CROCHET HANDBAG: BEAUTIFUL SAGE BOW BAG IN 100 SIMPLE STITCHES

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Free printable pattern

FINISHED SIZE

Bag body: about 9 in (23 cm) wide x 6 in (15 cm) tall x 3 in (8 cm) deep. Bow: about 7 in (18 cm) wide x 4 in (10 cm) tall. Handle: the source lists the handle as about 12 in (30 cm) long, but that does not match its own row count; see the correction below. The corrected handle is about 17 in (43 cm) long before the ends are folded over the clasps, and about 15 in (38 cm) long after folding about 1 in at each end.

SKILL LEVEL

Confident beginner to intermediate. You need single crochet worked in rows, single crochet worked in the round, basic increases and decreases, and simple seaming and assembly. The bag body is worked in continuous rounds with no joining, so use a stitch marker.

TIME

The source pattern gives no exact time. It is a bag in separate pieces, base, body, bow, handle, and D-ring tabs, sewn together at the end, so most crocheters finish it over a few relaxed evenings. That time estimate is NOT a source fact; do not quote it as one.

MATERIALS

- Worsted weight cotton yarn in sage green, 250 g (roughly 400 yards / 365 m). A sturdy cotton or cotton blend yarn holds the structure and only gets softer with wear.
- 4.0 mm (G/6) crochet hook. Size up or down slightly if needed to hit gauge.
- 2 swivel lobster clasps, about 1 in
- 2 D-rings, about 1 in
- Leather or faux leather strap connectors with a flower detail, optional
- Tapestry needle
- Stitch markers
- Scissors
- A bag charm, optional

ABBREVIATIONS (US terms)

BLO: back loop only. ch: chain. inc: 2 sc in the same stitch (increase). RS: right side. sc: single crochet. sc2tog: single crochet 2 together (decrease). sl st: slip stitch. st(s): stitch(es). WS: wrong

side.

NOTES

This pattern is written in US crochet terms. The bag is worked in separate pieces, then assembled: base, body, bow rectangle, bow wrap, handle, and D-ring tabs. The bag body is worked in continuous rounds (no joining) unless stated otherwise; use a stitch marker. Turn at the end of every row on flat pieces. Stitch counts are given in parentheses at the end of each row or round.

GAUGE

18 sts x 20 rows = 4 in (10 cm) in single crochet. Swatch for this bag: the structure lives or dies by gauge, so go down a hook size if your fabric feels loose, since a tighter gauge is what keeps the bag from sagging.

PART 1: BAG BASE

Ch 37.

Row 1: Sc in the 2nd ch from the hook and in each ch across, turn. (36 sc)

Rows 2-14: Ch 1, sc in each st across, turn. (36 sc)

Do not fasten off. You should have a rectangle roughly 8 in x 3 in.

Base total: 14 rows, 36 sc in every row.

PART 2: BAG BODY

Round 1: Ch 1, sc evenly around all four sides of the base: 36 sc along the long edge, 14 sc along the short edge, 36 sc along the second long edge, 14 sc along the final short edge. Place a marker. (100 sc) Do not join, work in a spiral.

Rounds 2-24: Sc in each st around. (100 sc)

Round 25: *Sc in the next 23 sts, sc2tog* around. (96 sc)

Round 26: Sc in each st around. (96 sc)

Round 27: Sc in BLO in each st around. (96 sc)

Round 28: Sc in each st around. Sl st to the first sc to join. (96 sc)

Fasten off, weave in ends.

Body total: 28 rounds. Round 1 has 100 sc, Rounds 2 to 24 have 100 sc, and Rounds 25 to 28 have 96 sc.

PART 3: D-RING TABS (make 2)

Ch 7.

Row 1: Sc in the 2nd ch from the hook and in each ch across, turn. (6 sc)

Rows 2-12: Ch 1, sc in each st across, turn. (6 sc)

Fasten off, leaving a long tail. Fold in half, thread through a D-ring, sew the ends together to secure.

