



Skill Level: intermediate

How much yarn: 4 balls (each ball 50g and 115m) of **Venus** yarn (44% Nylon 24% Polyester, 16% Mohair 16% Alpaca) shade no. 31355 50g of Harmony yarn in matching colour

Needles: A pair of 2.75mm knitting needles. A pair of 3.00mm knitting needles A double-pointed (Dp) needle

Sewing needle: Yarn needle with rounded point

Other items: 22x11cm stiff bag base in eco leather or plastic. Knitting rope mill (optional)

Note: the bag can be worked all with Venus yarn and, for the closure and the shoulder strap, buy a cord in matching colour.

STITCHES

Using needles: tubular st – K1, P1 rib

Stocking stitch (st st) – Reverse stocking stitch (rev st st) ZIGZAG PATT:

(work over a multiple of 4 sts plus 2 sts)

1st row: (WS) K4, * P1, K3; rep from * to last 2 sts: P1, K1.

2nd row: K1, * K1-b (= knit 1st in the row below: insert needle through centre of st 1 row below next st and knit, slipping st above off needle at same time), P3; rep from * ending with K1. **3rd row:** K1, * K3, with yarn in front slip 1 st purlways; rep from * ending with K1.

4th row: K1 * 4 Left Crossed stitches (4-st LC = slip next st to Dp needle and hold to front, P next 2 sts, K1 from Dp needle), rep from * ending with K1. **5th row:** K1, * P1, K3; rep from * ending with K1. **6th row:** K1, * P3, K1-b; rep from * ending with K1. **7th row:** K1, * with yarn in front slip 1 st purlways, K3; rep from * ending with K1.

8th row: K1, * 4 Right Crossed stitches (4-st RC = slip next 3 sts to Dp needle and hold to back, K1, P3 from Dp needle), rep from * ending with K1. Rep these 8 rounds throughout.

TENSIONS

20 stitches and 35 rows measure 10cm square over stocking st with 3.00 mm needles and Venus yarn

36 stitches and 33 rows measure 10cm square over K1,P1 rib with 3.00 mm needles and Venus yarn

22 stitches and 35 rows measure 10cm square over stocking st with 3.00 mm needles and 8 strands of Harmony yarn held together.

Take time to check tensions before starting work: it is essential to work to the stated tensions to achieve success.

INSTRUCTIONS

Bag bottom outer cover: with 3.00 mm needles and Venus yarn cast on 83 sts and work 12cm in K1, P1 rib, then cast off loosely all sts.

Bag bottom inner cover: with 3.00 mm needles and 8 strands of Harmony yarn held together cast on 51 sts and work 4 rows in tubular st. Cont to work in stocking st. When work measures 12cm from beg, cast off loosely all sts.

Panel: with 2.75 mm needles and Venus yarn cast on 134 sts and, for upper border work 14 rows in tubular st, corresponding to 1.5cm. Change to 3.00mm needles and cont to work in zigzag patt. When work measures 18.5cm from border, work 2 rows in reverse stocking st. Then cast off loosely all sts.

Shoulder strap: (make 2) with rope mill and Harmony yarn used double make a cord approx 1m long.

Cord: (make 2) with rope mill and Harmony yarn used double make a cord approx 90cm long.

FINISHING

Place, WS against WS, bag bottom outer cover and inner cover, sew three side seams and leave a short side open. Insert the stiff bag base, then sew also rem side seam. Join together, RS against RS, the panel's short sides to obtain a ring. Sew, RS against RS, ring lower edge (the one without tubular st) around sides of bag bottom cover, then reverse bag on RS of work. Sew shoulder strap ends about 2cm away from each other at two opposite corners of the bag (see template). Flatten the bag, finding the centre of each short side and, in the middle of right side, insert the end of a cord inside the tubular st and make it come out about 3cm from the point where it was inserted. Join the two ends with a knot. In the middle of left side insert other cord and continue as given for previous cord. Pull the two cords to close the bag.

