

CROCHET LACE CLUTCH

By Haley Pierson-Cox

» When my husband was nominated for an Emmy, I decided to make my own outfit to wear to the awards ceremony — right down to the handbag. I hadn't ever made a handbag before, but I thought a lace clutch would look really nice with my vintage-style dress. With the help of the lovely Malvina from Purl Soho, I picked up a skein of linen copper-colored lace-weight yarn and some wooden handles, and got to work.

The finished bag is a very simple shell lace. I didn't use a specific pattern — I just made my chain twice as wide as my handles and crocheted in the round, using a shell stitch. If you'd like to make your own, I've included a bonus mini-pattern here.

Pattern

Chain in a multiple of 7 (I chained 84) to your desired length, and connect the ends with a slip stitch.

Rnd 1: Single crochet into each chain, connecting the end with a slip stitch into the first single crochet.

Rnd 2: Chain three, then double crochet five times into the same stitch (counts as one six stitch shell). *Skip 3 stitches, single crochet, skip 3 more stitches, then shell six double crochet stitches into the next stitch. Repeat from * until you reach the end of a row, then connect with a slip stitch into the third chain of the first shell.

Rnd 3 to end: Repeat row 2 until you reach desired size, then fasten off.

To close the bottom of the bag, turn your project inside out, then single crochet along the bottom to connect the two sides, making a seam. Fasten off when you're done, then line the bag and add some handles.



MATERIALS

- » **1 skein lace-weight yarn.** I used linen.
- » **Crochet hook.** I used a 5mm hook so the lace would have an airy look.
- » **1 pair of wooden handles**
- » **Fabric for lining.** Half a yard should be more than enough, unless you're making a huge bag.
- » **Needle and thread** for stitching the lining into the bag.
- » **Large hand-sewing needle** for attaching the handles with yarn.