



Summer Bag



The summer crochet bag has an easy drawstring closure. It is versatile. Children can use it for sleepovers or adventures outside. Take it to the pool and carry your towel, sunscreen, reading material, and necessities. It is worn over the body with the bag on your lower back or hip.

Base: make 2 (one in each color)

Start with the magic circle.

Row 1- 10 hdc into center of magic circle, tighten and slip stitch into first stitch. (10 stitches)

Row 2- Ch.1, 2 hdc in each of the 10 stitches, then slip stitch. (20 stitches)

Row 3- ch1, *2 hdc in first stitch, 1 hdc in second stitch* repeat from (*) until you have stitched into all 20 stitches, then slip stitch. (30)

Row 4- ch1, *2hdc in first stitch, 1 hdc in next 2 stitches* repeat. Ss. (40)

Materials:

Hook- G

Yarn- cotton or cotton blend.

Worsted weight. 2 colors

I used remnant yarn from AC Moore. So plan on at least 100grams per color.

Gauge: isn't as important here. My gauge was around 5 half double crochet per inch.

Abbreviations:

Sc- single crochet

Hdc- half double crochet

dc- double crochet

ch- chain

ss- slip stitch

Tips:

- It's easy to miss a stitch. Check your count often. You will never have more than 80 stitches for this project.



Row 5- ch.1, *2hdc in first stitch, 1 hdc in next 3 stitches* repeat around. Ss. (50)

Row 6- ch.1, *2hdc in first stitch, 1 hdc in next 4 stitches* repeat around. Ss. (60)

Row 7- ch.1, *2hdc in first stitch, 1 hdc in next 5 stitches* repeat around. Ss. (70)

Row 8- ch.1, *2hdc in first stitch, 1 hdc in next 6 stitches* repeat around. Ss. (80)

Top Secret:

Another pattern is on its way at the end of May 2017! Check back often!

Connect the bottom pieces:

Take the two pieces you just made and put them wrong sides together. Color one will be on the bottom and color two will be on the top.

Single crochet them together. In order to keep the seam neat it is helpful to crochet into 3 of the 4 loops each stitch will have. I left the top loop alone on the top base (color 2) and crocheted the rest together. The color 2 base will be inside the bag and won't be seen.

There will still be 80 stitches at this point. Ss together and continue to next step.

Sides:

Starting with color 1 ,with the color 1 base facing you, ch.2 and hdc into the **back loop** of the 80 stitches. Connect the last stitch and first stitch with a ss.

Row 2-7- ch.2, hdc around, last stich will be right next to the chain. Ss. (80 stitches)

At the end of row 7 you will make a color change to color 2 with the ss. Put your hook through as if to ss but pull color 2 through instead of the color 1 tail.

Row 8-14- using color 2, ch.1, sc 80 times around. Ss (still 80 stitches)

Row 15-17- change back to color 1. Ch.2, hdc around. Ss

Row 18- 21- color 2. Ch. 1, sc around. Ss



Row 22- 24- change to color 1, ch.2, hdc around. Ss

Row 25- color 2. Ch. 1, sc around. Ss

Row 26-27- color 1. Ch. 2, hdc around. Ss

Row 28- 33 repeat these next two rows 3 times

*color 2, ch. 1, sc around, ss

Color 1, ch.2, hdc around, sc*

Row 34- 38- color 1, ch.2, hdc around, ss

Row 39- color 1, Ch. 3, dc around, ss

Row 40- 44- color 1, ch. 2, hdc around, ss

Row 45- color 1, ch.1 sc around, ss

You did it!

Strap:

For this strap I used Tunisian Crochet. It's an afghan technique where you continually hold stitches on your hook.

To start- Chain 11.

The Forward Row-

Step 1- Its best to work in the back loop only. In the second chain from the hook insert the needle, yarn over, and pull loop through. Leave this loop on the hook.

Step 2- Repeat above step with each chain. You should have 10 chains on your hook. Do not turn your work.

The Reverse Row-

Step 1- Yarn over and pull through the closest loop on your hook.

Step 2- Yarn over and draw through the next 2 loops on your hook

Step 3- Repeat step 2 until there is one loop left on your hook. Do not turn. The last loop on your hook is the first stitch for the next row.

*The forward row and reverse row will be repeated until desired length so that the bag will hang behind you, off to the side, near your lower back.



To Fasten off-

Complete return row slightly different. Yarn over, pull through two stitches, continue. Fasten off on remaining loop.

*At this point you can attach the strap to the bag. Use a tapestry needle to sew the strap to the bottom side of your bag and right below the row of dc. Make sure the right side of the fabric is facing out and that you are stitching it to the back of the bag.

Drawstring:

Make a chain with color 2 that is 20 inches long.

Make 2 tassels-

Wrap yarn around 4 fingers about 18 times. Tie one end together and run it through the end of one side of your drawstring chain. At the top of the soon to be tassel wrap yarn around, tie it off tightly and tuck it away. Cut the bottom of the tassel evenly.

Before you make the second tassel run the drawstring through the double crochet row on the bag. I alternated every two stiches or so.

Complete the second tassel like above and you have made your summer bag.

I hope this pattern worked well for you. Please find me on social media or my webpage and share your projects!

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Veronica