

# summer commitment

Designed by *Lisa Di Fruscia*



**espacetricot**  
LA KNITTERIE MODERNE

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## **yarn**

5 skeins **Filatura di Crosa Kilim**

(65% jute, 35% acrylic; 68 m / 71 yds)

Colour A – 2 skeins of #06

Colour B – 3 skeins of #01\*

*\* If you wish to make the straps longer for a cross-body style bag you will need an extra skein of colour B.*

## **needles & notions**

6.0 mm (US 10) 24" circular needle or size required to obtain gauge.

*If your gauge is tighter when knitting in the round, you may want to use a needle one size smaller to knit the bottom and straps of the bag, which are knit flat.*

2 stitch holders

Stitch markers

## **gauge**

15 sts and 19 rows = 4" (10 cm) in stockinette stitch in the round after blocking

## **finished measurements**

Width at base: 13"

Depth: 6.5"

Height: 25.5" (from base to top of strap)

Height: 14" (body not including straps)

Circumference near bottom: 32"

Circumference before beginning straps: 30"



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This is a larger version of our **Summer Fling Bag**. It is the perfect bag for strolling around town, going to market or a day at the beach! The bottom is knit flat and then stitches are picked up for knitting the main body in the round. Straps are then knit flat one at a time and are joined using Kitchener stitch. If you wish to knit a cross-body style bag then an extra skein of yarn will be required.

## pattern

### bottom

*If your gauge is tighter in the round, you may want to switch to a needle one size smaller for the bottom of the bag in order for the gauge of your bottom and body to match.*

Cast on 24 stitches with colour A, purl first row and knit in stockinette for 59 rows (approximately 13") binding off on a RS row.

*If you used a smaller needle to knit the bottom, switch to your main needle for the body at this point.*

Starting from top right hand corner of the longer side of the base with RS facing, pick-up and knit 42 sts along the long edge of the rectangle (approximately 3 sts for every 4 rows), PM, pick-up and knit 22 sts from along shorter side, PM, pick-up and knit 42 sts along the second long edge of the rectangle (approximately 3 sts for every 4 rows), PM, pick-up and knit 22 sts along the second shorter side, PM.

*You are now ready to knit the main body of the bag in the round.*

### body of bag

Knit in stockinette, slipping the corner markers as you come to them, until you have knit 2 skeins of colour A (approximately 5"). **Switch to colour B** and continue as above until piece measures 7" from the base or until you have knit 2" of Colour B.

**Decrease round:** \*(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 3" or until your piece measures about 10" from the base.

**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 3.5".

The body now measures approximately 13.5" before blocking.

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## straps

Starting from the beginning of the round marker, Knit 4 sts, BO 34 sts, knit to 4 sts past the third marker, BO 34 sts, knit to the end of the round slipping the markers as you come to them. Cut yarn.

From this point on, each strap will be worked flat, one at a time in stockinette, and each strap should begin with 30 sts. ***If your gauge is tighter in the round, you may want to switch to a needle one size smaller at this point in order for the gauge of your body and straps to match.***

Attach yarn on the RS at the beginning of one of the set of strap stitches and your first row will be a decrease row:

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

Repeat decrease row every 4th row until 10 sts remain.

Knit even in stockinette until strap measures 12" and then place stitches on hold.

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

***If you wish to reinforce the straps you may want to insure that you have enough yarn before you Kitchener Stitch the straps together. Measure the opening of the bag and multiply by 4 (approximately 168" per side) and this is the amount of yarn you will need per side.***

Kitchener stitch the straps together, weave in ends, and block. ***If you wish to have a cross-body or messenger style bag, knit to the desired length and either Kitchener Stitch straps together or bind-off each side and tie a knot. This addition will require an extra skein of colour B yarn.***

## finishing

If you would like to reinforce the straps, as in our sample, follow the instructions below:

**Round 1:** With bag lying flat, and RS facing you, 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.

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## abbreviations used

**k** – knit

**p** – 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

Happy knitting!



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