

This simple & versatile string bag will take you from market shopping to the beach.

The pattern has easy to change options for small or larger bags, as well as this perfect 'middle' size.

Options include two handles for over your shoulder or carrying in your hands, or one strap for over your shoulder. Scrunches up to fit in your handbag so you always have a plastic-free shopping bag when on the go.

Suitable for beginner.

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ABBREVIATIONS:

UK / International terminology

sl = slip stitch

tr = treble crochet

ch = chain

dc = double crochet

* = repeat

YOU'LL NEED

100-200 g ball cotton, string, linen, twine crochet hook size 4-8

METHOD:

Row 1: Ch 5, join circle with sl st

Row 2: Ch 3, 14x tr into circle, st st to join

Row 3: Ch 3, tr into first st, 2x tr into every st,

join with sl st

Row 4: *Ch 4 & sl st* into each tr from previous row

Row 5: *Ch 6 & sl st* into each loop from previous row

Row 6-11: repeat Row 5 (you'll have 7 rows of loops)

Row 12: Ch3, 2x tr into first loop, 3x tr into each

loop, sl st to join.

Row 13: *Ch 8 & sl st* into every second tr from

previous row, join sl st into first 8ch loop.

Row 14 - 15: *Ch 8 & sl st* into every loop, join sl st

Row 16:*Ch 4 & sl st* into every loop, join sl st

Row 17: *Ch 2 & sl st* into every loop, join sl st

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METHOD CON'T:

Row 18: Ch 3, 1tr into first loop, then 2x tr into each loop, join sl st

Row 19: Ch 1, 1dc into first loop, then 2 xdc into every tr from prevcious row, join sl st
Row 20 -23: Ch 1, dc into every st, join sl st

HANDLES: Ch 40 - 100 depending on how short or long you want the handles, 60ch is ideal. Skip 15 stitches (on bag round diameter), sl st into dc to join handle to bag body, then 1 dc into each of the next 25 stitches*, ch 40-100, skip 15 stitches, sl st to join. You've created two handles.

Continue dc into each st in the circle, stitching onto the handles and bag body sides. Continue 3 more rows (or more if you want your handles thicker). Join sl st at the end and weave in tail.

* depending on how many stitches your final circle has will depend on how many stitches between the handles, measure approx half to make the handles fit neatly.

Mine was 25 between each handle and 15 inside the handles.

The smaller bag option (below) will have a smaller opening, and less stitches — so there will be fewer stitch spaces between straps.

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OPTIONS:

BIGGER BAG:

If you want your bag to be bigger (taller) options are: skip Row 12, and simply continue crocheting chain loops into chain loops, until it's as big as you like, then begin to decrease & finish as from Row 16.

SMALLER BAG:

At row 6, don't repeat 5 times - repeat only 1-2 times. At row 13, sl st into every third (not every second) tr; this creates a smaller opening at the top and means your handle dimensions will also change slightly.

Make the handle chain smaller - perhaps 35-40 chain stitches per handle.

ONE HANDLE:

If you want only one handle simply chain from each opposite end rather than across from each other as for two handles, and fill the dc between the handles as well as around the top of the strap.

JOIN MY CROCHET-A-LONG ON INSTAGRAM:

Follow along @petalplum in my story highlights - and we'll go row by row through making the bag.

Please share your makings on Instagram #petalplummakers

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