

BEGINNER CROCHET PATTERN

Rojas Beach Cover-Up

Shell mesh beach dress
US crochet terms

Designed by Franni

2 PANELS

2.5 MM HOOK

COTTON YARN

ADJUSTABLE FIT



Sizes XS-3XL. Size M sample shown in Melissa Algodon Artesania cotton.

Pattern at a Glance

Rojas Beach Cover-Up is a crochet beach dress made from two simple rectangles in an open shell mesh stitch. It has pink cotton mesh, red single crochet borders, a red braided waist tie and a short fringe at the hem.

The pattern is written in sizes XS-3XL and is graded by full shell-mesh repeats, so every size keeps the stitch pattern balanced. The sample shown is Size M.

Skill level

Adventurous beginner. You should be comfortable with chains, single crochet, double crochet, working into chain spaces, simple seaming and fringe.

**Beginner friendly**
Clear, simple repeats

**2.5 mm hook**
Fine crochet hook

**Cotton yarn**
Light and breathable

Sizes and fit

Field	Details
Size range	XS, S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL
Sample shown	Size M, made for bust 80 cm, hip 95 cm, height 160 cm
Fit method	Choose by hip measurement first, then adjust length and waist-tie position.
Construction	Two matching rectangles, red borders, shoulder seams, side seams, braid and fringe.
Designer	Franni

How to choose your size: start with your hip measurement, then choose the amount of ease you would like. The sample shown has a 95 cm hip and is a Size M. If you are between sizes, choose the larger size for a more relaxed beach-cover-up fit and extra coverage.

Customization notes

- More hip coverage: choose the next size up or add one 12-chain repeat to each panel.
- Less width: choose the next size down or remove one 12-chain repeat from each panel.
- Longer dress: add rows in blocks of 4 before adding fringe (2 shell units, about 2.5 cm).
- Shorter dress: remove rows in the same blocks of 4 before adding fringe.
- Deeper armholes: leave more space open at the top side seams.
- Shorter side slits: seam farther down from the armhole to leave a shorter opening.

Your feedback is welcome
This is my first crochet pattern, and I would love to hear how it worked for you. Questions, feedback and suggestions are always welcome.

Yarn & Tools

Item	Details
Main yarn	Melissa Algodon Artesania, Artesania-6 pink, dye lot 0290. Each ball is approx 60 g / 240 m.
Main yarn quantity	XS 5, S 5, M 6, L 6, XL 7, 2XL 8, 3XL 8 balls. Size M takes about 1300 m; the sample used 6. Buy the balls together in one dye lot, and add extra if you lengthen the panels or want a denser fringe.
Contrast yarn	2 balls Melissa Algodon Artesania, Artesania-9 red, dye lot 0290 (about 300 m for size M). The borders, neckline and waist tie take more than one ball in every size.
Hook	2.5 mm crochet hook
Notions	Yarn needle, scissors, measuring tape, stitch markers or pins, blocking tools if desired.

Abbreviations - US crochet terms

Abbrev.	Meaning
ch	chain
sc	single crochet
dc	double crochet
st / sts	stitch / stitches
sp	space
ch-5 sp	chain-5 space
rep	repeat
RS	right side
shell	5 dc worked into the same stitch or space. Edge half-shells use 3 dc.



Melissa Algodon Artesania cotton yarn in Artesania-6 pink.

