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Summer Fling



Yarn

2 skeins Quince Sparrow (100% Linen) Colour A - Butternut, Colour B - Sans (154 m / 168 yds per skein)

Tension / Gauge

27 sts & 37 rows per 4" / 10cm in stockinette stitch *after blocking*

Needles & Notions

3.25 mm / US 3 knitting needles – or needles required to obtain gauge

Crochet hook and waste yarn for provisional cast-on 2 stitch holders Stitch markers

Abbreviations

 $\mathbf{k} = \text{knit}$

 $\mathbf{p} = \text{purl}$

k2tog = knit two stitches together

ssk = slip two stitches knitwise one at a time then insert point of left needle into front of two slipped stitches and knit

together

co = cast-on

bo = bind-off **rs**- right side

ws -wrong side

pm = place marker

rm - remove marker

sm - slip marker

Finished measurements

Width: 8.5"

Height: 17" (including straps)

Depth: 3.25"

Circumference near bottom: 22"

Circumference before beginning straps: 19"

Pattern Description

This is the perfect little summer bag for strolling around town or meeting friends for a cocktail on a terrace!

The bottom is knit flat and then stitches are picked up for knitting the main body in the round. Handles are then knit flat one at a time and are joined using *Kitchener* stitch.

Pattern

Bottom

Using waste yarn and a crochet hook provisionally cast on 26 stitches. Change to colour A and knit in stockinette for 73 rows (approximately 8") ending after a RS row.

PM then pick-up and knit 54 sts along the long edge of the rectangle (approximately 3 sts for every 4 rows).

PM and knit the 26 sts from provisional CO.

PM and pick-up and knit 54 sts along the second long edge of the rectangle (approximately 3 sts for every 4 rows).

PM and you are now ready to knit the main body of the bag in the round.

Main Body

<u>Set-up Round</u>: Knit to one stitch before marker, pm, slip next stitch onto right needle, rm, slip stitch you just slipped back onto the left needle, K2tog. Repeat 3 more times.

Knit in the round in stockinette slipping the markers as you come to them for 4".

<u>Decrease round</u>: *(k1, k2tog, knit to 3 sts before the next marker, ssk, k1, sm) repeat from * 3 more times

Knit in the round in stockinette slipping the markers as you come to them for another 2" and at the same time change to colour B after 1.5".

Decrease round: *(k1, k2tog, knit to 3 sts before the next marker, ssk, k1, sm) repeat from * 3 more times

Knit in round in stockinette slipping the markers as you come to them for another 2.5".

Your main body now measures approximately 8.5" before blocking

Straps

Knit to 10 sts past the second maker, BO 30 sts, knit to 10 sts past the $4^{\rm th}$ marker, BO 30 sts, knit to the end of round.

From this point on, each strap will be worked flat, one at a time in stockinette. You will begin with the set of stitches where your yarn is and place the other set of sts on hold.

Decrease row: k1, ssk, knit to the last 3 sts, k2tog, k1.

Repeat decrease row every 4^{th} row until 20 sts remain.

Knit even in stockinette until strap measures 9.5" and then place stitches on hold.

Join yarn to RS to begin the second strap and repeat strap instructions beginning with the decrease round.

Kitchener stitch straps together.

Weave in ends and block.

Finishing

If you would like to reinforce the straps follow the instructions below:

Round 1: With bag lying flat, begin at the point where the right strap meets the body of the bag and pick up each stitch along the opening of the bag. Continue picking up the stitches all around the strap at a rate of 3 sts per 4 rows, then 4sts per 5 rows (i.e. pick up 3, skip a row, pick up 4, skip a row, pick up 3 skip a row, pick up 4 stitches, skip a row, etc.).

Round 2: bind off all stitches.

Turn the bag over and repeat the instructions for the other side.

Weave in ends and steam block.

Enjoy!