



The Isabeau Purse. © Sylvie Damey – 2005. <http://www.chezplum.com>

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Materials:

"Cotonina" by Miss Helen (60% cotton, 40% acrylic, 50g = 110m/120 yds), in beige, 1 skein

Suggested substitutes: "Wellness" by Gedifra, "All seasons cotton" by Rowan

Knitting Needles: US8 (5mm) (+ optional: US 6 (4 mm) circulars to pick up stitches.)

H/8 crochet hook

Darning needle 1 mid size button Leftover lining fabric + matching sewing thread.

Level of difficulty: easy challenge

Gauge: 18 stitches and 21 rows to 4"/10cm over stockinette st. on US 8 (5mm) needles.

Stitch Instructions:

Lace pattern: Right side rows: k1, yo, k2, k2tog, skp, k2, yo / Wrong side rows: Purl.

st=stitch

CO= cast on

BO= bind off

skp= slip one stitch, knit one stitch, pass slipped stitch over

Inc1= k and p into the same stitch

yo= yarn over

k2tog= knit 2 stitches together

RS= right side of work

WS= wrong side of work

LR = one repeat of the lace pattern (=* k1, yo, k2, k2tog, skp, k2, yo*)

Garner stitch= knit every row

Single crochet= Insert hook into an edge stitch, yarn over hook and draw a loop through stitch, yarn over hook and draw it through both loops on hook

Slip Stitch (crochet)= Insert hook into stitch, yarn over hook and draw loop through stitch and loop on hook.

Slip stitch crochet seam= Make a slipknot and place it on a crochet hook. *Insert hook through both pieces of fabric one stitch in from selvedge, wrap yarn around hook to make a loop, pull this loop back through the fabric and through loop already on the hook. Repeat from *.

Seed stitch= on an even nb of stitches: RS=*k, p*; WS=*p, k* / on an odd nb of stitches: *k, p*, k on all rows

Instructions:

Body of the bag

Cast on 30 St on US 8 (5 mm) needles.

Row 1 to 4: k

Row 5 (RS): k1, * 3LR*, k2

Row 6 (WS): p

Repeat rows 5 & 6 until row 21 (right side row)

Row 22 to 26: k. (ending with wrong side row)

Next, work 16 rows in seed stitch, (ending with wrong side row)

Then 4 rows of garter stitch (ending with wrong side row)

Next, work 17 rows in lace pattern: k1, * 3LR*, k2 the RS rows; purl WS rows (ending with a RS row)

End with 4 rows of garter stitch.

Bind Off.

Sides of bag (make 2)

when picking up stitches, always start working with right side up/facing you.

Pick up 15 st. alongside the seed stitch rectangle section (which will be the bottom of purse).

Row 1 to 4: k (row 1 is a right side row.)

Rows 5 to 21: work in seed stitch, decreasing 1 st. at each end of (RS) rows 7, 9, 11, 13, 15 . You now have 5 st.

Row 22 to 26: k.

Bind off.

Work other side of bag likewise.

Block piece. Then using bag as a template, and leaving about .5 inch (1 cm) all around as selvedge, cut lining.

Join sides of bag

Using the crochet hook, join sides of purse using single crochet making sure you work on Right Side of work (so that the "seams" will be apparent).

Purse strap

Pick up 9 st above seed stitch side sections of purse

(you'll be picking up 5 stitches on side section, plus 2 on each side so that the traction is more evenly distributed)

Start with right side of purse facing you. The strap will be knit in reverse/wrong sided stockinette st:

RS of bag=WS of strap!

Row 1: p

Row 2: k2tog, k till last 2 st., k2tog

Continue as established on those 7 st. in "reverse stockinette" until the strap is 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ " (17 cm) long, ending with a strap-RS row.

Next row (WS): inc1, k5, inc1 You now have 9 st.

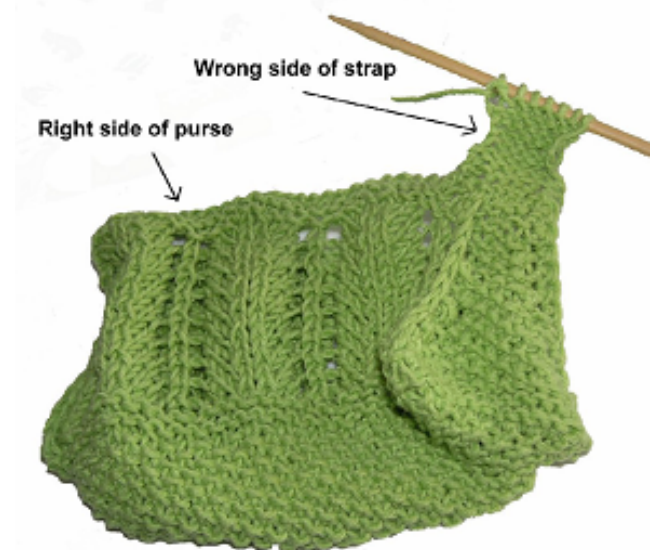
Next row (RS): p

Bind off. Do not cut yarn.

Join end of strap to opposite side of bag with crochet hook using slip st crochet seam. Do not cut yarn. Still with the crochet hook, go up the strap about $\frac{3}{4}$ " (1 cm) using slip st.

Then join sides of strap using single crochet making sure the RIGHT SIDE of stockinette stitch will be outside/visible. Stop

about $\frac{3}{4}$ " (1 cm) before end of strap. Bind off.



Buttonhole strap

Pick up 8 st. just above the 8 middle st. of the middle lace pattern repeat. Start with right side of purse facing you.

Row 1: k (RS)

Row 2: k2, p4, k2

Repeat those 2 rows twice, ending with row 6, a wrong side row.

Row 7: k3, BO2, k3

Row 8: k2, p1, CO2 (purl those 2 st), p1, k2

Row 9 (RS): k2tog, k4, k2tog

Row 10: k2tog, p2, k2tog

Row 11: k2tog, k2tog.

Bind off.

Finishing

Weave in all ends. Block.

Assemble lining, put in place inside purse and sew in place. Sew button on opposite side of closure strap.

And now you're ready to show off your new purse!

NB : You'll find a tutorial for the single crochet seam at <http://www.chezplum.com>, as well as a pattern for larger tote and handbag versions of this purse.

