



## **Buttercup Top**

Light, lacy, and airy, the Buttercup Top is perfect for breezy warm days. This crochet tee pairs beautifully with cutoff shorts, capris, or skirts. This intermediate pattern is written tutorial style, meaning it can be made in any size required! Any dk or sport weight yarn can be used, however I highly recommend using natural fibres such as bamboo, silk, cotton, or linen, as they provide a lovely drape that compliments the flouncy sleeves and trim along the bottom of the top.

This top is constructed in flat pieces. Starting with the front panel, the left and right shoulders and neckline are worked separately before being joined together and worked as one piece to create the remainder of the front. A back piece is worked up and the two are joined together at the sides, and the bottom lace border is worked in the round on both front and back. The shoulders are then joined together, then the sleeves are worked in the round.

### **Stitches and Abbreviations Used (US terms):**

ch- chain  
 sc- single crochet  
 dc- double crochet  
 v st- (dc, ch 1, dc in same st)  
 Shell- (5dc in same st)

sl st- slip stitch  
 st- stitch  
 sp- space  
 cluster v st- (2dc, ch 1, 2 dc in same st)  
 Half shell (3dc in same st)

prev- previous  
 sc2tog- single crochet 2 stitches together



**Notes:**

- As stated earlier, this pattern is written in a way that accommodates for all sizes, yarn weights, gauges, and hook sizes. **This pattern does not include strict numbers, measurements, or gauges!** I will include the number of stitches I used for my size as a reference throughout the tutorial. I used a 4.25 mm hook and 550 g of a sport weight cotton/silk blend yarn to complete this project.
- While any yarn and hook can be used for this project, I highly recommend a DK or finer weight yarn and a larger hook than recommend on the yarn label to showcase the lacy details and compliment the structure of the top best.
- This pattern is worked in turned rows, and transitions into working in the round to complete the sleeves and bottom lace band. Work in rows unless otherwise specified.
- If you have any questions or queries about the pattern, or if you're stuck, please email me at [crochet.by.becks@gmail.com](mailto:crochet.by.becks@gmail.com) and I will gladly do my best to help you out!
- This is an intermediate pattern and may require more skill to complete.

**How to do the Closed Shell Stitch:**

This stitch looks complicated, but is much easier to do than you may think!

After creating your foundation round, you will be left with alternating sc and shell sts. The most basic rule of thumb for the closed shell stitch is to place shells in the sc sts of the prev row, and place sc sts on the 3rd dc of each shell from the prev row. To keep your work even ( **with the exception of the increase rows** ), the ends of your work will always start or end with a sc, or with a half shell (3 dc in same st). If your previous row starts or ends with a sc, work a half shell into that st. If the previous row starts or ends with a half shell, work a sc into the top of the half shell.



### Instructions:

#### Left Front:

1) Ch a multiple of 6 +1, this length should reach from your neck to shoulder. To this number, ch an additional 3. Dc in 6th st from hook. Ch 1, dc in same st (v st made). Sk 2 chs, dc in next st, \*sk 2 chs, v st, sk 2 chs, dc in next ch\* across.



2) Ch 3, \*v st in ch sp of v st from prev row, dc in dc from prev row\* across.



Repeat step 2 until piece measures from top of shoulder to 1.5 inches below underarm. I made a total of 11 rows.

\*The width of the armhole is determined by how many rows of step 2 are made. For a tighter armhole, only work until piece is directly underneath the underarm.\*





3) Ch 1, sc in same st. \*5dc in ch 1 sp of v st from prev row, sc in dc of prev row\* across. You have now created your foundation for the solid shell pattern!



### Shaping the Armhole:

We will now create an increase on both sides to shape the armhole and prepare for increasing the neckline.

4) Ch 3, 4dc in same st (inc made). continue in solid shell pattern across (shell st in sc space, sc at top of next shell) until you reach the last sc st. 5dc in sc of prev row (inc made).





5) Ch 3 , 2dc in same st. Continue in solid shell pattern until you reach last shell of row. Sc in 3rd dc of shell, 3dc in 5th dc of shell (half shell made).



6) Ch 1, sc in same st. continue in solid shell pattern across.



### **Shapng the V- Neckline:**

7) We will create the v-neckline by making increases only on one side. Ch 3, 4dc in same st (inc made), continue solid shell pattern across.





8) Continue in solid shell pattern until you reach last shell. Sc in 3rd dc of shell, 3dc in 5th dc of shell.

