

## A Poet Dreams of Warmth Capelet



These are my pattern notes for the A Poet Dreams of Warmth capelet. It is not a full pattern but notes and stitch diagrams and suggestions so that you can make your own unique project with your own perfect yarn and hook size, though I really recommend a fingering weight yarn to account for the way this capelet increases. I used just the tiniest bit into four hanks of Malabrigo Mechita (a fingering weight yarn) to make this capelet. Please adjust your yarn needs to the weight of the yarn you chose and the size of the project you plan to make, knowing that you will have to adjust the increase placement if you do so.

I used a 3 mm hook. My stitches tend to be a bit tighter than other people's stitches, so please make a swatch (and wash and block it) to decide what

hook size works with the yarn you choose, so you can get the type of drape and look you desire. This stitch pattern is fairly solid (it's all double crochets) and has post stitches, which, by nature of their construction, are stiffer and do not like to drape as well. Keep this in mind if you are a tight crocheter and use a slightly bigger hook.

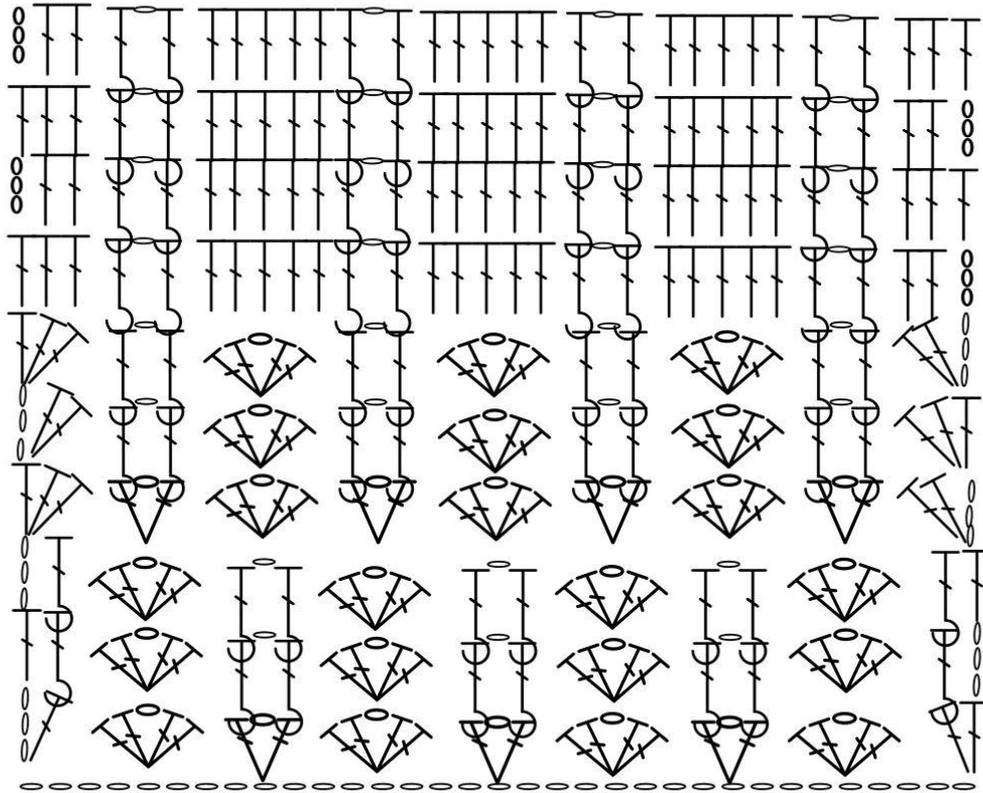
The basic pattern is a neckband with post stitches and shells which then become the flat sections of the body of the capelet. To make your swatch, work the neck stitch pattern for six rows and then work the body pattern until you achieve a 12 by 12 inch/ 30 by 30 centimeter square. The repeat is 8 stitches plus 7.

