sp of shell, *2 dc in next dc, ch 2, 2 dc in next dc, [2 dc, ch 2] twice and 2 dc in next ch-2 sp of shell, rep from * around, sl st to join in top of beg ch-3.

Rnd 2: Sl st into ch-2 sp, ch 3, dc, ch 2, 2 dc in same ch-2 sp, [shell of 2 dc, ch 2, 2 dc in next ch-2 sp] rep around, sl st to join in top of beg ch-3.

Rnd 3: Sl st into ch-2 sp, ch 3, 1 dc, ch 2, 2 dc, ch 2, 2 dc in same ch-2 sp, 2 dc, ch 2, 2 dc in next ch-2 sp, [2 dc, ch 2, 2 dc, ch 2, 2 dc in next ch-2 sp, 2 dc, ch 2, 2 dc in next ch-2 sp] rep around, sl st to join in top of beg ch-3.

Rnds 4 & 5: Rep Rnd 2 of bottom ruffle.

At the end of Rnd 5, fasten off.

SLEEVES (make 2)

Rnd 1: Attach yarn at underarm, ch 3, dc in next st, *sk F/4 inch and work 2 dc, ch 2, 2 dc in next st (1 group completed), rep from * around working 12 (14-16) groups evenly sp, sl st to join in top of beg ch-3.

Rnds 2–5: Ch 3, dc in next dc, [ch 1, shell of 2 dc, ch 2, 2 dc in next ch-2 sp, ch 1, dc in next 2 dc] rep around, sl st to join in top of beg ch-3.

At the end of Rnd 5, fasten off.

FINISHING

Cut a 12-inch length of ribbon. Tie in a bow and sew to center front neckline of dress.

With rem length of ribbon, starting at back, weave through eyelet row. Tie ends in a bow at center back. ≫



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