

Perpendicular Felted Bag

This handbag is a simple pattern with geometric appeal. Easy to carry and large enough for the essentials and a few treasures, it can be made a colorway for every mood or season.

Rating: beginner

This pattern uses standard US abbreviations



Materials:

- 1 skein worsted weight wool, such as Patons Classic Wool Merino (204 m/223 yd) (main color = MC)
- .25 skein worsted or bulky weight contrast yarn, such as Bernat Felting Natural Wool (contrast color = CC)
- 2 buttons, 1" diameter or larger
- Crochet hook, US J10/6.0 mm
- Stitch marker
- Yarn needle
- Sewing needle and thread to match button

Notes:

The main part of the bag is constructed first as a rectangle, and then sewn together before adding the handles in the round.

Leaving a long tail at the beginning of the first section and at the end will allow you to use those tails to stitch up the sides of the bag without needing to join on additional yarn.

Main section

Using MC, ch 68

Row 1: dc in 4th ch from hook and in each ch across (66 dc).

Row 2: ch 3, turn (counts as first dc throughout pattern), dc in each dc across.

Rows 3 – 16: Repeat row 2

Row 17: Repeat row 2 in CC

Rows 18 - 22: Switch back to MC and repeat row 2.

Finish off

Fold rectangle together so that contrast stripe runs top to bottom. Whipstitch sides up with the tails of yarn.

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Top and handles

In MC, join yarn with sl st at the side seam.

Round 1: Ch 1, sc 88 evenly around. Sl st to join with first ch. Place stitch marker, moving with each successive round.

Round 2: ch 3 (still counts as first dc), dc in each sc around (88 dc) sl st.

Round 3: in CC, ch 3, dc in each dc around (88 dc), sl st.

Round 4: in MC, ch 1, sc in each dc around (88 sc), sl st.

Round 5: ch 2, hdc in first 15 sc, ch 14, skip next 14 sc, hdc in next 30 sc, ch 14, skip next 14 sc, hdc in last 15 sc, sl st.

Round 6: ch 3, dc in each hdc and ch around (88 dc), sl st

Rounds 7 - 8: ch 3, dc in each dc around (88 dc), sl st

Round 9, ch 1, sc in each dc around (88 sc), sl st

Finish off

Weave in ends and felt according to your preferred method, being sure to block out the bag while damp. Sew a button on each side, in the gap between the contrast stripes.

