

Diamond Lace Purse



About this Pattern

This cute little clutch purse is the perfect accessory – big enough to hold your essentials and small enough for a quick knit project. You could even use it as a little project bag to hold your smaller knitting projects!

The pattern is designed for beginner knitters looking to try some new techniques such as increases, buttonholes and a simple lace pattern. Or if you don't fancy the lace you could just knit the front flap without the lace pattern, or maybe use a contrast colour for a really striking look!

The purse in the pattern photo was knit using a chunky yarn, although you could use any weight. The trick is to go down a few needle sizes to what you would usually use with the yarn weight so as to produce a nice sturdy fabric with tight stitches that will hold the shape and not be too flimsy.

The purse is cast on at the flap edge and worked as one flat piece with garter stitch rows used to mark the folding lines. The edges are then sewn together at the end and a pretty button added for a final flourish!

The I-cord wrist strap is optional. Video tutorials for the I-cord, the buttonhole and all of the stitches used are linked in the pattern.

The purse is easy to customise to make it longer, or make it into a shoulder bag, details are given in the pattern.

Pattern Notes

Skills / Techniques used: Slipped, knit, purl, lace, increase and decrease stitches

Sizes: One size

Measurements:

The finished purse measures 9.5" / 24cm length and 5.3" / 13.5cm depth when blocked.

Materials Used:

- 60g / 2.1 oz, 110 yds / 100m Chunky Yarn. The yarn used in the pattern pictures is Under the Olive Tree Knits Votsi Chunky, 100g / 166m - 100% Superwash Bluefaced Leicester Wool in the Clear Water colour
- 1 set of 4mm needles
- A button, about 1" in diameter
- 6 pins
- Tapestry needle for sewing up the sides and weaving the ends in
- Optional – 2 x 4mm double pointed needles for an I-cord wrist strap (a video tutorial is provided in the pattern)

Gauge: 19 stitches and 29 rows to 4" / 10cm in stockinette stitch after blocking

Abbreviations

Video tutorials are provided for underlined abbreviations at <https://www.undertheolivetreeknits.com/tutorials.html>

Video tutorials are also provided for:

[Making a Buttonhole](#) – binding off and casting on the sts in rows 7 and 8.

[Knitting an I-cord](#) – for adding a wrist strap

<u>k</u>	Knit
<u>k2tog</u>	Knit 2 stitches together (1 stitch decreased)
<u>m1l</u>	Make 1 left - insert the left hand needle from front to back, under the strand of yarn which runs between the stitch just worked and the next stitch. Knit this stitch through the back loop (1 stitch increased)
<u>m1r</u>	Make 1 right - insert the left hand needle from back to front, under the strand of yarn which runs between the stitch just worked and the next stitch. Knit this stitch through the front loop (1 st increased)
<u>p</u>	Purl
RS	Right side
<u>sl1 wyif</u>	With the yarn held at the front as if to purl, slip the next stitch purlwise
<u>ssk</u>	Slip, slip, knit: Slip the next 2 stitches 1 at a time knitwise, insert the left-hand needle into the front of the slipped stitches and knit them together (1 stitch decreased)
st(s)	Stitches
WS	Wrong side
<u>yo</u>	Yarnover

INSTRUCTIONS

Front Flap

Cast on 21 sts.

Rows 1-6: Sl1 wyif, k to end

Row 7 (RS): Sl1 wyif, k2, m1r, k6, bind off 3 sts (for the [buttonhole](#)), k5, m1l, k3 (20 sts)

Row 8: Sl1 wyif, k2, p7, cast on 3 sts, p7, k3 (23 sts)

Row 9: Sl1 wyif, k2, m1r, k17, m1l, k3 (25 sts)

Row 10 and all WS rows to row 30: Sl1 wyif, k2, p to last 3 sts, k3

Continue using written instructions below or by following the Chart on page 6.

