

## Fair day tote



**Size:** Approximately 13" across and 13" from bottom to where handles attach.

Each square has a round center section, bordered by a contrasting row of "bobbly" stitches, then squared off and framed with the main color linen blend. You will need to make 13 squares for this bag, if you want a larger bag, you could add a row to each square and the whole thing would be bigger!

**Materials:** 2 skeins of Rowan Creative Focus Linen (main color), 4 skeins of Tahki Cotton Classic in colors of your choice (centers), 2 skeins of Tahki Cotton Classic in contrast color (bobbly color). Size G crochet hook.

Gauge: Each square is 5" x 5"

## **Directions for squares:**

Using any "center" color, chain 6, join with a slip stitch to form a ring. (Or use "magic ring" method)

Round 1: Chain 3, then 11 dc into ring. Join with a slip

stitch to top of ch-3.

**Round 2:** Ch 3, dc in same space and work 2 dc into every dc from previous row (24 dc). Join to top of ch-3 with a slip stitch.

**Round 3:** Ch 3, dc in same space, dc in next dc, \*2 dc in next dc, dc in next dc, repeat from \* to end of round (36 dc), join with slip stitch to ch-3 space. Cut yarn and pull through last stitch.

**Round 4:** (Bobbly round) TURN WORK OVER AND CROCHET THIS ROUND FROM THE <u>WRONG</u> SIDE!!! Join new color by working a sc in ANY stitch, 2tr in next stitch, \*sc in next stitch, 2tr in next stitch, repeat from \* to end of round, sl st into first sc. Cut yarn and pull through last stitch.

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This pattern was written by Marji LaFreniere exclusively for Marji's Yarncrafts. This pattern is not for use by others to make items for sale and not to be copied without permission. **Round 5:** TURN WORK OVER AGAIN AND WORK REMAINING ROUNDS FROM THE RIGHT SIDE. On this round, we will IGNORE the 2<sup>nd</sup> tr of every 2-tr set, so we will just be working with the single crochets and the first of each 2-tr set; that means a total of 36 stitches. SO, SKIP OVER EVERY 2<sup>ND</sup> TR CROCHET STITCH!!

Using main (framing) color, join by working a sc into any sc from the previous row. Sc in next tr, hdc into next sc, dc into next tr, (2dc, ch2, 2dc)in next sc, dc in next tr, hdc in next sc, \*sc in next 4 stitches, hdc in next st, dc in next st, (2dc, ch2, 2dc)in next st, dc in next st, hdc in next st, repeat from \* 2 more times, sc in next 2 sts, join with sl st to first sc.

## NOTE: CORNERS ARE SOMETIMES MADE IN A TR, SOMETIMES IN A SC.

**Round 6:** Ch 3, \*dc in each st to corner (ch-2) space, (2dc, ch2, 2dc)in ch-2 sp, repeat from \* 3 more times, dc in each dc to ch-3, sl st in ch3.

**Round 7:** Repeat round 6, cut yarn and pull through last stitch.

Once you have your 13 squares completed, sew them together using the photo as a guide. Use your main color for sewing and use an overcast stitch for joining them (or, use your own preferred method!). Finish off the top edge of the bag by working a row of single crochet along the edge in any one of your contrasting colors. Make one stitch in every stitch, 3 in each corner and skip the stitches in the "inner corners" as you go along. Then, work a row of *backwards* single crochet, along that same row, making one stitch in every stitch and 3 in each corner. Fasten off and weave in all ends.

For handles, you can crochet some straps, or you can attach purchased handles. If handles have rings then you can crochet small loops to attach, by making little strips of single crochet 4 or 5 stitches wide and then sew them on.

If you'd like your bag to be lined, you can cut out a lining by just laying the bag on top of your fabric and then cutting out around the bag shape, leaving  $\frac{1}{2}-\frac{5}{8}''$  extra. Sew around the sides and bottom (right sides together) and then hand sew the lining into the bag, along the top edges, folding the raw edges in as you go.

Abbreviations: SC - single crochet DC – double crochet Ch – chain Tr – triple crochet SI st – slip stitch





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