



Summer Mini Bag

A Free Pattern from Jenna Wingate

A quick and fun little purse perfect for summer. Holds money, debit card, phone, keys, or other essentials.

Skill Level: Easy

American Crochet Terms

Size: 8" tall x 4" wide

Gauge: 3 waves wide x 8 rows = 4"x4"

Note: This is a tight enough gauge that the bag should not require lining. Unless you carry toothpicks around, in which case you may lose your toothpicks.

Materials:

DK cotton (150yd/137m) in desired color(s)
(I used Bernat Cottonish in 7 shades for a rainbow effect. Cottonish is a lovely soft cotton/acrylic blend)

E/4 3.50mm Crochet Hook

Tapestry Needle

Measuring Tape (optional)

Pencil (for twisted cord)

Stitches Used:

Ch – chain

Sc – single crochet

Hdc – half double crochet

Dc – double crochet

Slst – slip stitch

FO – finish off

Special Stitch:

Scskdec - single crochet skip decrease-
Sc2tog over 3 stitches by skipping the center stitch

For Rainbow Sequence:

Rows 1-4: purple

5-7: blue

8-10: aqua

11-13: green

14-16: yellow

17-19: orange

20-24 + strap: red

Diagram:

If you are having trouble knowing where to begin each new round, there is a stitch diagram on the last page of the pattern. Note that to reach the hdc for the first round 2, you will need to slst over more stitches than any of the subsequent rows.

Pattern:

Base Chain

Leaving a very long beginning tail, make a slip knot on your hook. Holding the tail with the working yarn and working double stranded, ch23. Drop the tail and ch1 single stranded as your turning chain. (24ch)

Note: Be sure to catch both strands when working into the chain for added strength.

Note2: Mark the 1st sc of each round immediately after you make it so you will find where to join more easily.

1. 3sc in the 2nd chain from the hook. (*Hdc in the next, dc in the next 3, hdc in the next*, sc in the next 3) twice. Repeat from * to * once. 3sc in the last chain. Rotating to work along the bottom of the chain, (*Hdc in the next, dc in each of the next 3, hdc in the next*, sc in each of the next 3) twice. Repeat from * to * once. Join with a slst to the beginning sc. (3 waves on both sides of the base chain)

2. Slst over to the 1st hdc (the one right before the 3dc). Ch1 and sc in the same stitch. (*Hdc in the next, 3dc all in the next, hdc in the next, sc in the next. Scskdec over the next 3 stitches*. Sc in the next.) 5 times. Repeat from * to * once. Join with a slst to the beginning sc. (6 waves)

3. – 22. Repeat row 2.

Changing colors:

Non-repeating color pattern- FO after the join on row 2. When repeating row 2, join

with a ch1 into the hdc rather than needing to slst over to it.

Repeating color pattern (such as ABAB stripes) – Make an anchor knot when you finish with one color by pulling out a large loop and passing your ball of yarn through. Pull the knot closed right against your work. Pick up (or join) the second color and ch1 into the 1st hdc.

23. After the last join, ch2 (does not count as a stitch). Work in this sequence around: Dc, hdc, sc, slst, sc, hdc, dc in 2. You will repeat that a total of 6 times. Join with a slst to the beginning dc. Ch1. (48 stitches)

24. Sc in each stitch around. Join, FO.

Sew in all ends.

Twisted Cord Straps:

A twisted cord is made by cutting several equal lengths of yarn, anchoring one end to a solid surface (such as a thumbtack in the wall) and twisting the strands together until they want to fold up on themselves. By folding this now-twisted cord, the two halves will twist around each other making a lovely twisted braid.

***Here are some links to show you how to do this: [Video](#), [Pic Tutorial](#) . Following is my written explanation that may also help:

Decide how long you want your straps to be. I wanted my bag to hang on my hip, the strap to cross over my chest, so I needed pretty long cords.

Now you will half that and add some for knotting and some extra to hang down. Getting them TOO long is definitely better than not long enough. You can always cut off the ends or do like I did and tie them further down.

When you have an idea what the length of each cord will be, measure out (or estimate) a length about 3 times that. (Say- you want 2 straps to be 3 feet long each, add a few inches and multiply by 3. So, your base strand is going to be (36+6inches) x 3 = 120inches. Cut 4 strands at 120 inches. Fold these 4 in half (now 8 strands thick) and tie the cut ends together into an overhand knot. Anchor that end to something sturdy (I used a paperclip and clipped it to a thumbtack). Your strands are now 60 inches long- which is still long, but a lot easier to deal with.

The 'folded' end is the end you are going to twist from. Be sure all the strands are even and straight. Pull the strands out taut from the anchored end and begin twisting in one direction (clockwise, for example) and keep twisting and twisting. If you insert a pencil or other long straight object through the looped end, you can twist a lot faster.

Check to see if it is twisted tight enough by relaxing your pull from the wall some. If it begins to kink up instantly on itself, it is twisted tightly enough. Twist several more times just to be sure.

This next step is the trickiest. Match the folded end in your hand with the anchored end. Without letting go or allowing it to untwist, you need to loosen the anchored end from its hold and knot all the ends

together into a new bigger overhand knot. There is no need to untie the last knot. Either knot over it or below it with enough room to cut it off later (this is why we added more than we thought we would need).

The twisted length will now twist up on itself, making it double thick as it was (now 16 strands thick). It may not want to twist up perfectly, so you will need to help it by smoothing down the length of it until it looks neat and even. Repeat this entire thing for the second strap.

Sew the neat/folded ends to the top sides of the back with matching thread. Be sure to sew them on very well and secure the ends.

Neaten up the tasseled ends with a trim or by making a new knot and cutting if they are uneven or too long. However you need to fix them. You can now tie these two together in a square knot to make the purse hang where you want it to hang. You will be able to judge better with the bag full.





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Additional Tips:

- You can make this bag using Worsted Weight cotton and a 3.5mm hook. The finished bag will come out to about 9in x 4.5in.
- In place of the twisted cord strap, you could make a braided strap or a crocheted chain strap by hold several strands together and a larger hook.



- If you would like to add a closer to the bag, a small Velcro circle is an easy option. Alternatively, you could add a button and a chained button loop.

