Cute Crochet Bags: Mommy-and-Me Mini Set 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

This pattern makes a matching set: one full-size tote worked exactly from the base pattern above, plus one small tote at half scale. The small tote counts below are derived from the base pattern numbers and are given as approximations, not as a separately tested pattern. Check the small tote against a ruler as you work.

Small tote, oval base: Ch 15.

Round 1: Sc in 2nd ch from hook, sc in next 12 ch, 3 sc in last ch; working along the opposite side of the chain, sc in next 12 ch, 2 sc in last ch (the same ch as the first sc). Join with sl st to first sc. (30 sc)

Round 2: Ch 1, sc in each st around, working 2 sc in the center st of each 3-sc end group. Join. (32 sc)

Round 3: Ch 1, working in BLO, sc in each st around. Join. (32 sc)

Small tote, body: Rounds 4-19: Ch 1, sc in each st around. Join. (32 sc)

Work 16 rounds even, half the 32 body rounds of the full-size bag. At the base rate of 32 rounds = 8 in, 16 rounds measure about 4 in tall.

Small tote, handles (make 2): Ch 31.

Row 1: Sc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across. Turn. (30 sc)

Row 2: Ch 1, sc in each sc across. Fasten off, leaving a 12-in (30 cm) tail for sewing. Each small handle measures about 8 in (20 cm) long, half the 16-in handle of the full-size bag: 30 sc at the stated gauge of 15 sc = 4 in gives 30 / 15 x 4 in = 8 in.

Small tote, finished size: about 4 in (10 cm) wide x 5 in (13 cm) tall, not including handles. The width comes from the 32-stitch round: 32 sts / 2 sides = 16 sts across the flat front, and 16 sts at 15 sc = 4 in gives about 4.3 in, about 4 in. The height is the 4-in body plus about 1 in for the base, the same base allowance as the full-size bag (9 in tall less 8 in of body = 1 in).

Sew the small handles on exactly as in the assembly above. Make the full-size tote in one color and the small tote in the same color, or in a matching contrast color, for the sweetest matching set.

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