

**SKILL LEVEL****Easy / Facile / Fácil****Size:**

This cardigan is available in sizes XS (28-34 inch chest) through to 5XL (60-62 inch chest).

Shoulder to waist is approximately 18 inches (45cm), ease around the bust is approximately 6 inches (15cm)

Instructions are given for the smallest size (XS/S). Minor changes for larger sizes are given in brackets:

XS/S 28-34 inch chest

M 36-38 inch chest (in brackets)

L/XL/2XL 40-50 inch chest (second number in brackets)

3XL/4XL/5XL 52-62 inch chest (third number in brackets)

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# Balloon Sleeve Bomber

## **Materials:**

Size 6 super bulky yarn. I used [King & Eye merino](#) in blush pink

Size XS/S Approx 1000g/650m

Size M Approx 1100g/720m

Size L/XL/2XL 1400g/910m

Size 3XL/4XL/5XL 1800g/1170m

- 10 or 12mm (size N/O) crochet hook depending on your gauge. You can find them in the [King & Eye Shop](#) or [Lovecrafts](#) (affiliate link)
- Tapestry needle
- Scissors
- Measuring Tape

If you're looking for ideas or new tools then check out some of my favourite in my [Amazon shop](#). (They won't cost you any more but I may make a small commission if you buy anything)

## **Gauge:**

Gauge is important to give you an idea of whether your project will be the size you want, especially important with clothing! Can you imagine putting in all that work to find you can't get your arm in or it's hanging off your shoulders?

Ok maybe that's the look you want, but so many crafters miss this stage out and then spend just as long pulling out their work to remake it so it fits.

*Moral of the story is check it's going to fit first!!*

I usually recommend making a swatch that measures at least 10 x 10 cm / 4 x 4 inches using the stitch in the pattern the gauge is given for.

Test your yarn and hook against the gauge sizing below or see your yarn information label to check the typical gauge if you want to use an alternative.

Half Double Crochet = 8 stitches x 6 rows (10x10 cm)

If your swatch is smaller than this then swap to a larger hook, if you have a larger swatch then use a smaller hook until the required gauge is reached.

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## **Abbreviations:**

Ch – chain

HDC – Half Double Crochet (US terms)

Slst - Slip Stitch

## **Pattern Notes:**

- The cardigan is worked in three pieces starting with the back then completing 2 front pieces. The sleeves are added once the body is complete.
- Each body piece is work sideways. Sleeves are worked by completing the cuff then working sideways into the cuff piece.
- If you would like a longer or shorter body then stitches can be added or subtracted at the starting chain.
- All measurements given are unblocked.
- Note that measurements are given as exact as possible. Your tension & technique might give variations in the result, but that's what makes it unique!
- Chain at the beginning of the row does not count as a stitch

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### **Back Section**

Chain 37

Work 1HDC into the 3<sup>rd</sup> stitch then every chain (35 all sizes). Turn your work

Row 1-30 (M 1-34, L-2XL 1-45, 3XL-5XL 1-56) Chain 2 then work 1 HDC into every stitch, turn your work when you reach the end of the row (35 stitches for all sizes)

That's it, you have your back piece completed already!!! Don't you just LOVE chunky crochet?

### **Front Sections (Make 2)**

Chain 37

Work 1HDC into the 3<sup>rd</sup> stitch then every chain (35 stitches for all sizes). Turn your work when you reach the end of the row

Row 1-14 (M 1-15, L-2XL 1-20, 3XL-5XL 1-25) Chain 2 then work 1HDC into every stitch (35)

### **Sleeves (Make 2)**

Start by creating the cuffs, these can be created to fit snugly or loosely around your wrists depending on how you like the fit.

For all sizes I chained 21, if you think these might be too tight for your wrists then just add some extra chains until you are happy with the fit. Conversely if you are size XS/S and they feel too loose for you, then you can easily chain fewer stitches.

Row 1: work 1 HDC into the 3<sup>rd</sup> chain and each of the remaining chains, turn your work (18).

Row 2: CH2 then work 1HDC into each stitch.

Now we're going to turn the cuff through 90 degrees and work into the side of the HDC in row 2.

