

Sweet Summer Crochet Handbag

Bergere de France for AllFreeCrochet.com

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"Free Crochet Patterns For Happy Hooking"

The Sweet Summer Crochet Handbag combines three basic stitch patterns with seamless transitions and bright, lightweight yarn to create the perfect tote for sunny days.

Inspired by sandy beaches and vibrant tropical fruit, this charming crochet bag is just the right size for all your warm-weather adventures. Best of all, it's fully lined to help keep your summertime essentials secure, making it as practical as it is beautiful.

Crochet Hook: H/8 or 5 mm hook

Yarn Weight: (3) Light/DK (21-24 stitches to 4 inches)

Materials List:

- Bergere de France Bergereine yarn (50% wool, 50% cotton; 104 yards/95 meters/50 grams): 5 balls in Pyramid (A), 1 ball in Framboise (B), 1 ball in Granny (C) - available from

Yarn Substitute Note: *Bergere de France Bergereine has been discontinued. Choose a DK (#3) yarn with approximately 95–110 yards (87–100 m) per 50 g ball. Cotton/wool blends provide the closest match, but cotton-rich DK yarns will also work well. Be sure to check your gauge before beginning.*

- US size H/8 (5.0 mm) hook
- 1 wood toggle button



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- 1 sheet of rigid plastic (such as plastic canvas or a purse base insert), cut to fit the bottom of the bag (*This is used as a hidden insert inside the base of the bag to provide structure and prevent the bottom from sagging*)

Instructions

Bottom of the Bag

1. Using 2 strands of color A held together, make a foundation chain of 40 ch. Then:
2. **Rnd 1:** In 2nd ch, work 1 sc (uk: dc), 1 ch and 1 sc (uk: dc) ; then 1 sc (uk: dc) in each of the next 37 ch sts, in the last ch work 1 sc (uk: dc), 1 ch, 1 sc (uk: dc), 1 ch and 1 sc (uk: dc); then, cont at the other end of the foundation ch and work 1 sc (uk: dc) in each of the next 37 ch sts, 1 sc (uk: dc) in last ch, 1 ch. Close round with 1 sl st to 1st sc (uk: dc) at beg of round. (84 sts)
3. Then, from 2nd to 5th round, work in the back loop only of each st.
4. **Rnd 2:** 1 ch, 1 sc (uk: dc) in 1st st, 1 ch, 1 sc (uk: dc) in each of the next 41 sts, 1 ch, 1 sc (uk: dc) in next st, 1 ch, 1 sc (uk: dc) in each of the next 41 sts, 1 ch. Close round with 1 sl st to 1st sc (uk: dc) at beg of round. (88 sts)
5. **Rnd 3:** 1 ch, 1 sc (uk: dc) in 1st st, 1 ch, 1 sc (uk: dc) in each of the next 43 sts, 1 ch, 1 sc (uk: dc) in next st, 1 ch, 1 sc (uk: dc) in each of the next 43 sts, 1 ch. Close round with 1 sl st to 1st sc (uk: dc) at beg of round. (92 sts)
6. **Rnd 4:** 1 ch, 1 sc (uk: dc) in 1st st, 1 ch, 1 sc (uk: dc) in each of the next 45 sts, 1 ch, 1 sc (uk: dc) in next st, 1 ch, 1 sc (uk: dc) in each of the next 45 sts, 1 ch. Close round with 1 sl st to 1st sc (uk: dc) at beg of round. (96 sts)
7. **Rnd 5:** 1 ch, 1 sc (uk: dc) in 1st st, 1 ch, 1 sc (uk: dc) in each of the next 47 sts, 1 ch, 1 sc (uk: dc) in next st, 1 ch, 1 sc (uk: dc) in each of the next 47 sts, 1 ch. Close round with 1 sl st to 1st sc (uk: dc) at beg of round. (100 sts)

Sides of the Bag

1. Starting on next round and until 6th round, the 1st dc (uk: tr) will be replaced by 2 ch sts.
2. **Rnd 1:** 1 shell in 1st st, skip 2 sts, 1 shell in next st, skip 2 sts, 1 shell in next st, * skip 4 sts, 1 shell in next st *, work 8 times from * to *, skip 2 sts, 1 shell in next st, skip 2 sts, 1 shell in next st, skip 2 sts, 1 shell in next st, skip 2 sts, 1 shell in next st, * skip 4

sts, 1 shell in next st *, work 8 times from * to *, skip 2 sts, 1 shell in next st. Close round with 1 sl st to 2nd ch at beg of round. (24 shells)

