



Pattern name: Autumn Splendor
by Cheryl Kemp

This handbag is easy and quick...just what every knitter wants when making holiday gifts.

Photo credit: Cheryl Kemp

SIZE
One size

FINISHED MEASUREMENTS

Pre felting:

Length: 25 inches
Width: 5.5 inches
Height: 11 inches

Post felting (will vary with yarn and length of wash):

Length: 15 inches
Width: 5 inches
Height: 5 inches

MATERIALS

[MC] Cascade Pastaza [50% Llama 50% wool 132 yards per 100 gram skein]; color: dark red 065 [1] skein
[CC] Cascade Pastaza [50% Llama 50% wool 132 yards per 100 gram skein]; color: tan 004 [1] skein
[CC] Cascade Pastaza [50% Llama 50% wool 132 yards per 100 gram skein]; color: orange 061 [1] skein

1 24 inch US #15/10mm circular needle

OR

Any worsted weight 100% wool yarn and needles to obtain gauge.

Notions required: stitch markers of different colors, scissors, yarn needle, rubber band

Optional: button or clasp, medium sized crochet needle, velcro

GAUGE

12/20 = 4" in garter stitch

12/14 = 4" in stockinette stitch



PATTERN NOTES

Since the item will be felted, there is no need to end and weave in the ends when changing to a different color yarn. Leave the yarn attached and begin the new color. When you need the other color again, just carry the yarn to the inside and begin knitting.



PATTERN

Bag: With CC1, CO 65. Work 26 rows.

Pick up 25 st on each short side of the rectangle and 65 st on the long sides. (total of 180 st)

Place white marker, and begin working in the round. Place a different color marker after 65 st, 90 st, and 155 st (the markers are used as a guide to decrease around the corners).

Work 3 rows. On the 4th row, K2T *work until 2 before marker, SSK, K2T* repeat twice more, work until 2 before marker, SSK. (172 st)

With CC2 work 6 rows. On the 7th row, K2T *work until 2 before marker, SSK, K2T* repeat twice more, work until 2 before marker, SSK. (164 st)

With MC, 7 rows

With CC1 work 1 row. On the 2nd row, K2T *work until 2 before marker, SSK, K2T* repeat twice more, work until 2 before marker, SSK. (156 st)

With CC2 work 5 rows.

With MC work 5 rows. On the 6th row, K2T *work until 2 before marker, SSK, K2T* repeat twice more, work until 2 before marker, SSK. (148 st)

Using CC2 work 3 rows

Using CC1 work 2 rows

Using MC work 3 rows, BO.



Strap: Using MC, CO 10. Work in garter stitch until the strap is 27 inches long. BO.

Attach Strap: Find the center of the short side of the bag. Place the end of the strap so that it meets the CC2 stripe near the top (6th-8th row from the top), aligning the center of the strap with the center of the side. Using

CC2, sew the strap to the bag using the same color stripe and the BO edge to hide the stitches. No need to be too precise though, as this part will be hidden after felting. Repeat to attach the other end of the strap to the opposite side. Take the corners on either



side of the strap and hold them together, creating a fold in the short side of the bag. The strap will fold in half along with the fold on the side. Again using coordinating yarn, sew the sides of the bag together. There will be 4 layers sewn together using the BO edge to hide the stitches. Work until the end of the fold then work back to beginning. Hide the yarn end inside the bag and/or fold. Repeat for the other side. Whip stitch the long sides of the strap together to form a tube.

Place bag inside a pillow case and close the end using a rubber band. Place the pillow case in the washer with some or old sneakers or very dark jeans. Sometimes dye from the yarn will come out in the wash, so be careful about what you choose to put in with the bag. Start a hot water, regular cycle. Check the bag approximately every 5 minutes, especially if you use this yarn. It the Cascade Pastaza felts VERY quickly. Do not allow the washer to begin the spin cycle.

FINISHING

Leave the bag fuzzy or trim to desired look is achieved. If desired, cut pieces of sturdy cardboard to line the bottom and sides of the bag.

Closing the bag: Crochet a chain 8" long. Attach it to the inside of the bag on one side and attach a cool button on the other side. Wrap to close. Velcro or a zipper could also be used as a closure.