

## Before the Moths Come

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Before the Moths Come is a large triangular wrap with lots of drape. It makes a lovely scarf, drapes well as a poncho, works as a sarong, or whatever else you may wish of it. It is worked corner to corner, and you can make it as long or short as you desire. The single crochets worked along the back edge give it a finished touch. The name refers to the moths who were intent on entering my house through the open back door when I worked outside in the evenings. Enjoy (and beware the hungry moth)!



Hook size: 5 mm

Yarn: 3 hanks fingering weight (roughly 1300 yards); example done in MadTosh Merino Light in Patagonia with glitter

Gauge: Not important, work to desired drape

Finished size: 67 in x 33 in

or

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Hook size: 4.5 mm

Yarn: 2 hanks of lace weight (roughly 1600 yards); example done in Manos del Uruguay Marina in Piedra

Gauge: Not important, work to desired drape

Finished size: 72 in x 40 in

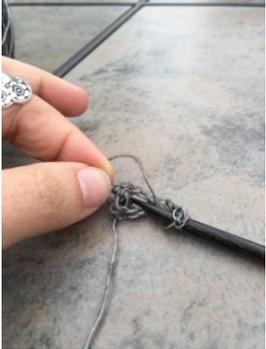
Stitches used

Shell: 2 dc, ch 2, 2 dc

Increase shell: ch 5, 2 dc, ch 2, 2 dc

The pattern	The pattern all written out	What's going on	Pictures!
Row 1: ch 4, dc in 4th ch from hook, ch 2, dc. One ch 2 sp	<p>Chain 4. This is the starting chain and the first stitch. The next double crochet and the last double crochet all work into the very first chain you made.</p> <p>So, chain 4, yarn over, put the hook back into the 4th chain from your hook, and make a double crochet.</p>	<p>One side of this shell is flat, so to speak with only one double crochet on that side. This is because there will be a flat edge to the one of the wrap.</p>	

## Before the Moths Come

	<p>Chain 2 and then do another double crochet into the same chain you made your first double crochet into.</p> <p>You should have one chain 2 space.</p>		
<p>Row 2: ch 5 and turn, 2 dc into ch 2 sp, ch 2, 2 dc into ch 2 sp. Two ch 2 sps</p>	<p>You are working on the flat side of the wrap to start, so we chain 5 and that stands as a double crochet and 2 chains.</p> <p>Then, working into the chain 2 space, you work 2 double crochets, 2 more chains, and 2 more double crochets.</p> <p>You should have 2 chain two spaces. Thus you have made your first increase.</p>	<p>This is an increase row. Increase rows always happen on the rows that start with 5 chains and they always occur in that first chain 2 space. You end up with an end shell (1 double crochet, 2 chains (the five chains count as 1 double and 2 chains), 2 double crochets) and an extra bit (2 chains, and 2 more double crochets). In the next pass, the extra bit will be home to a whole shell (2 double crochets, 2 chains, 2 double crochets), and so you make the increase. This will be the pattern for the rest of the shawl. One increase row, one row with normal shells.</p> <p>You are creating each row of shells around the chains of the chain two spaces from the row before. Put your hook into the chain 2 space and work around the chains, not through them. Put all</p>	<div style="text-align: center;">  <p>You are working into the chain 2 space you made in the first row.</p>  <p>This is what it should look like with two chain 2 spaces. The first between the chain and double, the second between the 2 groups of doubles.</p> </div>

