

SUPPLIES NEEDED

Yarn: Worsted Weight Yarn – 500 yards

Needles: For Worsted Yarn - 24" US 17 circular needles and US 17 double pointed needles.

Gauge to Achieve Similar Size: 2 ½ st/inch, 3 rows/inch (2 strands yarn).

Approximate Final Size: 14" w, 8" h. Knitting and felting a swatch in your selected yarn is recommended.

Abbreviations:

k2T knit 2 stitches together
p2T Purl 2 stitches together



Bag Center: The center of the bag is completed first. Using circular needles, cast on 18 stitches. Place a marker at stitch #9. Knit each row until piece measures 20 inches. Prior to beginning the flap, place a marker on each side of piece. Continue to knit for additional 12 rows, then begin the flap shaping by decreasing 1 stitch on each side of the flap on every row until 2 stitches remain. Row decrease instruction are as follows:

Row 13 – Row 20 of the flap: k1, k2T, knit across to the last 3 stitches, k2T, k1.

Row 21: K2t, break yarn and pull through. (Leave markers in place.)

Bag Side: With the bag center's right side facing, pick up 40 stitches between the flap marker and the cast-on edge, placing a marker between stitch 20 and 21. Purl back across. On the next row, knit within 3 stitches of center marker, knit into the front, back, and front of the next stitch (resulting in 3 stitches from 1 (2 additional stitches)). Knit 2, slip marker, knit 2, then knit into the front, back and front of the next stitch (creating 2 more stitches). You now have 44 stitches. Stockinette stitch for 6 inches from the pick-up row. Now begin decreasing by decreasing four stitches on each row. On the knit rows, k1, k2T, k1, k2T, knit across to the final six stitches, k2T, k1, K2T, K1. On the purl rows, p1, p2T, p1, p2T, knit across to the final six stitches, p2T, p1, p2T, p1. You are creating a shape that looks like the photo on the right. When you have 8 stitches remaining you knit each of the following rows. With 8 stitches, decrease



by k2T across; 4 stitches remaining, k2T two times; 2 stitches, k2T one time, break yarn and pull through. Repeat these instruction on the other side of the bag center. Fold the bag, matching the bottom edge of the bag center with the flap markers. Sew each side together, stopping 9 rows before the flap markers.

I-Cord Strap: For the strap: Using double pointed needles, cast on 3 stitches with 2-strands MC. Knit. DO NOT turn work, slide stitches to the other end of the needle and knit the stitches, carrying the yarn across the back to create a tube. Continue for 2 ½ inches, k1 then increase one stitch by knitting into the front and back of the stitch and knit across. Continue until total length is 23 inches long, on the next row, k1, k2t, k1. Continue until total length equals 25 1/2 inches and bind off. Make a second strap. Join each strap into a circle. Center the join of the strap on the inside side of the bag's top edge. Using matching yarn, sew the now circular strap to the inside edges of the bag center. Repeat strap attachment on other side (top of bag, opposite flap). See photos.

Sew the circular straps inside the bag as shown below.



Felting: Place bag in a zippered pillowcase, toss a Shout Colorcatcher into the pillowcase. Place pillowcase in the washing machine with heavy items. Add ¼ c. vinegar to each wash cycle, along with some soap. Wash on the hot wash cold rinse cycle. Check after each wash to determine size and change Colorcatcher sheet. May take 3-4 trips through the wash to achieve desired felting. Finished sizes will vary depending on felting process and yarn used.

Shaping the bag: When you are satisfied with the felt texture you will need to shape the sides of the bag.

You do this by tucking the ends into the bag. See following photos. Dry the bag flat, with flap pinned into place with a straight pin.

Before tucking....



After tucking....



Buttons: A button can be added to the outside of the flap and a magnetic snap can be used on the inside flap. Sew the magnetic snap parts to a piece of ribbon and then sew the ribbon to the bag flap and bag body.

Yarn Notes: Teal Cover Bag: Lamb's Pride Worsted (8" high by 14" wide)

Red Bag: Cascade 220 (7" high by 13" wide)

Purple Variegated: Cascade 220 and Colinette Skye (8 1/2" high by 14 1/2" wide)

