

July 2007 Pattern Contest Winner

Slant Pocket Bag

Designed by: Melissa Thetford

For Jimmy Beans Wool (<http://jimmybeanswool.com>)

Measurements

- Pre-felting: 14" x 16"
- Post-felting: 8" x 11"

Materials

- 3 skeins Malabrigo Worsted - Color 16 Glazed Carrot
- 1 pair US 9 straight or circular needles
- 1 US 9 / I crochet hook
- Tapestry Needle for sewing in ends
- Optional:
- 1 yard medium weight fabric for lining
- Zipper - wait until finished to choose length

Gauge

- Approx 4 sts. = 1 inch
- Note: the bag is intended to be felted, so gauge is not crucial, unless you prefer to line the bag and use it un-felting.
- Second Note: While the body of the bag is knit from top to bottom and then back up to top, the slanted front pockets are knit from left to right then back to left, with a nifty turning ridge so that both pockets have right side facing.

Abbreviations

- CO - Cast On
- Dec - Decrease
- k2tog - knit two sts together
- P - Purl
- p2tog - purl two sts together
- RS - Right side
- sts - Stitches
- WS - Wrong side

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- yo - Yarn Over

Directions for Making the Bag

Front

- Using size 9 needles and one strand of main color, cast on 60 stitches.
- Knit 9 rows (garter stitch)
- Turning Row: Purl across
- Beginning with a knit row, work next 80 rows in St. Stitch (K on RS, P on WS) ending with WS facing

Bottom

- Knit 18 rows (garter stitch) BACK Beginning with a knit row, work next 80 rows in St. Stitch (K on RS, P on WS) ending with WS facing
- Turning Row: Purl across
- Knit 8 rows (garter stitch)
- Bind off all stitches.

Strap

- Using size 9 needles and one strand of main color, cast on 16 stitches.
- Knit 288 rows (approx. 60 inches)
- Bind off all stitches.

Front Pocket(S)

- Using size 9 needles and one strand of main color, cast on 54 stitches.
- Purl one row
- Next Row: Knit to last 4 stitches, ssk, knit 2
- Purl 1 row
- Knit 1 row
- Purl 1 row
- Knit to last 4 stitches, ssk, knit 2
- Continue in this manner, working 12 more decreases with 3 rows of Stockinette stitch between every two decreases. 40 stitches.
- Continue even in Stockinette stitch until pocket is as wide as bag (approx. 16 inches), ending with RS facing.
- Turning Row: Purl across
- Next Row: (what used to be your RS is now the WS)
- Knit 1 row
- Purl 1 row
- Knit 2, K2tog, K across

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- Purl 1 row
- Knit 1 row
- Purl 1 row
- Knit 2, K2tog, K across
- Continue in this manner, working 12 more decreases with 3 rows of Stockinette stitch between every two decreases. 26 stitches.
- Continue in Stockinette stitch until pocket is as wide as bag (approx. 16 inches) Bind off all stitches.
- You should have a long triangle that begins with RS facing at the widest point, switching to WS facing in the middle. The longest edge is not a continuous slope, but it is close. See picture for clarification on how the switch should look (still on needles).

Finishing

- Beginning at bottom corner of strap and bottom front of bag, use the crochet hook, one strand of yarn and single crochet to join the strap and bag, going up the front, bringing the two garter stitch top edges together while attaching them to the strap at the same time, then continue down the back and across the bottom. Repeat for other side.
- Now comes the tricky part: Beginning at the narrow end of the pocket, work single crochet along the slanted (decrease) edge all the way to the widest edge, pin folded pocket in place, then begin attaching pocket to bag by continuing down the sides, across the bottom, and then back up the sides.

Felting

- Place bag inside a zippered pillow case into a machine, hot water cycle and with 2 tablespoons of detergent, with some jeans or towels for agitation.
- My bag took less than one wash cycle, but check yours frequently and be sure to pull it out before the spin cycle to avoid unsightly creases. Shape by pulling gently on edges (my main pocket was higher in back every time), stuff with plastic bags and set aside to dry (may take up to two days) Enjoy!

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