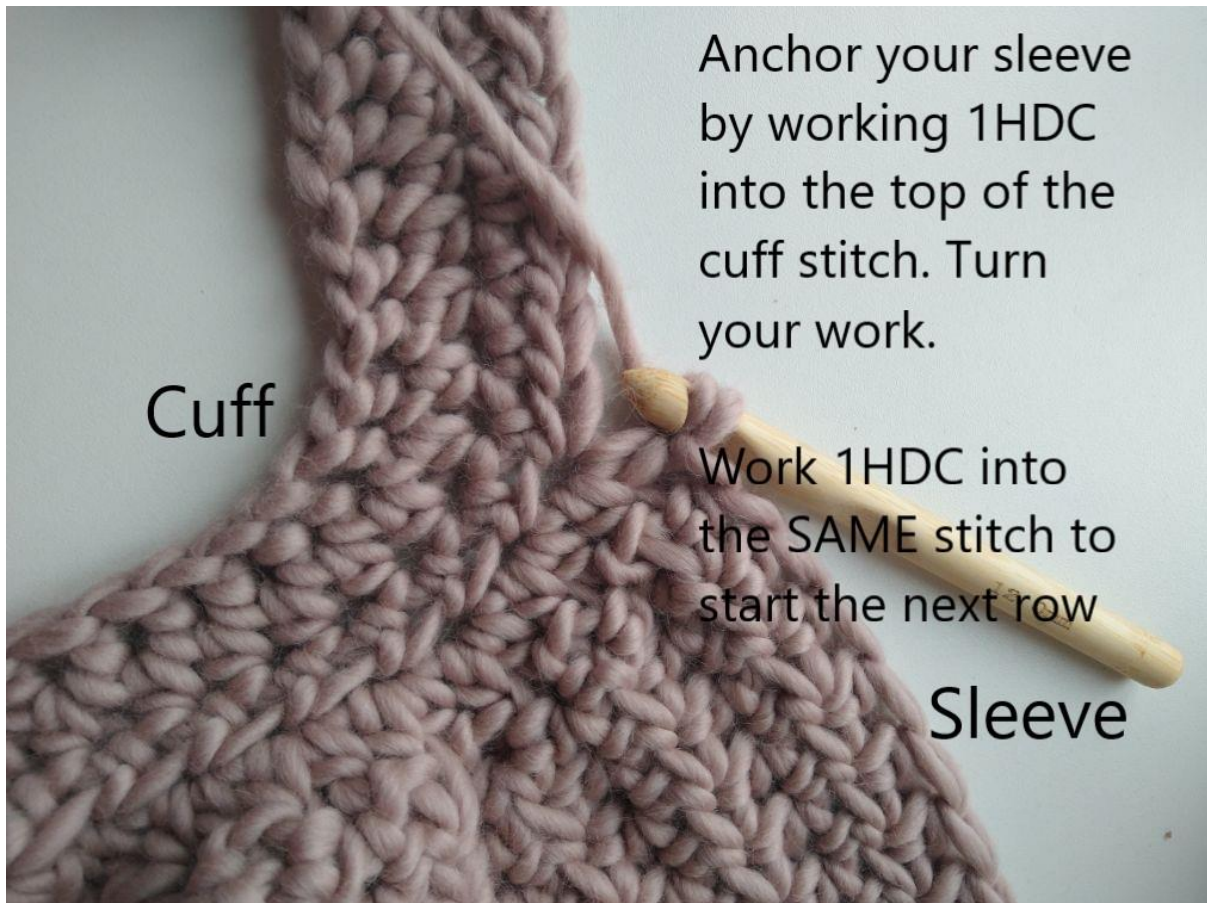
This sounds complicated but if you use the picture below to guide you it's really not difficult.

# Balloon Sleeve Bomber

Holding the cuff in your non working hand and working from the stitch you have just completed, chain 32. You should now have a block of HDC (your cuff) and a long chain, this will be the first row of your sleeve.

Row 1: Work 1HDC into the 3<sup>rd</sup> chain then work 1HDC into every chain until you reach the cuff.

Anchor your sleeve by working 1HDC into the top of the cuff stitch. Turn your work so your cuff is now on the right (if you are right handed) and your sleeve length is on the left. Work a second HDC into the same stitch that you anchored your last row into (you should now have 2HDC in the top of your cuff stitch). **This is the first stitch of your 2<sup>nd</sup> row, there will be NO turning chain at this end of the sleeve.**



Row 2: **DO NOT CHAIN 2.** Work 1HDC into the top of every stitch along the length of the sleeve until you reach the shoulder edge. Turn your work (all sizes 30 stitches)



# Balloon Sleeve Bomber

Row 3: Ch 2, work 1HDC into every stitch until you reach the cuff. Anchor your sleeve to the cuff by working 1HDC into the top of the cuff stitch as you did with row 1.

Row 4 repeat row 2

Row 5 repeat row 3

Continue with Row 4&5 until you reach the last stitch of the cuff.

