Vardhmān™
Knitting Yarn

FREE PATTERN
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Esmeralda Bag

Esmeralda bag ***

A feminine, drum-shaped handbag to glam up your evening outfit.

MATERIALS

- Jersey yarn (medium thickness): ¼ of a ball each of royal blue, fuchsia, light grey and red
- N/15 (10mm) crochet hook
- size 17 (12mm) knitting needles
- Embroidery needle
- Bamboo handles
- Polyester interfacing: 20 x 45cm (8 x 18in)
- Sewing thread

TECHNIQUE USED

Crochet and knitting

STITCHES USED

- Double crochet (dc)/ UK treble (tr)
- Slip stitch (sist)
- Chain stitch (ch)
- Single crochet (sc)/ UK double crochet (dc)
- Crossed stitch

THE MAIN PANEL

Knitted in crossed stitch, with royal blue yarn for the background and red for the crosses.

1. Cast on 39 sts on your knitting needle.
2. Knit crossed stitch for 20 rows (see page 15). Note that the stitch begins on the wrong side of the work. As the pattern repeats every 8 rows, you get two and a half pattern repeats.
3. Row 21: purl.
Cast off the stitches and cut the yarn.
4. Make the border: using the red yarn and your crochet hook, work a row of sc (UKdc) around the panel, working 3 sc (UKdc) into each of the corner stitches to form neat right-angles.
5. With the fuchsia yarn: work a second row of sc (UKdc), working 3 sc (UKdc) into the corners.
6. Using a cloth, flatten and shape the panel with a hot iron. You should have a panel of around 20 x 45cm (8 x 18in) inside the borders.
7. Using invisible stitches, sew the piece of interfacing onto the back of the panel, making sure you don't overlap onto the crocheted border.

THE OPENING

1. Fold the panel, wrong sides facing, to form a cylinder.
2. Join the ends of the short sides of the panel: from each corner, using fuchsia yarn, work 5 sc (UKdc), taking the border on either side into the row. Cut and fasten off the yarn. The free stitches in the middle are where the handles will be.

Preferred Yarn to use from Vardhman Knitting Yarn:

Cotton Plus , Magnus, Cotton Crush