Cute Crochet Bags: Lined Lunch Tote Pattern

CrochetRooms free printable pattern

Finished Size and Skill Level

One size: approximately 8 in (20 cm) wide x 9 in (23 cm) tall, measured lying flat, not including handles.

Skill level: Beginner - chain, single crochet, working in the round.

Time: one weekend.

Materials

- Worsted-weight (#4) cotton or cotton-blend yarn - about 150 yds (137 m); one to two skeins.
- US H-8 (5.0 mm) crochet hook.
- Yarn needle, scissors, stitch markers.

Abbreviations, US Terms

- ch = chain
- st (sts) = stitch (stitches)
- sc = single crochet (UK: double crochet)
- sl st = slip stitch
- BLO = back loop only

Gauge

15 sc = 4 in (10 cm) with worsted cotton and a 5.0 mm hook. Gauge is not critical, but keep your stitches firm and even so the bag holds its shape.

Pattern Notes

- The bag is worked from the bottom up: an oval base, then straight sides in joined rounds.
- Join each round with a slip stitch to the first stitch of the round.
- Cotton yarn is recommended because it stretches less than acrylic and keeps the tote crisp.

Oval Base

Ch 27.

Round 1: Sc in 2nd ch from hook, sc in next 24 ch, 3 sc in last ch; working along the opposite side of the chain, sc in next 24 ch, 2 sc in last ch (the same ch as the first sc). Join with sl st to first sc. (54 sc)

Round 2: Ch 1, sc in each st around, working 2 sc in the center st of each 3-sc end group. Join. (56 sc)

Round 3: Ch 1, working in BLO, sc in each st around. Join. (56 sc)

The back-loop round creates a crisp edge where the base meets the walls of the bag.

Body

Rounds 4-35: Ch 1, sc in each st around. Join. (56 sc)

Work 32 rounds even. The body should measure about 8 in (20 cm) from the base edge.

Handles, Make 2

Ch 61.

Row 1: Sc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across. Turn. (60 sc)

Row 2: Ch 1, sc in each sc across. Fasten off, leaving a 12-in (30 cm) tail for sewing. Each handle measures about 16 in (41 cm) long.

Assembly

Position one handle on the inside of the bag so the ends sit about 2.5 in (6 cm) in from each side edge and about 1 in (2.5 cm) below the top edge. Using the long tail and a yarn needle, sew each end down securely, stitching a small square with an X through it for strength. Repeat with the second handle on the opposite side.

Finishing

Weave in all ends. If you like, hand-sew a simple fabric lining cut to the bag's dimensions and stitch it to the top edge. Your mini tote is ready to carry.

MAKE THIS VERSION

Work the oval base and the body exactly as written, then add a fabric lining and shorter handles.

Lining: cut two pieces of cotton fabric, each about 9 in (23 cm) wide x 10 in (25 cm) tall, which gives about 0.5 in of seam allowance on each side and 1 in at the top for a folded edge. Place the two pieces right sides together, sew along the two sides and the bottom, and turn the lining right side out. Fold the top edge under by 1 in and press it.

Slip the lining inside the finished bag, wrong side of the lining against the inside of the bag, and hand-sew the folded top edge to the inside top edge of the bag with small stitches.

Shorter handles (make 2): Ch 41.

Row 1: Sc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across. Turn. (40 sc)

Row 2: Ch 1, sc in each sc across. Fasten off, leaving a 12-in (30 cm) tail for sewing.

The base handle is ch 61 = 60 sc = about 16 in long. A 40-sc handle therefore measures 40 x 16 / 60 = about 10.7 in (27 cm) long, a comfortable short hand-held length. Sew the handles on exactly as in the assembly above.

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