

Color Block Market Bag

Difficulty Level: Easy/Intermediate

Materials:

- Lily Sugar n' Cream Solids (2.5 oz, 120 yds)
 - 2 skeins Ecru
 - 1 skein accent color
- 5.00mm (H) crochet hook
- Tapestry needle
- Stitch marker

Abbreviations (USA):

ch	chain
dc	double crochet
ea	each
rep(s)	repetition(s)
rnd(s)	round(s)
sc	single crochet
sk	skip
sl st	slip stitch
sp	space
st(s)	stitch(es)

Gauge: 14 sts and 16 rows in sc = 4"

Finished Measurements:

13" tall x 16" wide (not including straps)

About the Pattern:

This bright, contemporary-but-classic market bag is great for trips to the farmers' market, the beach, the library, or for a sunny downtown stroll!

Constructed with sturdy worsted-weight cotton, it uses basic chains and double crochet stitches to form a simple square mesh pattern. The solid single crochet bottom creates a sturdy base, and the straps can be altered to the crocheter's preferred length.



BASE

Using preferred color for the bottom of the bag, ch 45.

Row 1: Sc into 2nd ch from hook. Sc in all stitches across. Turn. (44 st)

Row 2: Ch 1, sk first st, sc in all sts across. Turn. (44 st)

Rows 3-13: Repeat instructions from Row 2.

Do not turn after completing Row 13. Subsequent rows will be worked in the round.

Rnd 14: Sc along the short edge of the bag bottom, placing a total of 12 sc sts. Sc in ea st across the long edge. Place 11 sc sts along the next short edge. Sc in ea st across the next long edge. (111 sts)

Rnds 15-18: Working in a continuous spiral, sc in all sts around, placing a st marker at the beginning of ea rnd. (111 sts)

MESH

Switch colors roughly halfway through the mesh section of the bag, or wherever desired. To switch colors seamlessly, wait until you have almost completed a mesh row, but instead of slip stitching into the previous row's starting chain with your current yarn color, pull a loop of the new color through the 3rd ch to form a slip stitch. Continue with pattern as written. Tie ends of new and old yarn colors together.

Rnd 19: Ch 5, sk 2 sts, dc in next st. *Ch 2, sk 2 sts, dc in next st* until last 2 sts. Ch 2, sl st into 3rd ch of starting ch from previous round. (37 reps of ch mesh)

Rnds 20-32: Ch 5, sk 2 sts, dc in next st. *Ch 2, sk 2 sts, dc in next st* around. Ch 2, sl st into 3rd ch of previous round.

TOP EDGE AND HANDLES

Rnd 33: Ch 1, place 2 sc into ch sp, *sk next st, make 2 sc into ch sp* around. Sl st into first sc from previous round. (74 sts)

Rnd 34-35: Ch 1, sk next st, sc into ea st around. Sl st into first sc from previous round. (74 sts)

Rnd 36: (Note: during the chain portion of this row, take care not to twist the chain before reattaching it to the top of the bag). Ch 1, sk next st, sc into ea of next 7 sts. Ch 70, sk next 21 sts, sc into ea of next 16 sts. Ch 70, sk next 21 sts, sc into ea of next 8 sts. Sl st into first sc from previous round. (172 sts)

Rnds 37-38: Ch 1, sk next st, sc in all sts around.

FINISHING

Using a tapestry needle, weave in all ends.



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