TOTORO BAG



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INSTRUCTIONS

SC: Single Crochet
DC: Double crochet stitch
Half-Double: Half double crochet stitch
SC one side to another: use the SC stitch to sew two pieces together
Sl St: Slip Stitch
Sc 2tog: Single crochet two together. Insert hook in first stitch, pull up a loop. Insert hook in second stitch, pull up a loop. Yarn over and pull through all loops on hook.
Sc 3 together: Single crochet three together. Insert hook in first stitch, pull up a loop. Insert hook in second stitch, pull up a loop. Insert hook in third stitch, pull up a loop. Yarn over and pull through all loops on hook.

Lets make a cute messenger totoro bag! This bag is simple and easy to make, and includes a sewn-in lining. If you are not including a sewn lining, I recommend using single crochet, not double, to create the bag body to help it be less porous. There is also a Youtube tutorial for this purse on my channel if you need further clarification.

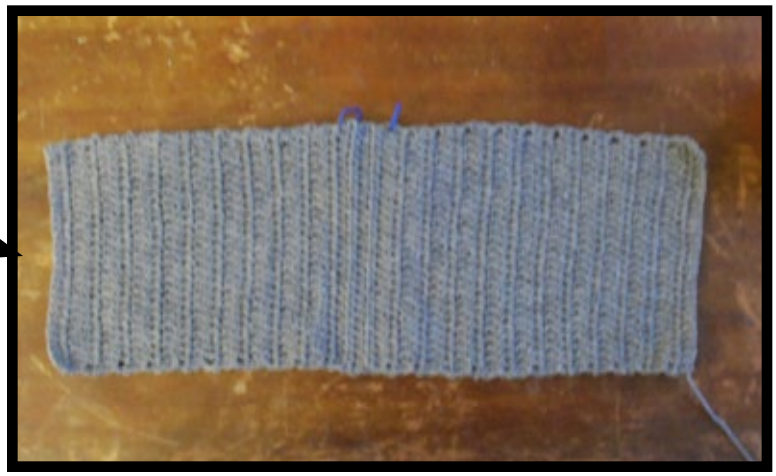
You will need:

- 300 yards of aran weight yarn in gray. I am using red heart super saver.
- 100 yards of aran weight yarn in white for belly
- a handful of black yarn for eyes
- Size 4.25mm (G/6) crochet hook
- Yarn needle for weaving in ends and embroidery
- about .5 yards of fabric for lining, and a fat quarter for your pocket
- a sewing machine with thread to match your yarn
- clear thread to make your ears stand up (they are tied to strap)
- about a day or two worth of uninterrupted time.

PATTERN

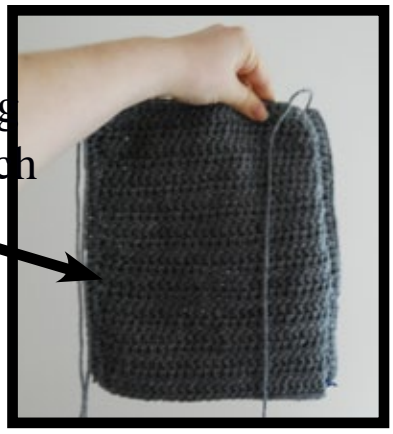
Base (bag)
Start by chaining 29 stitches.

R 1: Skip first two chains (counts as one dc) and dc into third chain from hook and all chains until end (28 dc)
R 2-29: DC all rows. Do not increase.
R 30: place marker. This marks where the bottom of the bag begins. Half double crochet all stitches (28 hdc)
R 31-35: hdc all rows
R 36: Place maker. This marks the beginning of the back part of your bag. *Between* the two markers is the bottom of your bag. DC all stitches.
R 37-64: DC all rows.



Now we will make sides of bag. The sides of the bag are the same thickness as the bottom. Starting at the top of one side of your bag, hdc down to the first marker. Chain one and turn. Repeat for 5 more rows.





Now join to other side of bag with SC stitch. Do the same to the other side. You should have a purse shape now!

Now we will make Totoro shapes to sew to the bag!

Belly (make one)
Start with a magic circle of 6. Slip stitch into first stitch.

