

FELTED WOOL HANDBAG - MEDIUM

Pattern design: One Of A Kind Canadian Design
Visit our website: www.oneofakindcanadiandesign.com

Skill Level: Easy

Stitch Pattern: Rib Stitch (2 x 2), Stockinette stitch, Reverse stockinette stitch and Garter stitch.

Dimensions: 13" wide x 9" high – 2" wide before Felting, after felting 12" wide x 8" inches high

Needles: 7 mm

Materials: Three - 100 gram (110 meters) balls of Gjestal Naturgarn – one color or mixed. One ball of Luxury Mohair to give the bag a fuzzy look when felted.

Handbag Body

Cast on 40 stitches in whichever color you want to have for the bag opening.

Section 1: Work in 2 x 2 rib (knit 2, purl 2) for 2 inches.

Section 2: Change to another color and work in Stockinette (knit one row, purl one row) for 2 inches, then work two rows of reverse stockinette. Repeat Section 2 six times, changing colors for each section, and adding a strand of mohair with the wool as desired.

Repeat Section 1. Bind off all stitches. (You will have seven sections of stockinette stitch separated by 5 bands of purl stitch. The fourth section will be the purse flat bottom. The top of the purse will be the ribbed section).

Handbag Strap – Garter Stitch

Cast on 10 Stitches

Row 1: (wrong side): Knit all stitches

Row 2: (right side): Knit all stitches

Repeat Rows 1 and 2 until strap measures 50 inches

Bind off all stitches.

Attaching Strap – Use tapestry needle and spare yarn to sew strap to purse bottom and sides. Start by pinning one strap end to bottom purse, matching strap to the fourth section of stockinette stitch between purled bands. Sew seam keeping right sides together. Continue sewing strap side to front and back sides of purse keeping seam to inside of purse. Weave in all ends, block.

Felting - Put your handbag inside a zippered pillow protector to prevent any fibre from getting loose inside your washing machine. Set washing machine to a long cycle (at least 10 to 15 minutes) on the hottest wash, cool rinse, low amount of water. Add 1 tbsp of wool-lite type soap. To assist in agitation add a pair of jeans to the machine as well. Check the progress every few minutes; some yarns felt almost immediately, while others will need two or three trips through the wash cycle. When the bag is felted to the desired thickness and size, remove it from the machine and gently rinse it in tepid water. Roll it in a towel to squeeze out the excess water. Finally, mold the item into shape, set it aside and allow to dry completely.

Finishing: Determine which side of bag you want as the front and sew a decorative button or two in the center about one or two inches down from top. Make ties by braiding lengths of left over yarn together. Attach to top centre of bag on back side, and bring across to other side of bag to loop around button.



Before Felting and Finishing



After Felting – Finished Bag

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy and completeness of these instructions. We cannot be responsible, however, for variances in individual techniques, human errors or typographical mistakes.