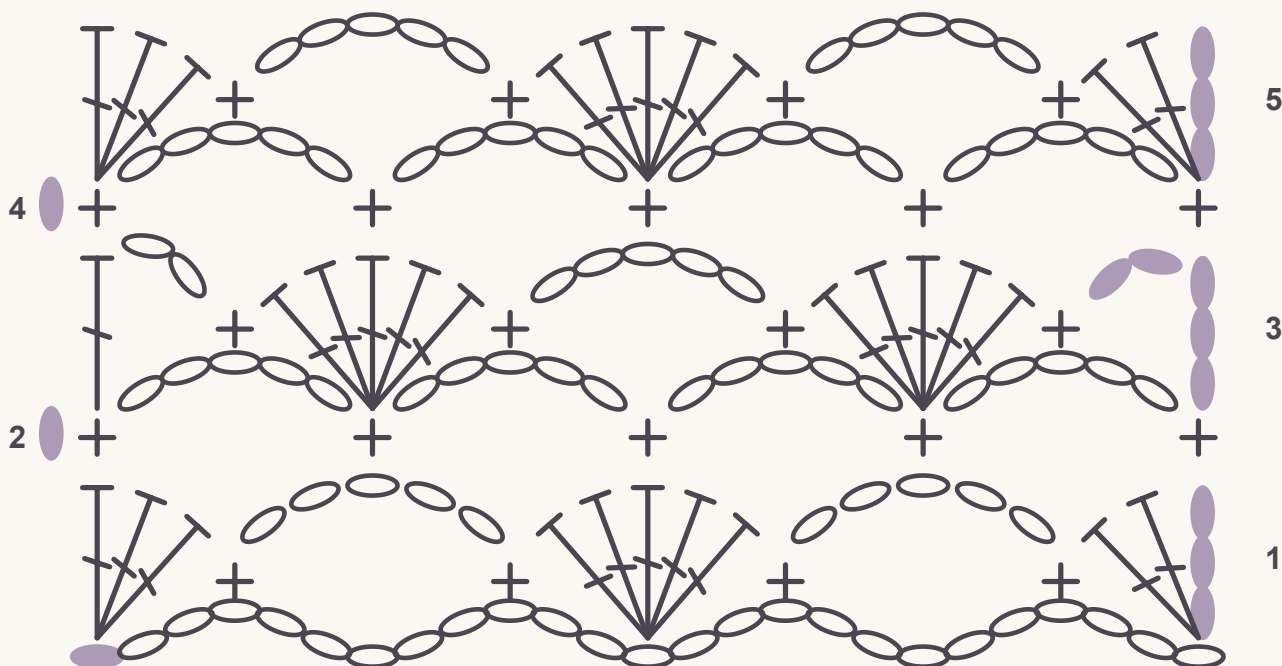
How to Crochet the Shell Mesh

Foundation multiple: 12 ch + 4. Your size uses 148 (160, 172, 184, 196, 208, 220) ch for XS (S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL), giving 12 (13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18) full repeats.

- Row 1 (RS).** Work 2 dc in the 4th ch from the hook; the skipped chains count as the first dc, making a 3-dc half-shell. Rep: skip 2 ch, sc in next ch, ch 5, skip 5 ch, sc in next ch, skip 2 ch, 5 dc in next ch. Repeat across. On the final repeat, end with 3 dc in the last ch instead of 5 dc. Turn.
- Row 2.** Ch 1; this does not count as a stitch. Sc in the first dc. Rep: ch 5, sc in the next ch-5 sp, ch 5, sc in the center dc of the next shell. Repeat across, placing the final sc into the edge of the last half-shell. Turn.
- Row 3.** Rep across: ch 5, sc in the next ch-5 sp, 5 dc in the next sc, sc in the next ch-5 sp. End with ch 2 and dc in the last sc to keep the edge straight. Turn.
- Row 4.** Ch 1; this does not count as a stitch. Sc in the first dc. Rep: ch 5, sc in the center dc of the next shell, ch 5, sc in the next ch-5 sp. Repeat across. Turn.
- Row 5.** Ch 3; this counts as the first dc. Work 2 dc in the first sc to make an edge half-shell. Rep: sc in the next ch-5 sp, ch 5, sc in the next ch-5 sp, 5 dc in the next sc. Repeat across. On the final repeat, end with 3 dc in the last sc instead of 5 dc. Turn.
- Repeat.** Repeat Rows 2-5 for the pattern.

Stitch notes

- The half-shells at the edges help keep the panels rectangular.
- When resizing, change the width by full 12-chain repeats only.
- Work 128 (132, 136, 140, 144, 148, 152) rows per panel for XS (S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL), unless you are adjusting the length.



Size, Gauge & Panel Planning

This cover-up is built from two matching rectangles: one front panel and one back panel. Choose your size from the widest body measurement you want to cover, usually the hip. The size chart is graded by full 12-chain shell-mesh repeats.

