

ALL THIS BY HAND

Fibonacci Felted Bag



Measurements

Approximately 11.5 inches wide at top and 6.5 inches high after felting

Materials

Nashua Creative Focus Chunky (75% wool/25% alpaca, 110 yd/100 g)

Main Color [MC] 1 skein Delft

Contrast Color [CC] 1 skein Soft Sage

1 24-inch size US 10/6 mm circular needle

2 size US 10/6 mm double-point needles

Gauge

16 sts and 20 rows / 4 inches before felting

Homework

CO 32 sts with MC. Work 28 rows in garter stitch (k every row).

Pick up 13 sts along side between garter ridges, 32 sts along cast-on edge and 13 sts along other side. Place marker. Begin stripe pattern, working in stockinette stitch (k every round):

9 rows MC
2 rows CC
6 rows MC
2 rows CC
4 rows MC
4 rows CC
2 rows MC
6 rows CC
2 rows MC
10 rows CC

Note: To avoid a jog in the striped colors, use the following technique to make them straight. Change to new color, k 1 round. Remove marker. At the beginning of the next round, lift the stitch below the first stitch (it will be the old color) onto the left needle and knit those two stitches together. Replace marker. The beginning of the round now shifts one stitch to the left.

BO all sts using CC.

Handles (make 2)

CO 3 sts. Work i-cord for 29 in.

Sew in all ends. Place bag and handles in a zippered pillowcase. Using the hot wash/cold rinse cycle, 1 tablespoon of laundry soap and the most agitation, place bag and a few pairs of old jeans in the washing machine. Check the felting progress every 5-10 minutes. When the machine reaches spin cycle, remove the pillowcase so no permanent creases are formed in your bag. Replace the bag in the rinse cycle to remove the remaining soap, but continue to check the felting process. Repeat until the bag has the amount of felting you'd like – there shouldn't be much stitch definition. Stuff the bag with paper towels to shape it and allow it to air dry.

After the bag is completely dry, poke holes for the handles with a large knitting needle – this may take some work. Thread the i-cord through to the inside and knot it. Alternately, purse handles can be sewn to the bag.

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