You should have a sleeve that looks something like this:



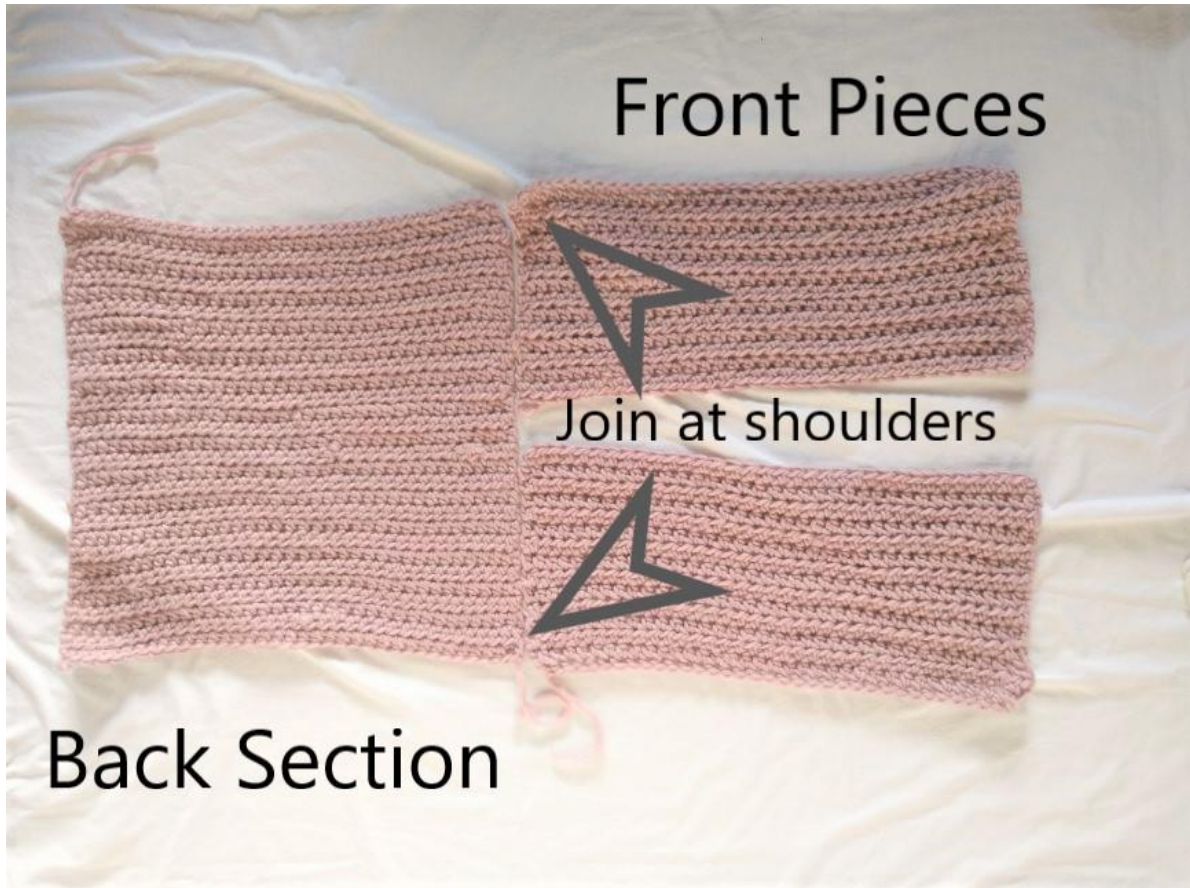
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### **Putting it all together**

Start by lying the back piece on a flat surface and place the two front pieces on top. Join at the shoulders and seam with slip stitches or single crochet.



Open out the cardigan with the wrong side (and seam) facing you at the shoulder seams, so the back is facing to the left and the front pieces face to your right.

Take one sleeve and fold in half lengthways, mark this centre point at the flat shoulder edge with a pin or a marker.

# Balloon Sleeve Bomber

Place the centre of the flat shoulder edge of the sleeve that you have just marked in line with the shoulder seam. Pin the top edge of the sleeve to the side of the front/back pieces. Seam together with slip stitches or single crochet.



Now the exciting bit, when it all comes together!



# Balloon Sleeve Bomber

Place the front pieces so the bottom (waist) edges are aligned with the bottom (waist) edge of the back piece, your sleeves should now happily fold in half lengthways too. Pin and seam from the cuffs, along the sleeves and down to the waist with slip stitches or single crochet.



Turn it inside out and get your phone out, it's time for some selfies!

Don't forget to tag me on social media (@kingandeye) or send me some photos I love to see what everyone has been up to and to share on social