

## Eco + Market Bag

This extra roomy market bag will hold a load of groceries or a large craft project.

Materials – 1 hank Eco Wool or Eco + by Cascade Yarns

Size I crochet hook

15 yards of contrasting yarn (optional)

Gauge – not critical in this pattern

Base of bag -

Chain 31. Work single crochet (sc) in second chain stitch (st) from hook and in next 28 chains. In last chain (ch), work 4 sc. Working up other side of ch, work sc in each ch st to last ch, work 4 sc in last ch. (66 sc) Slip stitch in top of next sc to join.

Rounds 2 – 4 - Place marker for beginning of round, sc in next 32 sc, work 2 sc in next st, place marker, sc in remaining sc in round to beginning marker, work 2 sc in that stitch. For the next 2 rows, you will be working one sc in each sc, except at markers, where you will work 2 sc (increasing by 2 at each marker.) Move markers up each round.

Begin sides -

At this point, keep marker at beginning of round, but remove other marker, as the base increases are complete. Move marker for beginning of round as you work upwards.

Turn round – work sc in back of each sc around.

Next 5 rounds – Work sc in each sc around

Next round - Double crochet (dc) in each sc around.

Work 2 rounds of dc in each dc around.

Begin mesh pattern -

\*(skip 2 dc, ch 3, dc in space between next 2 dc.) Repeat from \* for round.

Next 7 rounds - (ch 3, dc in ch space) for 7 rounds.

Center openwork section -

Ch 3, (2 dc cluster in each ch 3 space) around.

Now work 2 dc cluster in each space between 2 dc cluster for (2) more rounds.

Begin second mesh pattern section -

Ch 2 (dc between each 2 dc cluster, ch 2) to end of round.

Next 3 rounds – (dc, ch 2) in each ch 2 space around.

Top openwork section rows -

Work 2 dc cluster in each ch 2 space around.

Next 2 rounds, work 2 dc cluster in each space between 2 dc clusters. At end of final round, work slip stitch in top of last dc. Tie off.

Handles-

Lay bag flat. Place markers 3 inches from both outside edges on front and back of bag.

As bag faces you, work 7 dc from right marker at top of bag, ch 3, turn.

Work dc in each dc, then dc in top of turning ch, ch 3, turn. Repeat this row 15 more times (16 rows) In final row of handle, do not end with chain 3. Join handle strip to the opposing side just inside marker with slip stitches. (There will be 6 inches on side of bag between handles.) Repeat process for handle on other side of bag at markers.

At top of bag, work a row of sc around top edges of bag and inside of both handles, slip stitch to join, tie off. Now work rows of sc edging around outside edges of handles and sides of top of bag. Slip stitch to first sc to join. Tie off.

Ties – make 2

With 3 strands of Eco + (or for optional more decorative ties use 1 strand Eco + and 2 strands complementary heavy worsted or bulky yarn) work into 82 inch (7 feet) chain, knot end.

Lace one tie through center row of each openwork section. Tie ends in bow.