

SUPPLIES NEEDED

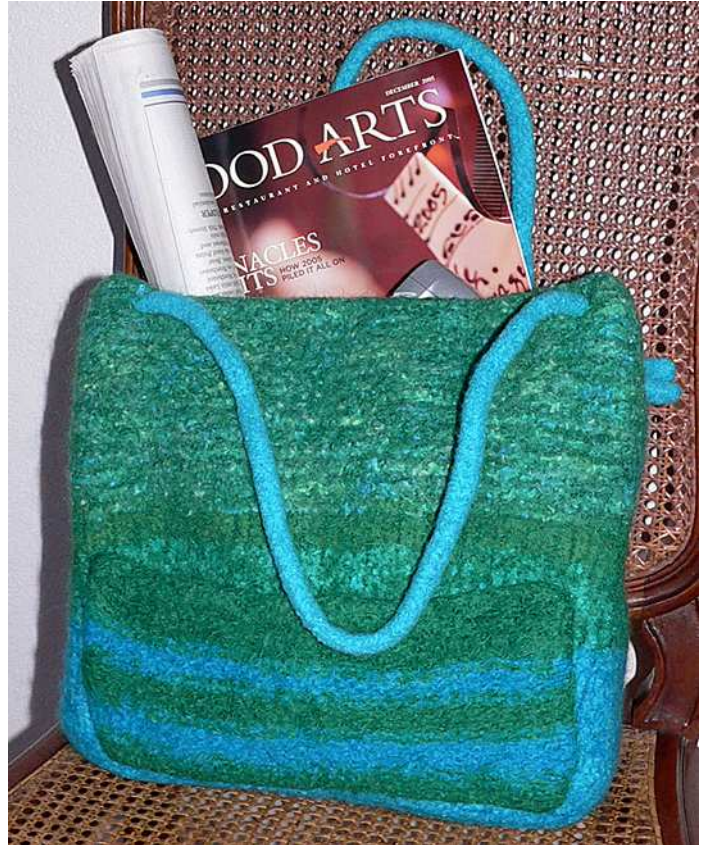
Yarn: 500 yards of worsted weight yarn (MC)
110 yards of worsted weight yarn (CC1)
110 yards of worsted weight yarn (CC2)

Needles: 16"-24" US 17 needles and US 15 double pointed needles.

Other Supplies: Sewing needle and thread, optional: magnetic closure.

Gauge to Achieve Similar Size: 2 ¼ stitches/inch, 3 rows/inch (Final size will vary depending felting process and hot water temperature.)

Approximate Final Size: Height – 10 ½ inches, width – 14 inches, width of base – 3 inches. Knitting and felting a swatch for your selected yarn is recommended.



Bag Bottom and Body: Cast on 40 stitches on size 17 needles with 2 strands of MC, purl row 1, knit 15 rows, purl next row. To form the body, keep original 40 stitches on needle and pickup 8 stitches on the short side, 40 stitches on the long side and then 8 stitches other short side. Total of 96 stitches. Place corner markers. Join and knit in the round for 11 inches. You can vary colors to create stripes as you want.

Bag Top Half: Place each side and back stitches on a stitch holder. With the remaining 40 stitches and one strand of CC1 and one strand of CC2, knit each row for 24 rows (12 garter ridges). Then knit 1 row, purl 1 row, knit 1 row and bind-off. With bag top back stitches, repeat instruction for bag top front.

With two strands of CC1, pick up 8 stitches for the side from stitch holder and knit each row for 24 rows (12 garter ridges). Then knit 1 row, purl 1 row, knit 1 row and cast-off. Repeat for the remaining 8 side stitches.

Front Pocket (optional): Cast on 30 stitches with yarn of your choice. Knit in stockinette for 7 ½ inches. Vary colors to create horizontal stripes if you wish. Bind-off.

I-Cord Strap: Using size 15 needles, cast on 4 stitches with 2-strands of 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 until 82 inches long and bind off. This will be used to make a 48-inch (approximate) felted strap.

Construction: Sew side panels to front panels.

Make Slot For Strap: There will be 2 slots per side for the strap. On all 4 sides, measure down 2 inches from top edge and in 3 stitches from each seam. Spread the stitches with fingers making a hole to thread the strap through. The strap will be threaded through the corners and over the outer sides of the bag – see photo on back. (Make sure the bag is threaded properly and not twisted before felting.) Once the strap is threaded, finish by knotting ends together on the side of your choice – make sure strap is straight when you knot it together.



Felting: Place bag and pocket front into separate zippered pillowcases, toss a Shout Colorcatcher into each pillowcase. Place pillowcases 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. Sizes will vary depending upon yarn, number of cycles through washing machine and water temperature. Our bag models are washed in hot water which is 130 degrees.

Finishing: Stuff with plastic grocery bags to shape the bag and let dry. Shape pocket front into desired shape and dry flat. To make a flat bag bottom, cut a piece of foam core board to fit in the bag bottom.

Attaching the Pocket: Position pocket so that it is centered on the bottom of the bag front, with the lower edge of the pocket matching the edge of the bag bottom; pin into position. Sew around the pocket on three sides with a strong sewing thread.

***Yarn Used:** Both Green/Blue Model (page 1) and Red/Brown Model (right) - Lamb's Pride Worsted Weight for bottom portion, Lamb's Pride and Manos for top portion. Note: for bag at right, strap was 90 inches before felting and pocket was not added.

** Shout ColorCatchers are only available in the US. Overseas clients should contact us for information on sources of this product.

