

FELTED PURSES

You will need: Size 11, 16", 24", or 29" circular needle. Size 11 10" needles. Size 11 dp Brown Sheep Nature Spun wool , Lorna's Laces Bullfrogs and Butterflies, or Classic Elite Montero.

The length of the circular needle is what determines the size of your purse.

1. Decide the size of purse that you would like. S, M, or L. Pick the needle length accordingly
2. Make the bottom of the purse using size 11, 10" needles.
SMALL: Cast on 10 stitches and knit until work measures 10". Cast off.
MEDIUM: Cast on 15 stitches and knit until work measures app. 15". Cast off.
LARGE: Cast on 20 stitches and knit until work measures app 20". Cast off.
3. Pick up stitches with the circular needle around the bottom.
4. Knit around. When a purse is felted, it will shrink approximately one third. This is how you will know how tall to make your purse. Make it at least one third taller than your desired height.

DECREASE : If your purse seems too large at the mouth, do a small decrease round to avoid floppiness.

DRAWSTRING HOLES:

1. Count your stitches. Decide how many holes that you would like and place colored yarn where you would like to place them.
2. To make a hole, simply place your yarn in front and knit two together.
3. After your row of holes, finish top of purse with 3 rows of purl to make it sturdy.

DRAWSTRING / I CORD

1. Using two size 11 double pointed needles cast on 3 stitches. Cast on more stitches for a thicker cord.
2. Knit 3 stitches.
3. The stitches are now on your right needle. Slide the stitches to the other side of this needle and put it in your left hand with the knit stitches facing you. The yarn will be coming from the left side of the stitches. Pull around from back to the right and knit the next row.
4. Repeat row 2 until the cord is the desired length. Every once in awhile, give the end of the cord a tug to even out the stitches.

FLAP: A Flap is sometimes fun to put on with a colorful button.

1. Pick the back side of the purse.
2. Start on the right center back side of purse and pick up 14/ 24/ 34 stitches centered over middle back.
3. Row 1: Knit

4. Row 2 : Knit
5. Repeat rows until flap measures desired length before button hole.
6. Place button hole in center of flap by doing a yarn over, knit two together.
7. Knit until desired length.

As with so many of our patterns you can do variations. Make striped patterns or add decorative yarns like fizz for a fun look. A colorful button can add a lot to a purse. Make letters by using miniature I cords to personalize a purse.

Don't forget to look at www.knitfit.org to see pictures of felted purses .