D-ring tab total: 12 rows, 6 sc in every row, make 2.

PART 4: ATTACH THE D-RING TABS

Center one tab on each short side of the bag, about 1/2 in below the top edge. Whip stitch securely, and go over your stitches twice, since these bear the weight of the bag.

PART 5: BOW RECTANGLE

Ch 41.

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

Rows 2-50: Ch 1, sc in each st across, turn. (40 sc)

Fasten off, weave in ends. You will have a rectangle about 9 in x 10 in. It looks huge, but that is what gives the bow its drama.

Bow rectangle total: 50 rows, 40 sc in every row.

PART 6: BOW CENTER WRAP

Ch 9.

Row 1: Sc in the 2nd ch from the hook and in each ch across, turn. (8 sc)

Rows 2-18: Ch 1, sc in each st across, turn. (8 sc)

Fasten off, leaving a long tail.

Bow center wrap total: 18 rows, 8 sc in every row.

PART 7: ASSEMBLE THE BOW

Lay the bow rectangle RS down. Fold both short ends toward the center so they meet, folding into thirds. Pinch the center to create the gathered bow shape. Wrap the center wrap piece around the pinch 2 to 3 times, then sew closed at the back, catching the gathered fabric underneath. Fluff the loops into shape.

PART 8: ATTACH THE BOW

Position the bow on the front center of the bag, about 1 in below the top edge. Sew through the back of the center wrap into the bag body with small, discreet stitches, plus a few tacking stitches on the inner edges of the loops to hold everything in place.

PART 9: THE HANDLE

Ch 13.

Row 1: Sc in the 2nd ch from the hook and in each ch across, turn. (12 sc)

Rows 2-85: Ch 1, sc in each st across, turn. (12 sc)

Fasten off, leaving a long tail. Fold each short end over the bar of a swivel clasp (about 1 in) and sew securely. Clip the clasps onto the D-rings.

Handle total: 85 rows, 12 sc in every row. At the stated gauge of 20 rows to 4 in, 85 rows measure about 17 in long before the ends are folded, and about 15 in long after folding about 1 in at each end. See the correction in verification.md: the source lists the handle as about 12 in long, which does not match its own 85 rows.

PART 10: HARDWARE (optional)

Thread leather or faux leather connectors through the D-ring alongside the swivel clasp and secure per the connector design. Add a bag charm if you like.

FINISHING

Blocking: Lightly steam block. Hold a steamer a few inches above the fabric, shape while damp, and let dry fully.

Lining (optional): Cut fabric slightly smaller than the bag interior, hem the edges, and hand stitch along the top inside edge.

Care: Spot clean with mild soap and cool water, lay flat to dry, reshape while damp.

TIPS FOR A NEAT BAG

- Count often. A rectangular bag panel goes crooked fast if a stitch sneaks in or disappears without you noticing.
- Mark everything. Round starts, corners, and anything that helps you stay oriented while working in a spiral.
- Keep your tension consistent. Single crochet shows every inconsistency, so if your stitches start drifting tighter or looser, take a short break and come back to it.
- Do not skip the swatch. Bag structure lives or dies by gauge, so go down a hook size if your fabric feels loose.
- Whip stitch the D-ring tabs twice. They bear the weight of the bag, so go over your stitches twice.

VARIATIONS (from the source pattern)

- Try it in blush pink, cream, navy, or black.
- Skip the bow entirely for a minimalist everyday bag.
- Shrink the bow rectangle (try 30 sts x 35 rows) for something subtler.
- Add a magnetic snap closure at the inside top.
- Double the handle length for full crossbody wear.
- Crochet the bow in a contrasting color for a two-tone look.

Pattern adapted from the free pattern by Maisie Crochet: Sage Green Bow Handbag, https://maisiecrochet.com/sage-green-bow/

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