



POINTED SHIRT COLLAR WITH BEADS

I am a big fan of detached collars. I have looked around quite a bit trying to find one that mocked the collar you find on a dress shirt. Yet, my search was fruitless. So, I have written up this simple pattern. It is still not perfect, so if you have any suggestions on how to improve the final product, please let me know at mindandmuse@gmail.com.

MATERIALS:

- 25 - 5 mm Swarovski pearls (optional)
- 3.5 mm and 3.25 mm hook.
- any soft, yet sturdy dk/worsted weight yarn.

For the version pictured above, I used Lino Royal by Wolle Rodel. This is a worsted weight yarn that is 40% linen/32% viscose and 28% cotton. I believe the yarn has been discontinued.

I made a second version in which I used DROPS Belle: a DK weight yarn which is 53% cotton, 33% viscose, 14% Linen. The main difference for the collar construction will be the number of stitches you need to use for your starting chain.

GAUGE:

You should measure the circumference of your neck. Then you should hook a starting chain using the number of stitches needed to reach a length that is equal to the length of your neck circumference (in inches) + 1.

It should be obvious that your gauge (or the tension with which you crochet) will affect the number of stitches you need to reach your target length.

The collars shown in this pattern were made with a gauge of 5 sc x 3 rows per inch.

STITCHES – The pattern is written in US terminology

- Ch: Chain
- Sl st: Slip stitch
- Sk: Skip next stitch
- Sc: Single crochet
- Scbkl: Single crochet in back loop only
- Hdc: Half-double crochet
- Sc inc: Single crochet increase (two single crochet in one stitch)

EXPERIENCE LEVEL

- Beginner and above.

PROJECT NOTES:

- The collar begins with a chain that has a length equal to the circumference of your neck in inches plus one. So your first step is to take your measurement. This will ensure a comfortable fit, taking into account that the original length of your work will shrink a bit as you continue to crochet.
- The basic construction of the collar includes crocheting back and forth to create a rectangular base and then crocheting back and forth, but adding an increase at each end to create the pointed shape.
- I use, Ch 1 as my turning chain throughout the project. The turning chain does not count as a stitch.
- Slip stitches are left unworked throughout this project.
- In all, the crochet part of this project should take about an hour to finish.
- Beads can be added to the project at end. I have sewn the beads by hand after the project is complete.
- You may use one size of hook. I think the pointy edges are sharper with the smaller hook. But I wanted the under collar to be lighter, so I used a bigger hook and a bigger stitch. If you decide to use one hook size or only sc for the entire collar, you may need to adjust your stitch count.

INSTRUCTIONS:

Measure the circumference of your neck in inches with a tape measure. Add one to this measurement. (For example, my neck is 14 inches around and so I used 15 as my measurement.)

Using the 3.5 mm hook, create a chain long enough to reach the measurement above. (In my case, with my gauge, I needed 70 stitches to reach 15 inches) Make one extra ch. (So I started with 71 ch)

NOTE: I will continue these instructions using my 71 starting chain as an example. If you need a longer or shorter starting chain, the instructions will not change, but the stitch count provided will not be valid for your project.

Using the 3.5 mm hook, CH 71.

Row 1: Hdc in the second ch from hook. Hdc across. [70 st]

Row 2: Ch1. Turn. Hdc across. [70 st]

Row 3: Repeat Row 2. [70 st]

Row 4: Ch1. Turn. Hdc in each st until there are two stitches remaining. Ch 1. Sk 1 Hdc. Hdc in the last Hdc . [70 st: 69 Hdc + 1 ch] (Buttonhole made.)

Row 5: Ch 1. Turn. Slst in the next three stitches, including the Ch 1. Scbkl in each stitch until there are three stitches remaining. (This allows for a nice fold.) [64 Sc, 6 Slst]

Switch hook to 3.25 mm.

Row 6: Ch 1. Turn. Sc inc in the first stitch. Sc across until there is one Sc stitch remaining. Sc inc in the last Sc stitch. Slip stitches are left unworked. [66 Sc]

Row 7 – 10 Repeat row 6. (I ended with 74 stitches)

Fasten off.

Weave in ends.

I steamed block both of my collars to get the edges straight and pointy. I preferred the final look.

Add small pearl beads to the points of the collar (optional) using a matching thread and sewing needle.