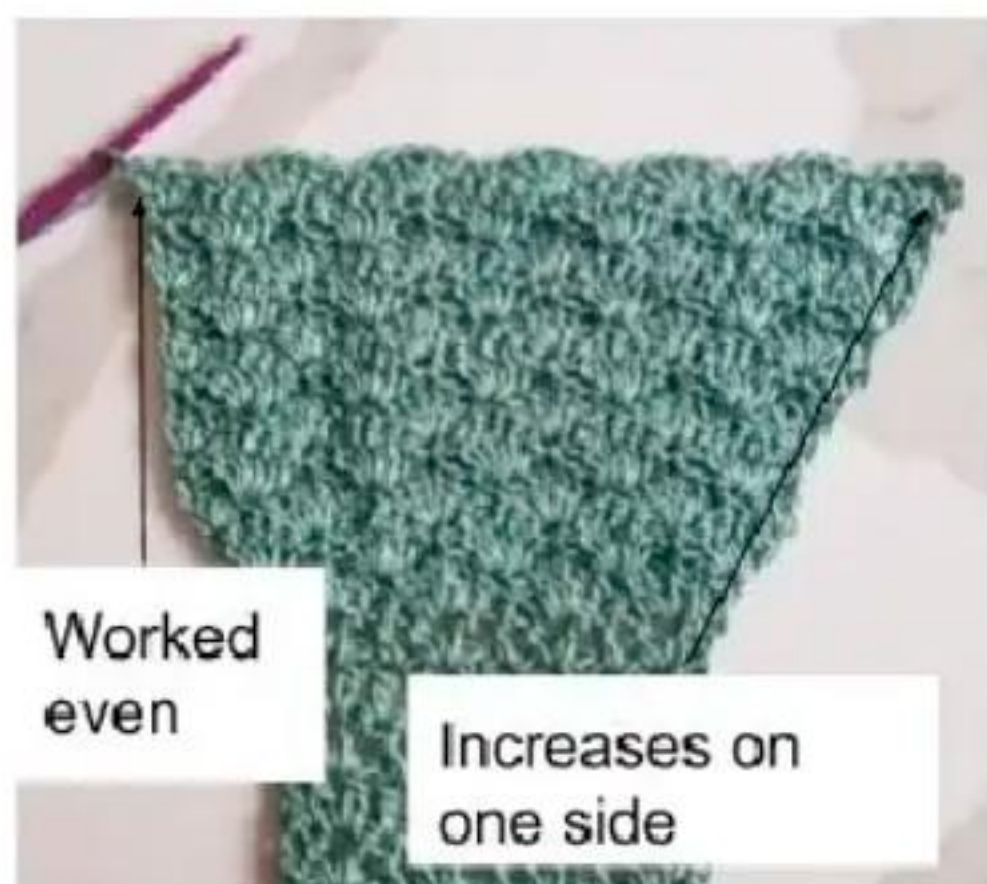


9) ch 1, sc in same st, continue in solid shell pattern across.



Continue working in this manner, making increases according to steps 7-9, placing increases on one side every two rows, until work is desired width- about half of the width of your front measurement, or 1-4 of your chest circumference. Use a stitch marker in order to remember which side you are increasing on if that helps you!