## Before the Moths Come

		<p>of the double crochets for the shell into that space. In successive rows, when there are more chain two spaces to work with, you will have to skip over four double crochets from the last row to get to the next chain two space to work a shell. Just skip those stitches. Each shell is worked around the chain two spaces only.</p>	
<p>Row 3: turn, sl st into each dc and into ch 2 sp, ch 3, 1 dc, ch 2, 2 dc, work shell (2 dc, 2 ch, 2 dc) in each ch 2 sp to last ch 2 sp, 2dc, ch 2, 1 dc in last ch 2 sp. Two ch 2 sps.</p>	<p>Turn your work and slip stitch into the top of the first two double crochets from the last row and then into the chain 2 space. This gets the yarn and hook to where you want it without having to cut it.</p> <p>Chain 3 and work a dc into the chain 2 space.</p> <p>Chain 2 and put 2 more double crochets into the same chain 2 space.</p> <p>In the next chain 2 space, work 2 double crochets, chain 2, and work 1 double crochet.</p> <p>You should have 2 chain 2 spaces</p>	<p>Just keep remembering that on the flat side of the wrap, your final shell will always have just one double crochet on the edge.</p>	 <p>This is what it should look like after working a shell into the first chain 2 space and a part shell into the last chain 2 space created by the chain 5 from the last row.</p>

## Before the Moths Come

<p>Row 4: Inc shell in 1st ch 2 sp, shell in each ch 2 sp to end.</p>	<p>Chain 5, 2 double crochets, 2 chains, and 2 double crochets in first chain 2 space.</p> <p>Then shell (2 double crochets, 2 chains, 2 double crochets) in each of the chain 2 spaces from each shell in the previous row.</p> <p>You should have 3 chain 2 spaces after the fourth row. This number will go up by one with each even numbered row worked after this.</p>	<p>A shell is always 2 double crochets, 2 chains, and 2 double crochets. This row is an increase row so the first group has an extra chain 2, 2 double crochets sequence (an increase shell). All of the even rows are increase rows.</p>	 <p>The hook is pointing to where you work your next shell. To get into each chain 2 space, you need to skip over the last two double crochets from the shell you just worked, as well as the first two double crochets of the next shell.</p>
<p>Row 5: Turn, sl st. to ch 2 sp, ch 3, dc, ch2, 2 dc in first ch 2 space, shell in each ch 2 space to last ch 2 sp, 2 dc, ch 2, 1 dc in last sp. 3 ch 2 sps</p>	<p>Slip stitch in the first 2 double crochets and once into the first chain 2 space.</p> <p>Chain 3, double crochet, chain 2, 2 double crochet in the first chain 2 space.</p> <p>Move to the next chain 2 space and shell.</p> <p>Keep moving to the next chain 2 space and putting in a shell (2 double crochets, chain 2, 2 double crochets) until you reach the last chain 2 space.</p> <p>In that space, you do 2 double crochets, chain 2, and do 1</p>	<p>In this row, you just work shells into the chain 2 spaces. Since you added the extra bit in one shell last time, this time there will be an extra whole shell in the row. The uneven rows only get normal shells with no extra bits and the weird last shell with only one double crochet.</p>	 <p>The hook is pointing to the chain 2 space made by the chain 5 from the last row. Work a part shell into that (2 double crochets, chain 2, 1 double crochet.)</p>

## Before the Moths Come

	<p>double crochet.</p> <p>You should have 3 chain 2 spaces.</p>		
<p>Row 6 - 133 for lace weight/115 for fingering weight: Repeat rows 4 and 5 until you reach the length you want.</p>		<p>And it just goes on like this, even rows have a shell with an extra bit, odd rows get full shells except for the flat side with the one double crochet side.</p> <p>On even rows, you should increase the number of chain 2 spaces by one, on odd rows it should stay the same as the row you worked just before. This is because the even rows set up the increase, and the odd rows achieve the increase.</p> <p>I made sure to finish on an odd row so I could just turn the work and work the single crochets along the straight edge.</p>	
<p>To finish: sc along flat edge.</p>	<p>Single crochet along the flat edge of the work. Space your single crochets as evenly as possible. A sort of pattern will appear that will show you where you need to place the single crochets to make a neat and even edge. If it doesn't look right, rip it out and try again spacing them closer if the edge was puckering, and farther apart if</p>		

## Before the Moths Come

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	the edge was rippling. Mine worked out to 2 single crochets along the edge of each double crochet and 3 along the edge of the chain.		
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