

SOAP SCRUNCHIE

For Laura Ingalls Wilder—waste not, want not

by Heather Ordover



DIFFICULTY

Moderate

SKILLS

- A lack of fear
- Ability to identify a knit stitch from the front and back; a purl stitch from the front and back

SIZE

Whatever you end up with is going to be great

GAUGE

truly unimportant

YARN

[Elsebeth Lavold Hempthy](#)

NEEDLES

1 set(s) US #4 /3.5mm straight needles
similar sized crochet hook or DPNs for making cord

This was a quick-to-knit Christmas present that got about four bags to the yarn ball. Very economical in more ways than one.

PATTERN NOTE

Double knitting:

Row 1: K1, sl 1 wyif across.

Row 2: K1, sl 1 wyif across.

That's it.

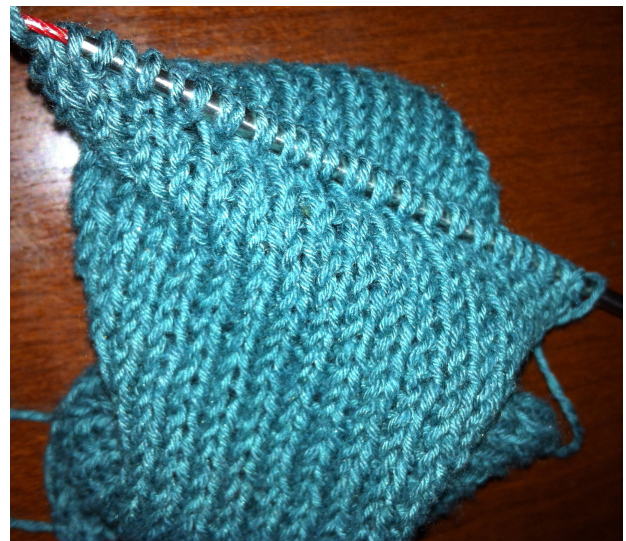
The slipped stitches will look like purl stitches from the front on either side. If you think of Knit Stitches as being Right Side stitches and the slipped/purl-looking stitches as being Wrong Side stitches, then you'll see that you're knitting one side of the fabric while ignoring the other side. By slipping with the yarn in front, you're effectively keeping the unused yarn in the "inside" of the bag you're making.



What if you make a mistake?

You can check yourself by pulling the two sides away from each other (see right) after about five rows/rounds (knitting/slipping one side, then knitting/slipping the other side is really knitting one round). If the sides pull away freely, then you've done it right.

If there's a snag somewhere and the sides cannot pull away freely, then do your best to identify where the snag is, release those stitches from your needles and carefully drop those stitches down to where you need to make the correction (use a small crochet hook), then pick the stitches back up on either side to re-knit.



I had to do this around row 10 on my first bag and was surprised how easy it was to fix an error on row 4.

PATTERN BEGINS

Cast on 36 Stitches

Bag Rounds 1–36 — double knit* for as long as your soap is long, then add three rounds.
*Done entirely in double knitting**

Cuff Rounds 37 — (or next round, depending on your soap length) slip stitches onto two circs or 3-4 DPNs as follows—slip knit st onto one needle, sl next purl st onto second needle, slip next knit st onto first needle, slip next purl st onto second needle, etc. You are separating the sides when you do this.
Now go back to the working yarn and proceed as follows for one round: yo, k2tog around to create a round of eyelets through which you'll string a cord to close the bag.
— Knit 4 more rounds plain.

Bind off — Stretchy bind off: k2, slip first stitch over second stitch to bind off, then slip the stitch that remains on right needle **BACK TO THE LEFT NEEDLE**; repeat around.
— Weave in ends.

Finishing — Crochet a cord in same or contrasting yarn, long enough to thread through eyelets.
OR make a thin I-Cord for same purpose.
— Turn inside out (bumps out for scrubbiness), thread cord through eyelets, insert soap, tie off.

ABOUT THE DESIGNER

Heather Ordovery — Host of [CraftLit](#), editor of the *What Would Madame Defarge Knit?* series, mother of boys, teacher of things.



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