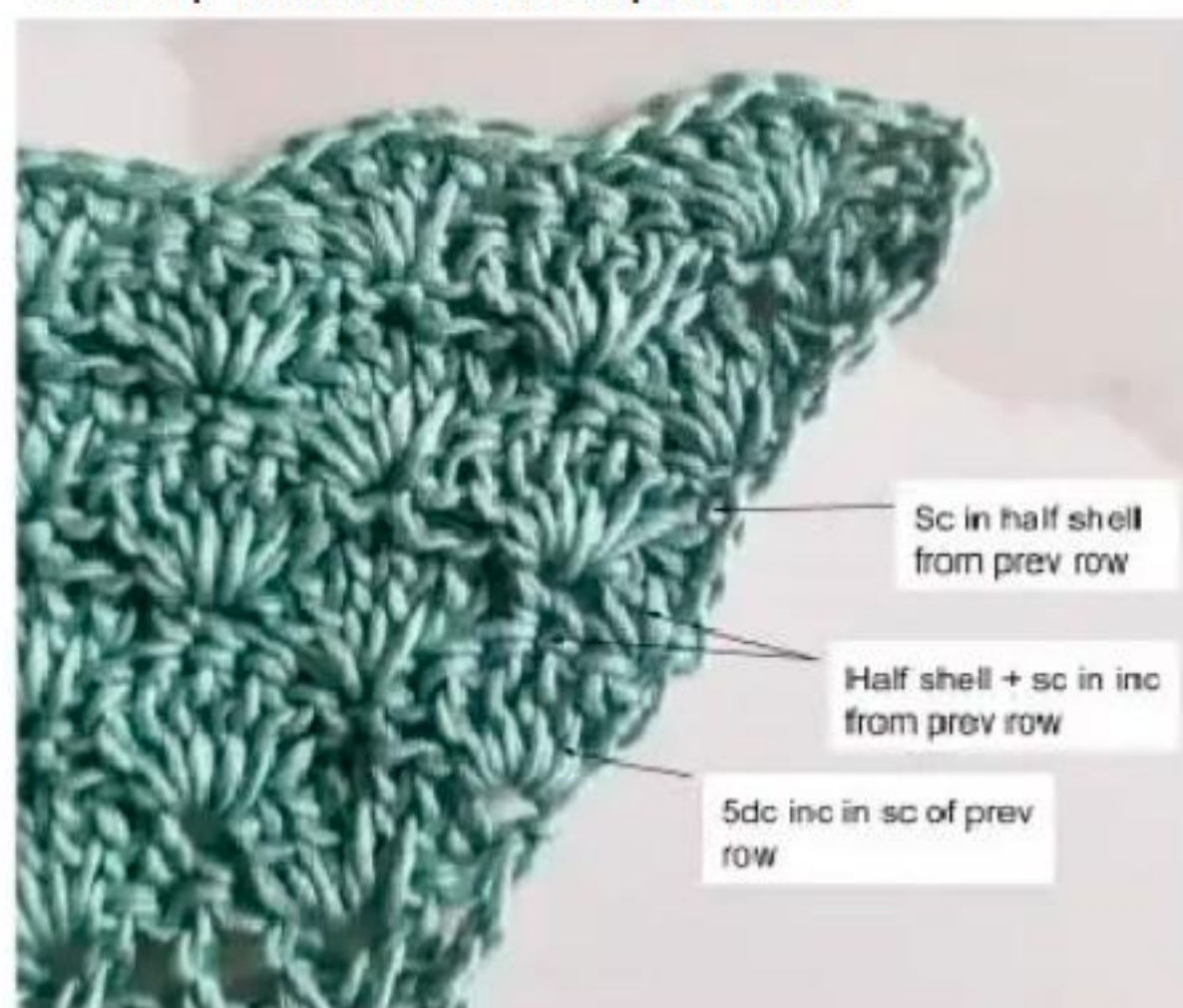
This part can get a little tricky, but here is a general rule that can help:

**Pattern Repeat on the INCREASING side:**

- Shell increase (5 dc in 1 stitch) in sc of prev row.
- Half shell (3dc) on in last dc of inc + sc on 3rd dc of inc from prev row.
- sc in top of half shell from prev row.

**Pattern Repeat on EVEN side:**

- sc in top of half shell from prev row.
- Half shell (3 dc) in sc from prev row



It does not matter which row of the increase section you finish on, but make sure your final row ends on the non increased side. Fasten off your work.



**Right Front:**

Repeat steps 1-9 to create the right side, but do not fasten off once the increases for the neckline have been completed.

**Joining the Right and Left:**

10) Continue in solid shell pattern until you reach the last sts of right piece. Join 2 pieces together by inserting your hook through both pieces and continuing the solid shell pattern based on what st comes next:

If your final rows on right and left ended with...

**A half shell (3dc):** insert your hook into top of half shell through both layers, place a sc.

**A single crochet:** insert your hook into sc through both layers, place 5dc.

**An increase (5dc):** Insert your hook into final st of increase through both layers, place 5dc.





Continue solid shell st across for the remainder of the row.



**Finishing the Front Piece:**

11) Continue solid shell st across for next and each row until top reaches 1-2 inches above belly button, making sure your shell pattern ends on a row that starts and ends with a sc, not a half shell. Fasten off.





### **Starting the Back:**

12) Count the number of full shells across the front and subtract one. Multiply this number by 6 and add 1. This is your starting ch. (ex, I had 13 shells across the front of my piece.  $13 - 1 = 12$ .  $12 \times 6 = 72$ ,  $+ 1 = 73$  chs).

To this number, add 3 additional chs. Dc in 6th st from hook, ch 1, dc in same st (v st made). Sk 2 chs, dc in next st, \*sk 2 chs, v st in next st, sk 2 chs, dc in next st\* across.



13) Follow and repeat step 2 of Front, making your lace panel match the same number of rows.





Follow steps 3-6 of Front.



Work evenly in solid shell st until back piece is same length and has the same number of rows as front piece. Do not fasten off.





**Attaching the Side Seams:**

14) Ch 1, working along the side and through both pieces, sc across, placing a st in each dc post and sc base. Ensure your pieces are aligned while doing this! Sc up the side of the garment until you reach your 1st inc shell, right underneath the underarm. Fasten off.





