Simple Sweet Baby Sweater

It won’t take long to crochet this huggable sweater. Pattern includes 5 sizes so you can make it in each size and have a rainbow of sweaters to fit a growing baby.

LW2886

Designed by Phyllis Sandford.

Directions are for Preemie; changes for 3, 6, 12, 18 and 24 months are in parentheses.

Chest: 12 (14½, 17, 21, 24½, 28)“.  
Length: 5 (8, 9, 10, 11, 12)“.

RED HEART® Soft Baby®: 1 skein 7737 Powder Pink.

Crochet Hook: 6mm [US J-10].  
One 5/8“ shank button.  
Matching thread and sewing needle, yarn needle.

GAUGE: 13 sts = 4“; 12 rows = 4” in pattern stitch. CHECK YOUR GAUGE. Use any size hook to obtain the gauge.

SPECIAL ABBREVIATION  
Bphdc (back-post half double crochet): Yo, insert hook from back to front to back around post of specified st and draw up a loop, yo and draw through all loops on hook. Skip the stitch directly behind post st.

Fphdc (front-post half double crochet): Yo, insert hook from front to back to front around post of specified st and draw up a loop, yo and draw through all loops on hook. Skip the stitch directly behind post st.

SWEATER
Back
Ch 20 (25, 30, 35, 40, 45).
Row 1 (Right Side): Sc in 2nd ch from hook, sc in each ch across, turn – 19 (24, 29, 34, 39, 44) sts.
Rows 2-4: Ch 1, sc in each sc across.
Row 5: Ch 2 (does not count as a st), hdc in first 4 sts, *Fphdc in next st, hdc in next 4 sts; repeat from * across, turn.
Row 6: Ch 2 (does not count as a st), hdc in first 4 sts, *Bphdc in next st, hdc in next 4 sts; repeat from * across, turn.
Rows 7-10 (18, 20, 20, 24, 24): Repeat Rows 5 and 6.
Row 11 (19, 21, 23, 25, 25): Ch 1 (does not count as a st), sc in each st across, turn.  
Repeat last row until piece measures 5 (8, 9, 10, 11, 12)“. Fasten off.

Left Front
Ch 10 (13, 15, 18, 20, 23).
Row 1 (Right Side): Sc in 2nd ch from hook, sc in each ch across, turn – 9 (12, 14, 17, 19, 22) sts.
Rows 2-4: Ch 1, sc in each sc across.
Row 5: Ch 2 (does not count as a st), *hdc in first 4 sts, *Fphdc in next st; repeat from * across to last 4 (2, 4, 2, 4, 2) sts, hdc in next 4 (2, 4, 2, 4, 2) sts, turn.
Row 6: Ch 2 (does not count as a st), hdc in first 4 (2, 4, 2, 4, 2) sts, *Bphdc in next st, hdc in next 4 sts; repeat from * across, turn.
Rows 7-10 (18, 20, 20, 24, 24): Repeat Rows 5 and 6.
Rows 11 (19, 21, 23, 25, 25): Ch 1 (does not count as a st), sc in each st across, turn.  
Repeat last row until piece measures 5 (8, 9, 10, 11, 12)“. Fasten off.
Right Front
Work as for Left Front reversing pattern placement.

Sleeves
Ch 15 (20, 25, 30, 35, 40).
Row 1 (Right Side): Sc in 2nd ch from hook, sc in each ch across, turn – 14 (19, 24, 29, 34, 39) sts.
Rows 2-4: Ch 1, sc in each sc across.
Row 5: Ch 2 (does not count as a st), hdc in first 4 sts, *Fphdc in next st, hdc in next 4 sts; repeat from * across, turn.
Row 6: Ch 2 (does not count as a st), hdc in first 4 sts, *Bphdc in next st, hdc in next 4 sts; repeat from * across, turn.
Rows 7-12 (18, 20, 26, 28, 30): Repeat Rows 5 and 6.

FINISHING
Sew shoulder seams, leaving center 3 (3½, 5, 5½, 6)" of Back unsewn for neck. Measure and mark 2 (3, 3½, 4½, 5, 6)" down from shoulders on Front and Back. Sew last row of sleeves between markers. Sew side and Sleeve seams. Turn corner at neck edge of each Front over to right side and tack in place.

Button Loop
With right side facing, join yarn with a slip st at last row of pattern st on edge of Right Front, ch 6, slip st to next st on Right Front.
Fasten off.
Sew button opposite button loop.
Weave in ends.

RED HEART® Soft Baby®, Art. E705
available in solid color 7 oz (198 g), 575 yd (525 m) and multi color and twinkle 6 oz (170 g), 430 yd (393 m) skeins.

ABBREVIATIONS:  ch = chain; sc = single crochet; Bphdc = back post half double crochet; hdc = half double crochet; Fphdc = front post half double crochet; st(s) = stitch(es); mm = millimeters; * = repeat whatever follows the * as indicated.