R1: chain two (counts as first hdc) hdc into top of ch 2. Work 2 sts into each st of the previous round. sl stitch into top of chain two. (12 sts)
R2: chain two (counts as first hdc) hdc into top of ch 2. Work *1 hdc st into the next st, then 2 sts into the next st* repeating around. sl stitch into top of chain two. (18 sts)
R3: chain two (counts as first hdc) hdc into top of ch 2. Work *1 hdc st into the next 2 sts, then 2 sts into the next st* repeating around. sl stitch into top of chain two. (24 sts)
R4: chain two (counts as first hdc) hdc into top of ch 2. Work *1 hdc st into the next 3 sts, then 2 sts into the next st* repeating around. sl stitch into top of chain two. (30 sts)
R5: chain two (counts as first hdc) hdc into top of ch 2. Work *1 hdc st into the next 4 sts, then 2 sts into the next st* repeating around. sl stitch into top of chain two. (36 sts)
R6: chain two (counts as first hdc) hdc into top of ch 2. Work *1 hdc st into the next 5 sts, then 2 sts into the next st* repeating around. sl stitch into top of chain two. (42 sts)

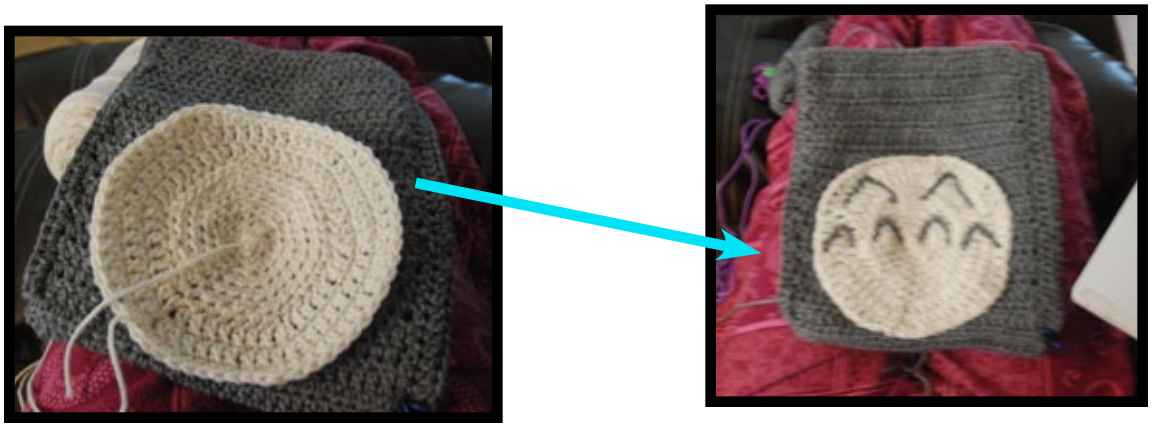
switch to DC here

R7: chain two (counts as first dc) dc into top of ch 2. Work *1 dc st into the next 6 sts, then 2 sts into the next st* repeating around. sl stitch into top of chain two. (48 sts)
R7: chain two (counts as first dc) dc into top of ch 2. Work *1 dc st into the next 7 sts, then 2 sts into the next st* repeating around. sl stitch into top of chain two. (54 sts)

odd row to make more oval like totoro's belly

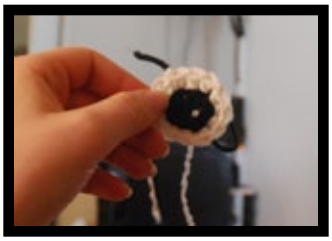
R8: chain one (counts at first sc) work 1 sc into top of chain. Work 1 sc st into the next 8 sts. then 2 hdc sts into the next st. Work 1 dc st into the next 8 sts. Work 2 DC sts into the next st. Work 1 dc st into the next 8 sts. work 2 hdc into next st. Work 1 sc st into the next 8 sts. then 2 hdc sts into the next st. Work 1 dc st into the next 8 sts. Work 2 DC sts into the next st. Work 1 dc st into the next 7 sts. work one hdc into next stitch, then sl stitch into top of chain 1 repeating around. sl stitch into top of chain two. (54 sts)

Sew belly to bag. You can add rows if you want a bigger belly. Then, sew V's to belly and bag for more of a Totoro look! I used the slip stitch top work method to add the lines, but you can use your preferred method.



Eyes (make two)

Start with a magic circle. chain three, then do 11 dc into circle. sl st into the chain three, and cut yarn. Pull tail. Use black yarn t make an iris, and sew to bag.