Measure yourself around your neck and the edge of your shoulders to try to find your perfect number of repeats for the neckband (pattern repeat is 8 stitches). I highly recommend no less than 12 repeats because less than 12 repeats can make the increases fiddly once you get to the body. I used 13 repeats in the capelet I made, which is a size medium to large. You want the neck to be comfortable both around your neck and going over your head. This stitch pattern does have some good stretch to it, so that helps. If you really want it to be snug around your neck but need more space to go over your head, you might consider buttons to close the neck.

Once you get to the body, the solid sections of the capelet will be built off of the larger shells in the neck portion. So if you have 12 large shells in the neck portion, you will have 12 flat panels between post stitch groups in the first section of the body. 13 shells means 13 flat sections, 14 shells means 14 flat sections. Keeping in mind that double crochets increase in the round by 12 stitches per row, 12 sections is a perfect increase. (All hail the perfect increase! May it be glorious forever!) 13 and 14 sections worked just fine for me, so I think you can increase the number of repeats in the neck without corrupting the construction of the body of the capelet.

12 repeats/sections seem to work well for x small to smallish medium capelets; 13 repeats for medium to x large capelets; 14 repeats was good for up to a 3 xl capelet.

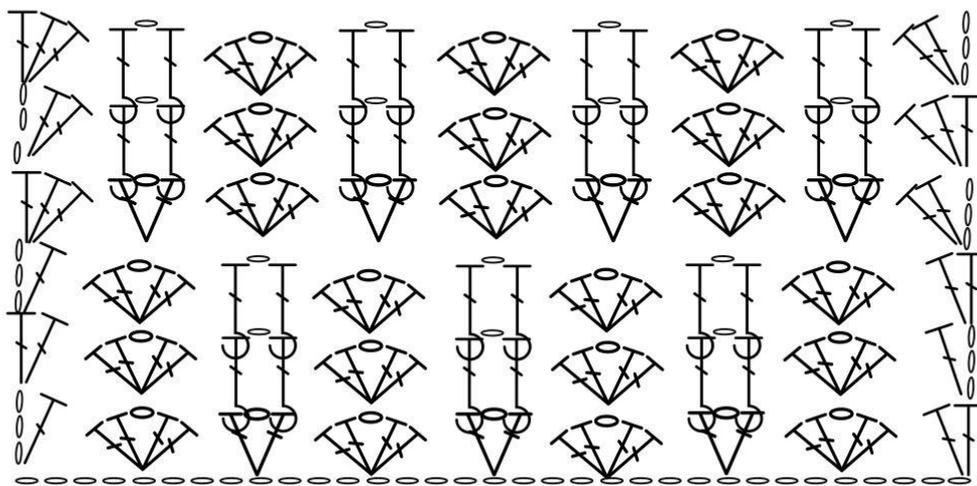
Because double crochet in the round increases by 12 stitches each round, in order to keep it laying nicely, I would not go below 12 repeats. Because of this, I think fingering weight yarn works best with the caveat that a yarn large enough to go around the neck in 6 to 8 repeats could also probably be worked easily, but you would have to plan your increases to make sure you were getting about 12 to 16 per row. In other words, you would need to increase twice in a flat panel if you only had six repeats/sections.



Basic stitch design for the neck and the body of the capelet

To start the neck, I made a foundation double crochet row 104 stitches long.

The stitch pattern repeats 13 times and the last stitch of the round completes the first shell. To make the neck larger or smaller, you need to add and subtract stitches by multiples of 8.

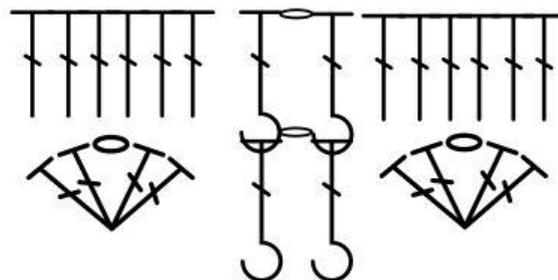


This is the basic neckband stitch pattern. To work the neckband stitch pattern in the round without turning you need to make allowances for the join. Working in the round, begin by chaining 4 to start and then your last

stitch of the round will be a slip stitch into the third chain of the starting chain to join the round. Then chain four and start the next round.