Size chart

Size	Hip range	Repeats / panel	Start ch	Panel width	Flat width	Rows	Shell units	Length + fringe	Main yarn	Red yarn
XS	82-88 cm	12	148 ch	39 cm	78 cm	128	64	83 cm	5	2
S	88-94 cm	13	160 ch	42 cm	84 cm	132	66	86 cm	5	2
M	94-100 cm	14	172 ch	45 cm	90 cm	136	68	88 cm	6	2
L	100-108 cm	15	184 ch	48 cm	96 cm	140	70	90 cm	6	2
XL	108-116 cm	16	196 ch	51 cm	102 cm	144	72	93 cm	7	2
2XL	116-124 cm	17	208 ch	54 cm	108 cm	148	74	95 cm	8	2
3XL	124-132 cm	18	220 ch	56 cm	112 cm	152	76	97 cm	8	2

Panel width includes the 2 cm red border on each side; flat width is the two panels together. Length includes the 8 cm fringe. Yarn is in 240 m balls. The mesh is open and stretchy, so the flat width is deliberately smaller than the body measurement.

Gauge

Gauge controls the finished width and drape of this open mesh. Work your swatch with the same yarn and hook, then wash and block it as you plan to treat the finished garment.

Gauge	Target
Shell Mesh Stitch	42 sts x 17 rows = 10 x 10 cm, measured after blocking. Easier to check over 20 x 20 cm: 7 shells and 7 spaces across (84 ch) by 17 shell units (34 rows)

Make a swatch at least 12 x 12 cm, lay it flat without stretching, and measure across the central 10 cm rather than the edge stitches. Match the stitch count first: more than 42 sts means your work is too tight, so try a larger hook; fewer stitches means it is too loose, so try a smaller hook. The 10 cm window cuts through half a shell on both axes, which is why the 20 cm measurement is the reliable one.

Width formula

Starting chain = 12 x number of repeats + 4. Use the repeat count from the size chart.

Length

- Work **128 (132, 136, 140, 144, 148, 152)** rows for XS (S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL) – see the size chart.
- One shell unit is 2 rows, so those totals are 64, 66, 68, 70, 72, 74, 76 shell units.
- To lengthen or shorten, add or remove **4 rows at a time** (2 shell units). The stitch has a 4-row cycle, so only whole 4-row steps end the panel the same way for the borders. 8 rows change the length by about 5 cm.
- To choose your own length: measure from your shoulder to where you want the hem, take off the 8 cm of fringe, and round to the nearest 4 rows.

Crochet Your Panels

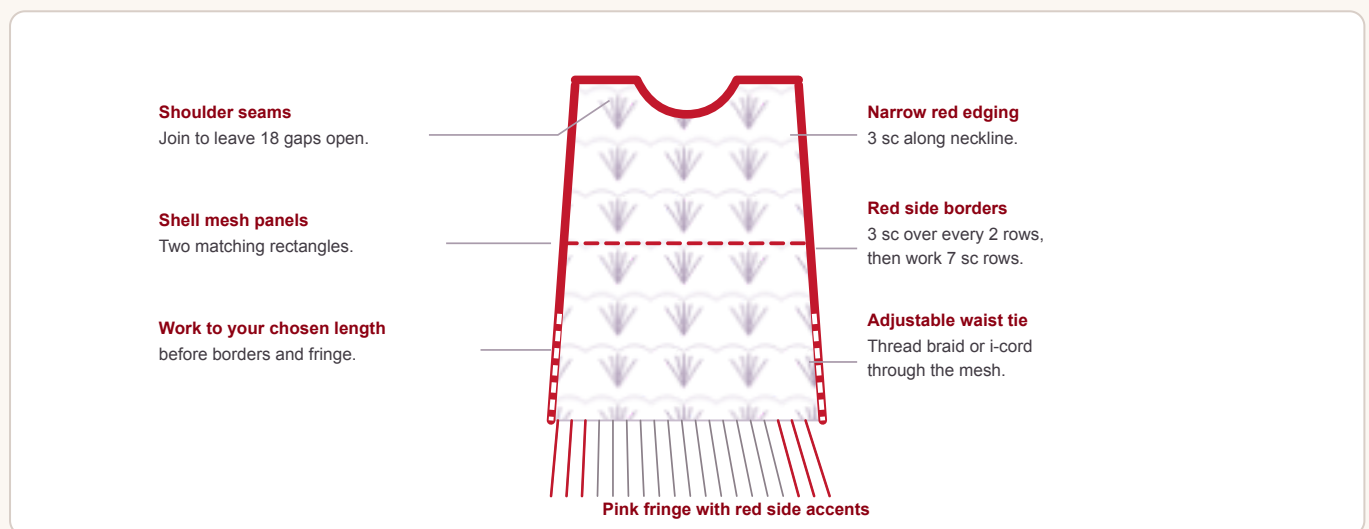
Make two identical panels in the main pink yarn. Use the starting chain listed for your size.

