

# KNITTED BAG PATTERN



**Skills Required:** Knit and Purl

**Materials:** Main body of bag: 4 skeins Elann Peruvian Highland Wool, Color-Mocha Cream, 1 skein Patons Classic Wool, Color-Emerald

**Needles:** Size US 5 (3.75mm) and size US 7 (4.50mm)

**Gauge:** 4 sts and 7 rows = 1 inch. Don't stress over gauge for this project-yippee.

**Finished Bag Measurements:** Lying flat approximately 16 inches wide X 10 inches long

**Abbreviations:** sts = stitches, RS = right side, WS = wrong side

**Pattern Notes:** I made a 1 inch hem at the top of the bag, leaving the ends open so that I could slide the handles through easily.

Slip first stitch of every row as if to knit and knit the last stitch of every row

If you don't want to knit handles you could try looking in your local craft store for some pretty ones. I tried myself but couldn't find any so I just knit them.

## **Beginning with hem and size 5 (3.75mm) needles**

Cast on 67 sts

Work in Stockinette stitch for 9 rows ending with a knit row.

Next Row: Switch to size 7 (4.50mm) needles and with WS facing: Knit (This marks the fold line for the hem)

### **Stitch Pattern**

Row 1: Knit

Row 2: Purl

Rows 3 – 7: Knit

Row 8: Purl

Row 9 and 10: Knit

This forms pattern. Work pattern until work measure 10 inches from fold line of hem. (This should be about 24 ridges of Garter stitch not counting hem line row.

Next Row: Knit

### **Form Bottom Gusset**

Next Row: WS – Knit (This marks the gusset by creating a garter st ridge)

Work 14 rows of Stockinette st to form bottom gusset or approximately 2” ending with a knit row.

Next Row: WS – Knit (Marking gusset again)

### **Continue as follows:**

Work in stitch pattern for 10 inches to knit up other side of bag

Next Row: WS – Knit (**Beginning of hem line**)

Next Row: Switch to size 5 (3.75mm) needles and knit Stockinette st. for 8 rows

### **Bind of loosely**

## **Gussets (Make 2)**

**Note:** When knitting side gussets you'll be matching the width of the sides to the width at the bottom of bag so it's all symmetrical.

**Additional note:** You can make both gussets at same time by using 2 balls of yarn or by using both ends of 1 ball.

Cast on 8 sts. and work garter stitch for 10 inches (length of side of bag) and cast off loosely.

## **Finishing**

Seam gussets to the bag. Weave in ends. Lightly steam the hem so it lies flat and sew into place **leaving ends open** for handles.

## **Handles**

I made I-cord handles in each color then seamed them together. I was trying something a little different. You can make them any length you like. When you're finished just work it through the hem on your bag. Then seam ends of I-cord handle together.

## **Alternate Handle**

If you would like to try another very simple type handle you can simply cast on 8 sts and knit garter stitch until you reach the length you like. Remember that garter stitch is very stretchy so it will lengthen when you slip it on your shoulder. The nice thing about this handle is that it will lie flat on your shoulder and won't slip off.

## **Lining your Bag**

It isn't always necessary to line a bag. It just depends on what you will be using for it. I have to admit that I don't sew very much however I decided that I would line this particular bag. You can use a sewing machine to seam the fabric or if you prefer you can also hand sew it.

## **Here's how to do it:**

Measure your knitted bag.

Cut two pieces of the lining fabric making them 1" wider and longer than the panels on your knitted bag. This is for the seam allowance.

Cut out one long gusset that will fit the sides and bottom of the bag. Make it 1" wider than the knitted gusset and 1" longer to allow for the seam allowance.

Pin the gusset and panel pieces together with RS facing. Then with sewing machine or needle and thread sew seams along the pinned edges making sure to leave a 1/2" seam allowance.

Place the lining in the bag matching up the corners and seams and then stitch in place. I added extra stitches along the bottom gusset and side gussets to reinforce it.

The top of the lining to my bag sits just below the handles, along the knitted hemline you created for the handles.

Fold over the lining and whipstitch it all around the knitted hemline of your bag. Actually I went around the top twice just to reinforce it.

**Enjoy your bag!**