

Knotted Felted Christmas Gift Bag Pattern

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1 ball Patons Classic Wool (we did ours in color 00208 Burgundy) 6mm needles

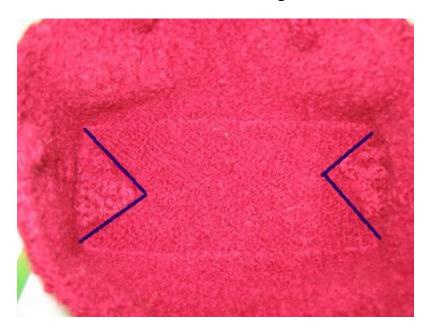
3.5mm double pointed needles (2 needles only)

Cast on 40 stitches. Knit in stocking stitch until piece measures 16" long. Cast off.

For handles, cast on 4 stitches on 3.5 mm double pointed needles. Slide stitches to the right side of the left needle, with the "tail" of the yarn on the left stitch. Bring the yarn tightly around the back and knit the first stitch on the right side. Continue knitting remaining 3 stitches. Slide stitches to other end of needle, and repeat row, bringing the yarn around back from the left stitch to knit on the right stitch. This will create a knitted tube. Continue until piece measures 18" and bind off. Repeat for 2nd handle.

Finishing before felting

Fold large rectangle in half, by matching up cast-on edge with cast-off edge, with right sides together. Sew up both left and right sides. You should have a folded rectangle. Now on both bottom edges (not the open edges) fold the corners like you would a paper bag, to create a base, so that the sides and base measure 2". Then stitch those corners in the inside of the bag to secure it... this will create a 2" base on the bag as well as 2" sides. This shows the inside of the bag, the triangle corners are on the inside of the bag.



Felting

Put both bag and two handles (do not attach them yet!) into the washing machine with small amount of laundry detergent, using hot water. You can check progress as you go along, so it is the perfect size.

When done, shape the bag (put a box in it to help the shape) and allow to dry.

Final finishing

On each side of the bag, measure 1 ½" from the side edge, and ¾" from the top, and punch a hole using a 6mm knitting needle. Feed the handle through and tie a knot on the end to secure it. Repeat for other handle. Enjoy your new gift bag!

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