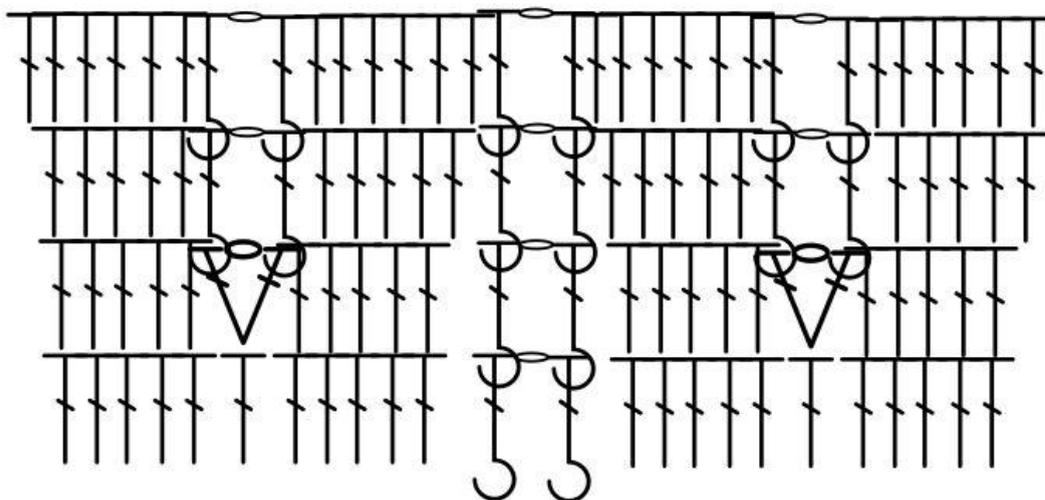
For the row that begins with a shell stitch, slip stitch into the chain space, chain 4 to start the row, work two double crochets into the chain space and continue the row as indicated. When you get to the end of the row, work one double crochet into the beginning chain space to finish the first shell and slip stitch to join. To start the next round, slip stitch to the chain space, chain 4, and continue.

Work the neckband for six to nine rows. I found six was a nice length for the neck, but if you want a higher neck, nine rounds should give you a nice length. A word of caution, I found it best to end the neckband such that I ended with the join in a large shell. This way, you avoid having one leg of a post stitch group always being a chain. This is something to keep track of as you work your increases, increase in such a way as to keep the join away from where a new post group will form.



At the end of the neckband, work a double crochet into each of the stitches in the large shells, with two doubles in the center chain space. Work the post stitches as usual. For each round, increase between the post stitch groups one time. Try to place the increases at different spots in the double crochet sections each round to maintain the roundness of the capelet.

Once you have increased to 11 stitches between the post stitch groups, work a double crochet, chain 1, double crochet into the middle (6th) double crochet in each panel between the post stitches.



You now have a new set of post stitch pairs between the original sets. On the next round, do not increase but work front post stitches on each of the double crochets in the middle double crochet, chain 1, double crochet stitch groups. Because the number of post stitch groups, and the panels between

them, has doubled, you need to shift your increase plan. Before you were increasing every row. Now you will increase **every other row** until you have 11 stitches between the post stitch pairs.

Once again, work a double crochet, chain 1, double crochet into the middle of each section between post stitch pairs. You now have a new set of post stitch pairs. On the next three rounds, do not increase but work front post stitches on each of the double crochets in the middle double crochet, chain 1, double crochet stitch groups.

This may be where you need to stop increasing. It was for me. I worked this pattern without increases for another 9 inches and then repeated the stitch pattern for the neckband for six rows to finish the bottom edge. I worked a row of single crochets to create a finished edge.

If you need to keep increasing, there is another shift to the increasing scheme. Because the number of post stitch groups, and the panels between them, has doubled again, you need to shift your increase plan. Before you were increasing every other row. Now you will increase **every fourth row** until you have 11 stitches between the post stitch pairs.