3. **Rnds 2 to 6:** 1 sl st in next dc (uk: tr), in the ch-1 space work 1 sl st and 1 shell. Then, 1 shell in the ch-space of each foll shell. Close round with 1 sl st to 2nd ch at beg of round.
4. **Rnd 7:** 1 sl st in next dc (uk: tr), in the ch-1 space work 1 sl st, 3 ch (replaces the 1st dc (uk: tr) and the ch-1 space), 1 dc (uk: tr), 1 shell in the ch-space of each of the next 11 shells, in the ch-space of next shell, work 1 dc (uk: tr), 1 ch and 1 dc (uk: tr), 1 shell in the ch-space of each of the next 11 shells. Close round with 1 sl st to 2nd ch at beg of round.
5. **Rnd 8:** 1 sl st in next dc (uk: tr), in the ch-1 space work 1 sl st, then 2 ch, 1 shell in the ch-space of each of the next 11 shells, 1 dc (uk: tr) in next ch-1 space, 1 shell in the ch-space of each of the next 11 shells. Close round with 1 sl st to 2nd ch at beg of round.
6. **Rnd 9:** 1 sl st in each of the next 2 sts, in the ch-1 space work 1 sl st, 2 ch, 1 dc (uk: tr), 1 ch and 2 dc (uk: tr), 1 shell in the ch-space of each of the next shells. Close round with 1 sl st to 2nd ch at beg of round.
7. **Rnd 10:** In the ch-1 space work 1 sl st, 2 ch, 1 dc (uk: tr), 1 ch and 2 dc (uk: tr) (= the 1st shell), then, 1 shell in the ch-space of each foll shell. Close round with 1 sl st to 2nd ch at beg of round. (22 shells)
8. **Rnds 11 & 12:** 1 sl st in next dc (uk: tr), then work as for Round 10.

The Trim and Handles

1. **Rnds 13 & 14:** Using 2 strands color B held together rep Round 11.
2. **Rnd 15:** Using 2 strands color C held together rep Round 13.
3. **Rnd 16:** Using 2 strands color C held together 1 ch, 1 hdc (uk: hlf tr) in every foll st (110 hdc (uk: hlf tr))
4. Cont using 2 strands colour A as foll:
5. **Rnd 17:** 1 ch, then 1 sc (uk: dc) in each st (110 sc (uk: dc))
6. **Rnd 18:** 1 ch, 1 sc (uk: dc) in each of the first 15 sts, 25 ch, skip 25 sts for 1st opening (handle), 1 sc (uk: dc) in each of the next 30 sts, 25 ch, skip 25 sts for 2nd opening, 1 sc (uk: dc) in each of the last 15 sts.

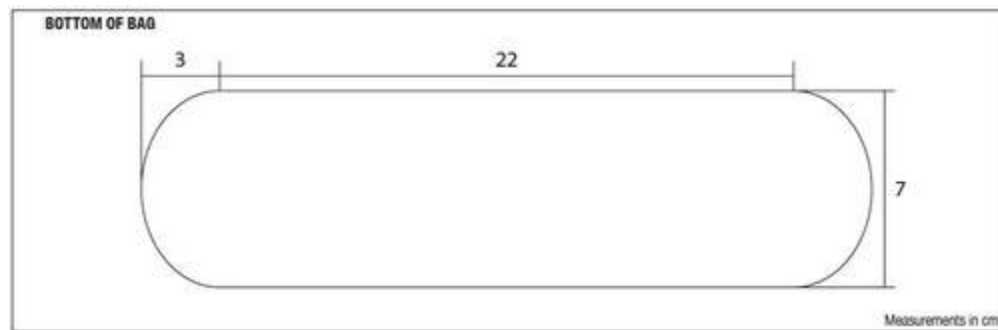
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- Rnds 19 to 21:** 1 ch, then 1 hdc (uk: hlf tr) in each st (110 hdc (uk: hlf tr))
Fasten off at the end of Round 21.

Finishing

- Closure Tie:** Using 2 strands color A, make a foundation chain of 25 ch sts, then work 1 sc (uk: dc) in 7ème ch and in each foll ch. Fasten off.
- To reinforce the bottom of bag, use [template](#) below. Enlarge it to 200% and copy it onto sheet of rigid plastic. Cut outlines of template. To reinforce sides of bag, trace 2 rectangles measuring each 40 cm x 30 cm (15¾ in x 12 in) on sheet of rigid plastic. Cut those rectangles.



- Preparing the liner:** To make it easier to sew pieces tog, punch evenly spaced holes ahead with a needle in the plastic liner.
Place bottom liner inside bag and sew in place.
Place a rectangle liner next to each side inside of bag, so that it is centered and located 2 cm (¾ in) under the handle opening. Sew in place.
Attach the closure tie so that it is centered on lower edge of first opening (see picture).
Attach button to other side of bag.