

Miranda Tote Bag

Level: Intermediate

FINISHED MEASUREMENTS

Circumference at widest point: 33" Length excluding handles: 14"

MATERIALS

Premier® Yarns *Premier Home® Cotton XL* (85% Cotton, 15% Polyester; 10.5oz/300g, 82yds/75m)

- MC #1098-07 Black Marl 3 balls
- CC #1097-02 Black 1 ball

Needle: US Size 17 (12 mm) 24" circular needle and US Size 17 (12 mm) double point needles or size needed to obtain gauge

Notions: Tapestry needle, removable stitch markers in two colors; 4 in Color A and 4 in Color B, smooth yarn in lighter weight (like Premier Home Cotton #38-16 Black) for seaming; large stitch holder or waste yarn

GAUGE

8 sts x 11 rows = 4" in St st Save time, check your gauge.

STITCH GUIDE

I-Cord: * Slide sts to opposite end of dpn. Bring the yarn across the WS to the beginning of the row. Knit 3 sts, place needle in left hand; rep from * until I-cord is desired length.

PATTERN NOTES

Bag is worked from the top down. The front and back panels are worked separately then joined in the round for the remainder of the body of the bag. Two different colors of stitch markers are placed for shaping. Color A markers are placed when working Front and Back panels to mark placement of increases. Color B markers are placed after bag is joined in the rnd to mark placement of decreases.

BAG

Front Panel

With MC, cast on 14 sts.

Row 1 (RS): Knit. Row 2 (WS): Purl.

Row 3: Knit

Row 4 (Turning Ridge): Knit.

Row 5 (Set-up Row): [Knit 4, pm in Color A, k1,

pm in Color A] twice, k4.

Row 6: Purl.

Row 7 (Inc Row): [Knit to marker, M1R, sm, k1, sm, M1L] twice, knit to end – 4 sts inc'd.

Row 8: Purl. Row 9: Knit.

Row 10: Purl.

Rep last 4 rows, 3 more times – 12 sts inc'd, 30 total sts.

Place sts on holder or waste yarn keeping markers in place.

Back Panel

Work as for Front Panel.

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project continued

Bag Body

Note: Switch to dpns (or your preferred method for knitting small circumferences) when work no longer fits on circular needles.

Set-up Rnd (RS): Knit across 30 sts for Back Panel sts, pm in Color B, using backwards loop cast-on, cast on 2 sts, pm in Color B, knit across 30 held sts for Front panel, pm in Color B, cast on 2 sts, pm in Color B; join to work in the rnd being careful not to twists – 64 sts.

Rnd 1: Ssk, knit to 2 sts before Color B marker (slipping markers in Color A as you come to them), k2tog, sm, k2, sm, ssk, knit to 2 sts before Color B marker, k2tog, sm, k2– 4 sts decreased.

Rnd 2: Knit, slipping all markers as you come to them. Rnd 3: Ssk, [knit to Color A marker, M1R, sm, k1, sm, M1L] twice, knit to 2 sts before Color B marker, k2tog, k2, slip Color B marker, ssk, [knit to Color A marker, M1R, sm, k1, sm, M1L] twice, knit to 2 sts before Color B marker, k2tog, k2 – st count does not change.

Rnd 4: Knit, slipping all markers as you come to them.

Rnds 5-8: Repeat Rnds 1-4 – 56 sts.

Rnd 9: Ssk, [knit to Color A marker, remove marker] twice, knit to 2 sts before Color B marker, k2tog, k2, slip Color B marker, ssk, [knit to Color A marker, remove marker] twice, knit to 2 sts before Color B marker, k2tog, k2 – 52 sts.

Rnd 10: Knit.

Rnd 11: Ssk, knit to 2 sts before Color B marker, k2tog, k2, slip Color B marker, ssk, knit to 2 sts before Color B marker, k2tog, k2 – 4 sts decreased.

Rnd 12: Knit.

Repeat last two rounds 7 more times – 28 sts dec'd, 20 sts rem.

Bind off.

FINISHING

Turn bag inside out. With right sides held together, using smooth yarn in coordinating color, sew bag bottom closed.

Straps (make 2)

With CC, cast on 3 sts. Work I-cord for 36". Bind off. Sew short ends together to form ring.

Place strap at top edge of bag front panel. Fold hem over at turning ridge. Using smooth yarn in coordinating color. Sew cast on edge of panel to inside of bag, enclosing bag handle in hem. Repeat for second side.

Weave in ends.

Abbreviations

cc contrasting color

dpn(s) double point needle(s)

k knit

k2tog knit 2 sts together (1 st dec'd)M1R make 1 stitch, right leaningM1L make 1 stitch, left leaning

MC main color
pm place marker
rem remain(ing)
rep repeat(ing)
rnd(s)
RS right side

ssk slip slip knit (1 st dec'd)

st(s) stitch(es)sm slip markerWS wrong side