15) Attach yarn at same point on opposite side of top, and work your way down the other side of the top in the same way (sc through both layers, placing a st in each dc post and sc base. Do not fasten off.



### **Creating the Bottom Lace Trim:**

**We are now working in the round to complete this lace trim.**

16) Ch 3 (counts as dc), cluster v st in 3rd dc of next shell, \*dc in next sc sp, cluster v st in 3rd dc of next shell\* across. Sl st into top of ch 3.





17) Ch 4, dc in same st (counts as a v st), cluster v st in ch 1 sp of next cluster v st from prev rnd, \*v st in next dc from prev rnd, cluster v st in ch 1 sp of next cluster v st from prev rnd\* across. Sl st into top of ch 4 at start of rnd.



18) Ch 3, dc, ch 1, 2dc in same st (counts as cluster v st). Cluster v st in each ch 1 sp around. Sl st into top of ch 3 at start of rnd.





19) Ch 4, (counts as dc + ch 1) \*dc into next st, ch 1, dc into ch sp, ch 1, dc into next st, ch 1, dc into next st, sc into ch 1 sp of next cluster v st. \*dc into 1st dc of next cluster v st, ch 1, dc in next st, ch 1, dc in ch sp, ch 1, dc in next st, ch 1, dc in next st, sc in ch sp of next cluster v st\* across. Sl st into 3rd ch of ch4 at start of rnd. Fasten off.





**Right Sleeve:**

20) Starting at neckline, sc front and back pieces together across shoulder, making sure to line the pattern up on both sides. Sl st into dc post along side. **We will now be working in the round to complete the sleeves.** Ch 3 (counts as dc), v st in next post. \*dc in next post, v st in next post\* across, sl st into ch 3.





21) Ch 3, cluster v st into ch sp of next v st. \*dc in next single dc from prev rnd, cluster v st in ch sp of next v st\* across. Sl st into ch 3 at start of rnd.



Repeat steps 2-4 of bottom trim, fasten off.



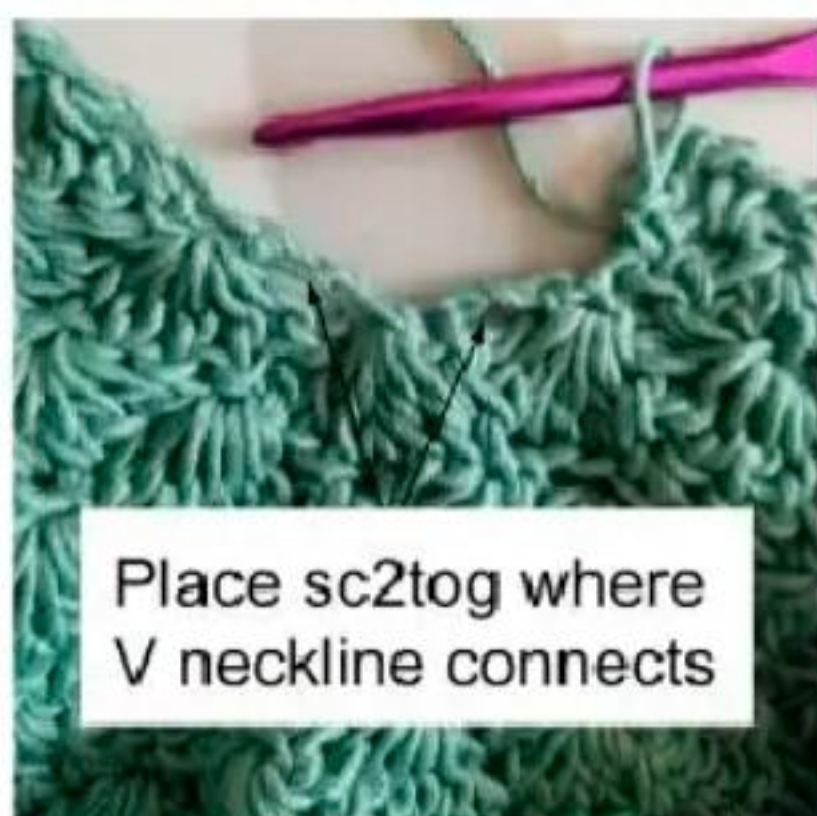
Repeat sleeve instructions for left sleeve.





**Neckline:**

22) Attach yarn at first dc post below shoulder seam. Working along the side of the garment, Ch 1, sc, ch 3, sc in same post. \*sc, ch 3, sc\* in each post across until you reach 1 post before bottom point of v-neck. Sc2tog between two centre posts. \*sc, ch 3, sc\* in next post and each across. Sl st into first sc, fasten off.





Weave in all ends and turn right side out to hide your shoulder and side seams.



Enjoy your new Buttercup Top!





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