

Farmer's Market Tote

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Construction: This knit tote features a solid base and stretchy lace sides. You begin with a diagonal base knit back and forth before switching to knitting in the round to make the sides, top, and handles. This means minimal ends to weave in and no seams to sew.

Skill level: Intermediate

Skills needed: Knitting and purling in the round, kfb and m1 increases, k2tog and ssk decreases, picking up stitches, yarn overs.

Height: 15"

Length: 12"

Width: 5"

Gauge: 24 stitches and 48 rows per 4-inches in garter stitch on US 5 (3.75 mm)

Materials:

US 5 (3.75 mm) 16" circular needle.

US 9 (5.5 mm) 20" circular needle.

375 yards DK weight cotton or cotton-blend yarn. Samples shown use Lion Brand Comfy Cotton (50% cotton, 50% acrylic), 392 yards/ 200 g in the Whipped Cream and Silver Lining.

One stitch marker. Optional: 3 contrasting stitch markers.

Yarn needle.

Scissors.

Abbreviations:

BO: Bind off

CDD: Center double decrease

CO: Cast on

k: knit

k2tog: knit two together

kfb: knit front and back

m1: make one stitch

p: purl

ssk: slip, slip, knit

sts: stitches

rnd(s): round(s)

yo: yarn over

Notes:

Optional: When picking up stitches to begin working in the round, use the contrasting stitch markers to mark the sections of your stitches to keep track of how many you've picked up.



Instructions:

Bag Base:

CO 3 stitches.

Row 1: kfb, k1, kfb.

Row 2: knit all sts.

Place a stitch marker to mark the beginning of row 3 and continue.

Row 3: k2, m1, knit to end of row.

Row 4: k2, m1, knit to end of row.

Repeat rows 3-4 nineteen times (45 stitches).

Row 5: k2, m1, knit to end of row.

Row 6: k2, ssk, knit to end of row..

Repeat rows 5-6 until long edge of piece is 12" (approximately 25 two-row repeats)

Row 7: k2, ssk, knit to end of row.

Row 8: k2, ssk, knit to end of row.

Repeat rows 7-8 nineteen times (7 stitches remain).

Row 9: k2, CDD, k2

Row 10: knit all sts.

Row 11: k1, CDD, k1

Row 12: CDD (1 stitch remaining). Do not turn your work.

The stitch remaining after completing row 12 becomes the first stitch of the round you'll knit after picking up stitches. With that stitch on the right needle, pick up and knit 134 stitches around the knit base beginning with the short edge to the left of the stitch on your needle. (135 stitches total).



Bag Sides:

Begin working in the round:

Rnd 1: purl all sts.

Rnd 2: knit all sts.

Repeat rounds 1 and 2 seven more times (16 rounds worked).

Switch to larger needles (US 9, 5.5 mm) and continue:

Rnd 3: *k1, p1, k2, p1; repeat from * to end of rnd.

Rnd 4: *k1, p1, k2tog, yo, p1, repeat from * to end of rnd.

Rnd 5: *k1, p1, k2, p1; repeat from * to end of rnd.

Rnd 6: *k1, p1, yo, ssk, p1; repeat from * to end of rnd.

Repeat rnds 3-6 eleven more times (12 repeats; bag measures 13 1/2" from stitches picked up along base).

Repeat rnd 3 once more.

Top of Bag & Handles:

Switch to smaller needles and continue:

Rnd 7: knit all sts.

Rnd 8: purl all sts.

Repeat ends 7-8 twice more (three repeats completed).

Create Handles:

Rnd 9: k30, BO 30, 37, BO 30, k8.

Rnd 10: p30, CO30, p37, CO30, p8.

Rnd 11: knit all stitches

Rnd 12: purl all stitches

Repeat rnds 11-12 three times (four repeats completed).

BO all stitches. Weave in remaining ends.
Block bag.