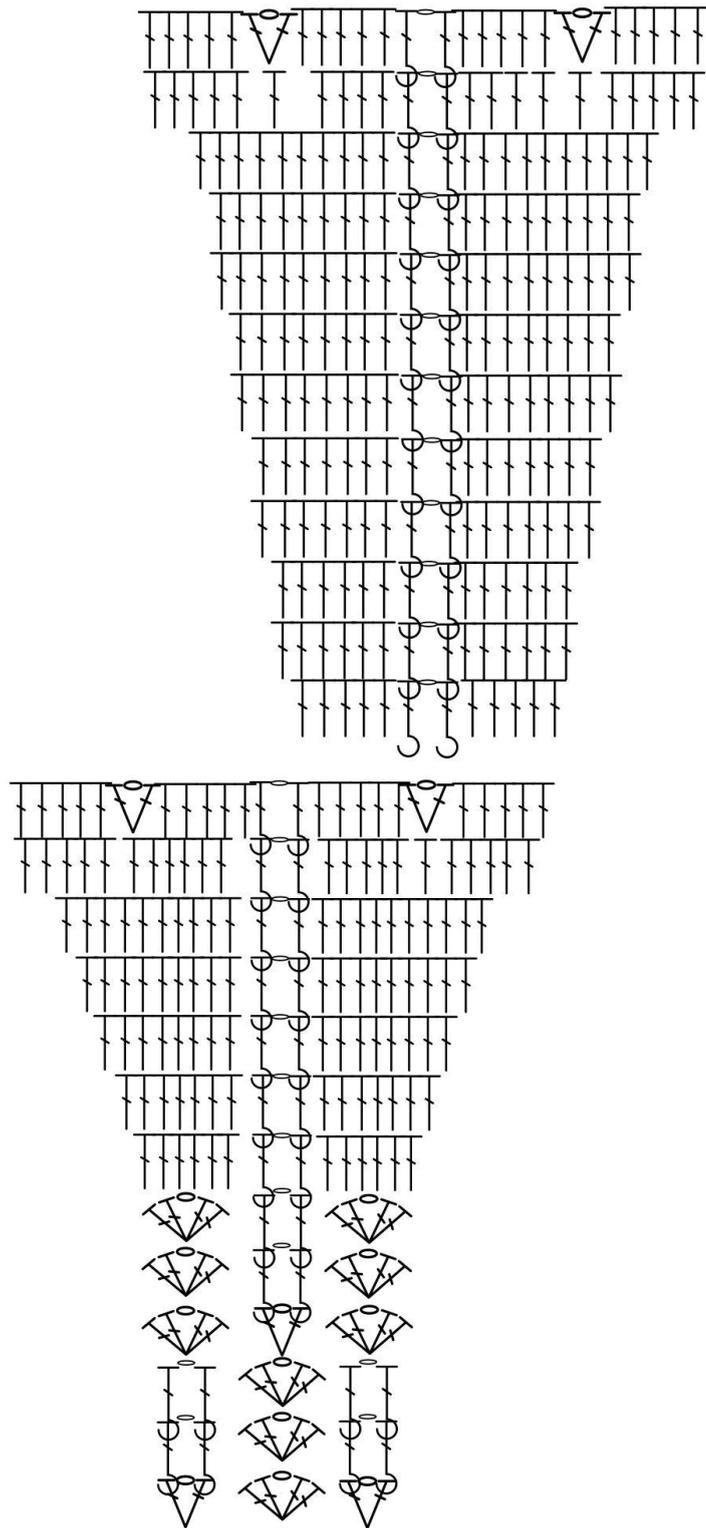
You can keep increasing like this, hypothetically, forever. Everytime you reach 11 stitches, establish a new group of post stitches in the middle of the

panel and then double the number of rounds you work before you increase again. So in the next section, if you did another increase, you would increase every eighth row.

If you keep increasing through the next section but not so far as to reach 11 stitches between the groups and so start a new post stitch group, you will need to work out the border. At the point I stopped, there were five stitches between post stitch groups. This means it was set up just right to continue the neckband stitch pattern. If you need more stitches than 5 but less than the full 11 to establish a new group of post stitches, you will need to work out either a different border or make changes to the neckband stitch pattern to make the stitch count come out correctly.



This is a diagram of the project worked from neckband through the first two increase sections and starting the third.



This increase could make a really cute, full skirt or the start of a sweater or whatever you have in mind. Please use it to create something fun and awesome!

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask. I am here to help!

Happy crafting!

