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THREE CHEERS

By Louise Zass-Bangham

Hooray for your loved ones! Show your appreciation in yarn, of course. This bottle bag holds a regular bottle of wine, or up to two gorgeous skeins, for a perfect knitter's gift.

Hooray for knitting! Make a strong and re-useable bag. Use up your scraps and have some fun knitting. You can re-use the bag yourself, or send it out into the world as part of your gift. It will spread knitterly love wherever it goes.

Hooray for Médecins Sans Frontières! Please spread more love by donating the price of this pattern to Médecins Sans Frontières (Doctors without Borders) through p/hop, that's pennies per hour of pleasure.

The bag is knit all in one piece, with no seaming. If made in wool, as shown, the finished bag can be felled (slightly felted) by giving it a rub in hot soapy water. It's an easy intermediate knit.

SIZE

Easily adjustable by changing yarn & stitches worked. Base 10cm/4" square. Height 30cm/12" to opening, 40cm/16" to top.

MATERIALS

Worsted wool, 200m/220yds per 100g, 1 x skein (make sure wool is NOT superwash).
4.5mm/US 7 needles for working in the round - set 5 dpns or circulars with min 80cm/32" cable for magic loop.

Stitch markers

Spare needle for 3-needle BO, or tapestry needle to graft handle

TENSION

Gauge 20 sts to 10cm/4" over stocking stitch (stockinette).

ABBREVIATIONS

BO	Bind off (cast off)
CO	Cast on
dpn(s)	Double pointed needle(s)
K	Knit
K2tog	Knit the next two stitches together
P	Purl
rep	Repeat
Rnd	Round
RS	Right side
SSK	Slip two sts knitwise one at a time, then knit them together from where they sit on the RH needle, through the back loop
Sl 1	Slip 1 stitch purlwise
slm	Slip marker
st(s)	Stitch(es)
WS	Wrong side

TO MAKE

BASE

CO 22 sts. I like the crochet method because it matches slipped stitches along the edges and the BO. Slip the first stitch of every Base row purlwise with the yarn in front, then move the yarn to the back, between the needles, ready to knit.
Starting with a RS row, Knit 40 rows (20 ridges of garter stitch).

SETUP SIDES

Working with RS of the base facing you, BO until 1 st remains on right-hand needle. Do NOT break yarn! You will now pick up around base. If you are using dpns, put 20 sts (one side of bag) onto each needle.

The st left on your needle is the first st of a side. Keeping the same (RS) side facing you, pick up & knit 19 sts down the slipped sts at the end of the garter rows, so that you have a total of 20 sts, pm.
Continue picking up and knitting around the base:
20 sts along the CO edge, pm.
20 sts along slipped stitch edge, pm.
20 sts along BO edge. Pm to mark start of Rnd.
80sts

You may notice that if we continued working in the round, we will be working with the inside of the bag as the RS, which is awkward. We want to turn and go the other way. If we just turn our work round, we'll get a hole, so wrap and turn. (You don't need to work the wrap with the stitch later, just ignore it.)

Setup Rnd: on the new RS, Purl, creating a ridge. There is now a crisp edge to the base.

SIDES

Panels of regular and reverse stocking stitch / stockinette define the sides.

Main Pattern Rnd: K to marker, slm, P to marker,

slm, K to marker, slm, P to marker, slm.
Work in Main Pattern until sides measures 30cm/12”
from where they were picked up along the base.

SETUP HANDLE

Rnd 1: Knit
Rnd 2: K20, slm, P20, slm, K20, slm, P20, slm.
Rnds 3-6: rep Rnds 1-2 twice more.
Remove markers as you work through Rnd 7.
Rnd 7: K20, BO 20, K20, slip these 20 sts just
worked onto a holder, BO 20. 20 handle sts on the
needle.

HANDLE

Working in rows now, Row 1: Sl 1, K to end.
Row 2: Sl 1, P to end.
Row 3: Sl 1, K1, SSK, K to last 4 sts, K2tog, K2. 18sts
Row 4 : Sl 1, P to end.
Rows 5-12: Rep rows 1-4 twice more. 14 sts
Place a locking stitch marker on the second st of the
row to help count the following rows:
Rows 13-22: Rep Rows 1-2 five more times (10
rows stocking stitch). Check the handle measures

approx 10cm/4” when stretched slightly. If it is too
short, or you are concerned the handle will shrink a
lot in felting, rep Rows 1-2 again. Put stitches onto
holder.

Return other handle to needles, ready to work RS
for next row. Rejoin yarn and work rows 1-22, as
before.

Making sure handles are not twisted, and with WS
together, work 3-needle bind-off or graft handles.

FINISHING

Weave in ends. Rub bag in warm soapy water for
about 10 minutes, until it is as felled (lightly felted) as
you wish. Wear rubber gloves to protect your
hands. Reshape whilst damp. Leave to dry.

NOTE: You are responsible for ensuring the bag you
make is strong enough and suitable for holding its
contents. Inspiration Knits and Louise Zass-Bangham
accept no liability for loss or damage caused by using a
bag made with this pattern.

ABOUT THE DESIGNER

Louise loves designing accessories that will show off the colours in your yarn. She loves options so that you can make your project your own. Louise believes patterns should be clearly written and a pleasure to knit. Find out more at inspirationknits.com

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