

SUPPLIES NEEDED

Yarn: 350 yards of Big Wool heavy worsted weight yarn from Lisa Souza Dyeworks.

Needles: 24" US 15 needles and US 15 double pointed needles.

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

Gauge to Achieve Similar Size: 2 ³/₄ stitches/inch, 3 ¹/₂ rows/inch (Final size will vary depending felting process and hot water temperature.)

Approximate Final Size: Height – 9 inches (left side, 17 inches,) width – 12 inches. Knitting and felting a swatch for your selected yarn is recommended.

Abbreviations:

k2T knit 2 stitches together
st stitch



Bag Body: Cast on 102 stitches on size 15 needles with 1 strand of yarn. Join, take care not to twist stitches, place marker, knit 51 stitches, place marker and knit to end of round. Knit in the round for 18 inches.

Bag Strap Tabs: Top and tab shaping – rnd1: k7, p30, k 28, p30 and k7.

Rnd 2: knit

Rnd 3: k7, bind off 30, k28 and place on stitch holder, bind off 30, k7 – 14 stitches remain on needle and you will no longer be knitting in the round. Rows 4 – 19 create the smaller strap tab.

Rows 4-9: Continue in stockinette stitch

Row 10: k1, k2t, knit to final 3 stitches, k2t, k1 (12 stitches)
Row 11: Purl across
Row 12: k1, k2t, knit to final 3 stitches, k2t, k1 (10 stitches)
Row 13: Purl across
Row 14: k1, k2t, knit to final 3 stitches, k2t, k1 (8 stitches)
Row 15: Purl across
Row 16: k1, k2t, knit to final 3 stitches, k2t, k1 (6 stitches)
Row 17: Knit across
Row 18: Knit across
Row 19: Bind off

Large Strap Tab: Pick up 28 stitches from holder, right side facing, continue in stockinette stitch for next 6 rows.

Row 7 (a knit row): k1, k2t, knit to final 3 stitches, k2t, k1 (26 stitches)
Row 8: Purl across
Row 9: k1, k2t, knit to final 3 stitches, k2t, k1 (24 stitches)
Row 10: Purl across
Row 11: k1, k2t, knit to final 3 stitches, k2t, k1 (22 stitches)
Row 12: Purl across
Row 13: k1, k2t, knit to final 3 stitches, k2t, k1 (20 stitches)
Row 14: Purl across
Row 15: k1, k2t, knit to final 3 stitches, k2t, k1 (18 stitches)
Row 16: Purl across
Row 17: k1, k2t, knit to final 3 stitches, k2t, k1 (16 stitches)
Row 18: Purl across
Row 19: k1, k2t, knit to final 3 stitches, k2t, k1 (14 stitches)
Row 20: Purl across
Row 21: k1, k2t, knit to final 3 stitches, k2t, k1 (12 stitches)
Row 22: Purl across

Continue in stockinette stitch for 5 inches ending with a right side row, then knit 2 rows and bind-off.

Front Pocket (optional): Cast on 30 stitches with yarn of your choice. Row 1: knit, Row 2, knit and starting with Row 3 knit in stockinette for 6 ½ inches. Next knit row, p18, k12. Next row, purl across. Next row, bind off 18 stitches, k12.

Pocket shaping: On the knit rows, k1, k2t, knit across and the purl rows, purl across. Continue until 6 stitches remain. Bind off.

I-Cord Strap: Using size 15 needles, cast on 4 stitches with 2-strands of yarn. 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 56 inches long and bind off.



Construction: Wrong side facing, sew the bottom of the bag together. With the bag inside out, sew together the small flap, start along the top and continuing down the side until you reach the bind off bag opening. Also with the bag inside out, sew large flap together, starting along the top and down the side, continuing for about 5 inches – until you reach the decrease rows. Weave in all loose yarn ends. Turn right side out.

Make Slot For Strap: On each strap tab, measure down 1” from top edge, find the middle stitch, spread the stitches of both layers with fingers making a hole to thread the strap through, knotting the strap on the front side of the bag. (Make sure the strap is threaded properly through both layers and not twisted before felting.)



Felting: Place bag and optional 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: 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 along the left edge of the front of the bag (large strap tab on left) and 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:** Hand dyed Big Wool heavy worsted in Mahogany and Berry Poppins from Lisa Souza Dyed Works, www.lisaknit.com.

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