Ears (make two)

Crochet one above each eye.
R1: Sl stitch into spot above eye. Work 1 sc into next three sts. (3 sts)
R2: Chain 1, and turn. work 1 sc into the 3 sts. (3 sts)
R3: Chain 1, and turn. Work 2sc into first st, sc next st, and work 2sc into next st (5st)
R4: Chain 1, and turn. Sc all sts (5 sts)
R5: Chain 1, and turn. Work 2sc into first st, 1 sc next 3 sts, and work 2sc into last st (7st)
R6: Chain 1, and turn. Sc all sts. (7 sts)
R7: Chain 1, and turn. Sc 2 sts tog. Work 1 Sc into next 3 sts. Sc last two sts tog. (5 sts)
R8: Chain 1, and turn. Sc all sts (5 sts)
R9: Chain 1, and turn. Sc 2 sts tog. Work 1 Sc. Sc last two sts tog. (3 sts)
R10: Chain 1, and turn. Sc all sts. (3 sts)
R11: Chain 1, and turn. Sc all three sts. together.
R12: Chain one, cut yarn and pull through chain.



Weave in all ends.
Use invisible sewing thread to tie tip of ear
to each strap so it stays up.

Strap

on one side of bag, pull up a loop.

in next three sts places, work 4 sc sts.

sc strap for as long as you wish, chaining one at the end of each row, then sc it to the other side, being careful not to stretch. please note that strap will stretch a bit, so leave it a little shorter then you want.



SEWING LINING



1. Cut out lining by laying totoro bag flat on your lining fabric, with fabric placed wrong sides together. Leave about 1 inch on each side and a lot a the top (I left 5 inches at top). I just measure it this way. If you know a better way, use that.



2. Cut out pocket pieces. Two pieces, the width of the lining.

3. Place pocket pieces right sides together and sew all the way around, leaving a space to pull right sides out. Place pocket on bag and sew on where the dotted lines are to secure to lining.





3. Place lining right sides together with pocket inside and sew on dotted lines.



4. After sewing, you should have a pocket.



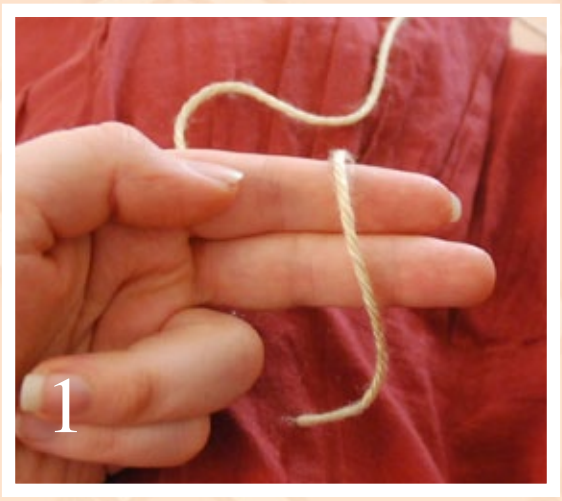


5. place lining in bag and fold down the top if it sticks up out of totoro.
6. Sew the lining in place using matching thread around the top of the bag



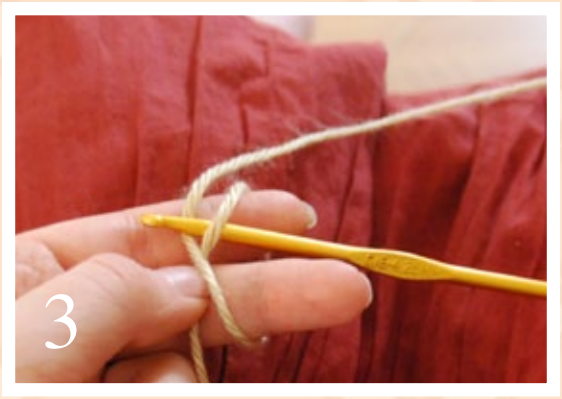


MAGIC CIRCLE

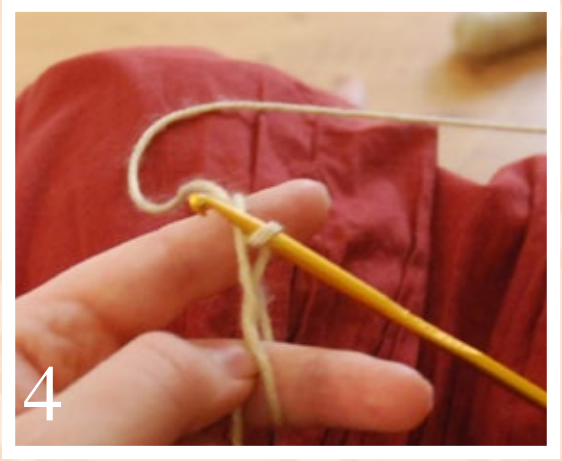




1-2) Wrap yarn around two fingers.



3) pull working yarn up by going under the tail yarn.
4) chain, and then
5) crochet into the circle, over the tail and the loop.
*at end of **round** one, pull tail to tighten circle





THE SKINNY

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Namaste!



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