Row 11: Sl1 wyif, k2, m1r, [k4, k2tog, yo, k2] twice, k3, m1l, k3 (27 sts)

Row 13: Sl1 wyif, k2, m1r, k1, [k3, k2tog, yo, k1, yo, ssk] twice, k4, m1l, k3 (29 sts)

Row 15: Sl1 wyif, k2, m1r, [k6, k2tog, yo] twice, k7, m1l, k3 (31 sts)

Row 17: Sl1 wyif, k2, m1r, [k3, k2tog, yo, k3] 3 times, k1, m1l, k3 (33 sts)

Row 19: Sl1 wyif, k2, m1r, [k3, k2tog, yo, k1, yo, ssk] 3 times, k3, m1l, k3 (35 sts)

Row 21: Sl1 wyif, k2, m1r, [k5, k2tog, yo, k1] 3 times, k5, m1l, k3 (37 sts)

Row 23: Sl1 wyif, k2, m1r, k2, k2tog, yo, [k6, k2tog, yo] 3 times, k3, m1l, k3 (39 sts)

Row 25: Sl1 wyif, k2, m1r, [k2, k2tog, yo, k1, yo, ssk, k1] 4 times, k1, m1l, k3 (41 sts)

Row 27: Sl1 wyif, k2, m1r, [k4, k2tog, yo, k2] 4 times, k3, m1l, k3 (43 sts)

Row 29: Sl1 wyif, k2, m1r, k37, m1l, k3 (45 sts)

Row 31: Sl1 wyif, k2, m1r, k39, m1l, k3 (47 sts)

Row 32 (ridge row): Sl1 wyif, k to end

Back

Row 1: Sl1 wyif, k to end

Row 2: Sl1 wyif, k2, p to last 3 sts, k3

Rows 3-36: Repeat rows 1 and 2.

If you would prefer a longer purse or shoulder bag you can continue working rows 1 and 2 until you reach your desired length.

Next RS row: Work as row 1

Next row (ridge row): Sl1 wyif, k to end

Front

Row 1: Sl1 wyif, k to end

Row 2: Sl1 wyif, k2, p to last 3 sts, k3

Rows 3-30: Repeat rows 1 and 2.

If you knitted a longer back then continue to work in stockinette stitch until the front measures about an inch shorter than the back.

Next 5 rows: Sl1 wyif, k to end

Bind off on a WS row.

FINISHING:

Blocking: The purse is blocked before it is sewn together. Blocking your hand knits is a way of 'setting' your stitches and flattening out the fabric which will help when it comes to sewing up the edges. To block your purse, soak it in a bowl of warm water for about 10 minutes (you may add a little wool wash if you wish) Take it out of the bowl and gently roll in a towel to squeeze out any excess water. Lay the piece flat on a clean towel or blocking mats and gently pin, or use blocking wires along the edges to set into shape. Leave to dry.



Assembling



- 1) Lay your purse out flat with the WS facing you. Lift up the bottom and using the ridge row as the folding point, position the front of the purse so that it lies flat with the back. Pin into place.



- 2) Using the tail end of the cast off edge and a tapestry needle, work a running stitch 3 sts in from the edge (along the garter stitch edging) to sew the 2 sides together, removing the pins as you go. When you get to the bottom, give the sides a little tug to avoid any puckering. If you want to you can sew a running stitch up the other side for a stronger seam. Once the seam is sewn, poke the needle through to the wrong side, fasten off, cut the yarn and weave in any ends.



- 3) Take another piece of the same colour yarn and sew the other 2 edges together as above.

Weave in any other loose ends. Pull the top flap down and position the button on the front of the purse. Sew into place.

I-Cord Wrist Strap

To add an i-cord wrist or shoulder strap to your purse, you will need a pair of double pointed needles in the same size used to knit the purse.

1. Cast on 4 sts onto one of the dpn's.
2. Slide the stitches to the other end of the needle.
3. Pick up the working yarn from the back of the last knit stitch and knit across the 4 sts with the other dpn.

Repeat steps 2 and 3 until you are happy with the length of your i-cord. Sew the I-cord into place.

A video tutorial for how to knit an I-cord is available [here](#).

Diamond Lace Purse - Chart

Rows 11– 27: Work the chart below, repeating the outlined section twice for rows 11-22, and three times for rows 23-27.

Chart Key

- RS: k; WS: p
- WS: k
- WS: sl1 wyif
- sl1 wyif
- yo
- M1R
- M1L
- k2tog
- ssk
- Repeat Area

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