Panel 1

- 1 Ch 148 (160, 172, 184, 196, 208, 220) for XS (S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL).
- 2 Work Row 1 of the Shell Mesh Stitch.
- 3 Continue in pattern, repeating Rows 2-5, until you have worked the row count for your size (XS 128, S 132, M 136, L 140, XL 144, 2XL 148, 3XL 152).
- 4 Fasten off and weave in the main yarn ends that will not be used for seaming.
- 5 Lay the panel flat without stretching and check that it is rectangular before adding the red borders.

Panel 2

Repeat Panel 1 exactly. Make sure both panels have the same number of repeats, rows and finished measurements before assembling.



Tip

If your two panels differ slightly, you can try to block or steam them gently, following the yarn-care instructions, to help them match before adding the red borders.

Add the Red Borders & Assemble

Neckline and shoulders

- 1 With red yarn, work 3 rows of sc along the top/neckline edge of each panel to create the red border.
- 2 Place the front and back panels together with the top edges aligned.
- 3 Join each shoulder from the outside edge toward the center, closing **3 (4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9)** mesh gaps on each side for XS (S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL). This leaves 18 gaps open in every size, which is the neckline of the sample.
- 4 Leave the center open for the neckline.

Side borders

- 1 With red yarn, work evenly in sc along one long side edge of a panel: work 3 sc over every 2 rows, placing 1 sc in the chain-row edge and 2 sc in the dc-row edge.
- 2 Work 7 rows of sc total for that red side border, then repeat on the other long side of the same panel.
- 3 Repeat for both long sides of the second panel.

Side seams, armholes and side slits

- 1 Align the front and back panels at the side borders.
- 2 Starting below the armhole, seam the red side borders together.
- 3 Leave **23 (24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29) cm** open at the top of each side for the armholes, for XS (S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL).
- 4 Leave **18 (19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24) cm** open at the bottom of each side for the lower side slits. Between the two openings you should be seaming about **34-36 cm** in every size: the openings grow with the size, the seam between them barely does.
- 5 Weave in all ends.



Front view of the finished cover-up showing the red side borders, waist braid and fringe placement.

Waist Tie & Fringe Details

Red braided waist tie

- 1 Make a red braid or i-cord long enough to thread around your waist and tie comfortably.
- 2 Choose the under-bust level on the garment. The braid can be placed wherever it suits your body because it threads through the existing mesh openings.
- 3 Thread the braid through the shell mesh openings all the way around the cover-up.
- 4 Tie it at the back, or move the tie position if preferred. No separate belt loops are used.

Fringe

- 1 For each fringe group, use 2 strands of yarn. Fold them in half so each finished group has 4 ends.
- 2 Cut the strands long enough to trim neatly to your preferred finished fringe length after attaching.
- 3 Along the pink lower edge, add pink fringe groups into the mesh spaces and shell sections: use 3 pink groups in the spaces and 3 pink groups in the shell area of each repeat.
- 4 At each red side border, add 3 red fringe groups plus 1 mixed red/pink group if you want to match the shown side accent.
- 5 Hang the garment, let the fringe settle, then trim it evenly to your preferred length.



Shell mesh with the red waist tie threaded through the existing spaces.



Hand-tied pink fringe with the shell mesh above.

Off the Hook

This cover-up is made to adapt to you. Before wearing it, make sure the ends are woven in and gently block or steam the mesh only if suitable for your yarn.

A Note From Franni

Thank you for making the Rojas Beach Cover-Up. This is my first crochet pattern, and I hope it becomes a piece you love to wear and make your own.

Your feedback is warmly welcome. If you feel like sharing, I would be delighted to see a photo of your finished cover-up.

