

How to crochet a fun, easy ripple stitch cosmetic bag that is perfect for running errands or a night out on the town, or if you're like me, holding your crochet supplies!

Here is the video tutorial.

#### Materials:

- About 140 Yards of Worsted Weight
   Cotton I used WeCrochet Dishie; 45 Yards of Mushroom, 60 Yards of Swan and 35
   Yards of Lilac Mist
- H8/5mm Crochet Hook
- Tapestry Needle for Weaving
- Optional, Jewelry Pliers
- Optional, Fabric for Lining, Sewing Needle/Machine, Thread, and Zipper and/or a Pre-Made Bag
- Optional, Soft Tape Measure if Gauge is essential for your project

**Yarn Alternatives:** Lily Sugar n Cream with G6/4.25mm Hook (it's thicker)

Other Recommended Yarns (with 19/5.5mm Hook because it's not as relaxed as cotton): Red Heart Super Saver, Bernat Super Value, Caron One Pound

Weaving in ends of a tough yarn, like cotton yarn, can be hard on the fingers. Sore thumbs and frustration can be a thing of the past by simply using jewelry pliers to [carefully] help pull the tapestry needle through the work.

For my lining, I like to use a pre-made bag from Hobby Lobby that I stick inside and then sew in place. It measures 9" wide by 6" tall. I like to use Silamide thread for sewing, which is a durable, waxy 2-ply nylon thread. If you use this, you will only need to cut 1 strand, and double. If you use a regular sewing thread, like an all-purpose one, you should cut 2 strands, and double.

**Time Spent:** Just over an hour and 15 minutes

#### **Measurements:**

- Crocheted Cosmetic Bag: 9 1/4" Wide by 6 3/4" Tall

- Fits a Pre-Made Bag: 9" Wide by 6" Tall

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# Gauge:

Gauge is only essential if the finished size of the bag is essential so if you are using a pre-made bag that is the same size as mine, then you'll want to make sure you meet gauge so the bag will come out to the correct size. If you are making your own lining, or not lining, then gauge is not essential.

- Round 2 in Pattern: 14 HDC = 3 3/4" Wide by 1" Tall

- Round 4 in Pattern: 9 1/4" Wide

## **Abbreviations (US Terms):**

- SC Single Crochet (Photo Tutorial) HDC Half Double Crochet (Photo Tutorial)
- DC Double Crochet (Photo Tutorial) TR Treble Crochet (AKA Triple Crochet)
- dc3tog Double Crochet Three Stitches Together (Decrease)

**To dc3tog:** Yarn over, insert hook into the first stitch of the decrease, yarn over and pull through (3 loops), yarn over and pull through 2 loops, yarn over, insert hook into the next stitch, yarn over and pull through (4 loops), yarn over and pull through 2 loops, yarn over, insert hook into the next stitch, yarn over and pull through (5 loops), yarn over and pull through 2 loops, yarn over and pull through all 4 loops on hook.

#### **Pattern Notes:**

Beginning chain does not count as a stitch, except in the body of the bag, where it counts as a double crochet.

Join to the beginning chain for all rounds, except the first 2 rounds (half double crochets) and last 2 (single crochets), in which you'll join to the first stitch of the round.

The way I work my color change for a seamless change while carrying up the yarn: I work all the way around up to the join. I insert my hook into the stitch to be joined to, but before completing the slip stitch, I tighten the other color/s tail, then pull it/them up and over my hook so it will be in a better position to switch to, then I complete my slip stitch with my current color. To complete the color change, I pull the new color through the loop on my hook, pull the previous color tight so it disappears and drop it. Now I'm ready to work with my new color.

Alternatively, you can fasten off at the end of each round, work an invisible join for a seamless color change, and join your new color into the first stitch, but this will create many ends to weave in. OR, you could work all of the bag in a solid color and not have to worry about color changes. Just join to the first stitch at the end of the round, and begin again.

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### **Written Pattern:**

In **Brown**, chain 35. 2 HDC into the 2nd chain, HDC into each of the next 32 chains, 3 HDC into the last chain, HDC into each of the next 32 stitches along the opposite side of the foundation chain, HDC into the 1st stitch. Join. (70 HDC)

**R2:** Chain 1. HDC into the 1st stitch, and each stitch around. Join with **Cream**, and fasten off Brown. (70 HDC)

**R3:** In **Cream**, chain 3. TC into the 1st stitch, DC into the next 2 stitches, HDC into the next stitch, SC into each of the next 3 stitches, HDC into the next stitch, DC into the next 2 stitches, (TC into the next stitch, DC into the next 2 stitches, HDC into the next stitch, SC into each of the next 3 stitches, HDC into the next stitch, DC into the next 2 stitches) 6x. Join with **Purple**. (70 stitches)

**R4:** In **Purple**, chain 2. DC into the 1st 4 stitches, dc3tog, DC into the next 3 stitches, (3 DC into the next stitch, DC into the next 3 stitches, dc3tog, DC into the next 3 stitches) 6x. DC into the 1st stitch. Join with **Cream**. (70 DCs)

**R5:** In **Cream**, chain 2. DC into the 1st 4 stitches, dc3tog, DC into the next 3 stitches, (3 DC into the next stitch, DC into the next 3 stitches, dc3tog, DC into the next 3 stitches) 6x. DC into the 1st stitch. Join with **Brown**. (70 DCs)

**R6:** In **Brown**, chain 2. DC into the 1st 4 stitches, dc3tog, DC into the next 3 stitches, (3 DC into the next stitch, DC into the next 3 stitches, dc3tog, DC into the next 3 stitches) 6x. DC into the 1st stitch. Join with **Cream**. (70 DCs)

**R7:** In **Cream**, chain 2. DC into the 1st 4 stitches, dc3tog, DC into the next 3 stitches, (3 DC into the next stitch, DC into the next 3 stitches, dc3tog, DC into the next 3 stitches) 6x. DC into the 1st stitch. Join with **Purple**. (70 DCs)

**R8 - 11:** Repeat Rounds 4 - 7.

**R12:** In **Purple**, chain 1. SC into the 1st 2 stitches, HDC into the next stitch, DC into each of the next 5 stitches, (HDC into the next stitch, SC into each of the next 3 stitches, HDC into the next stitch, DC into each of the next 5 stitches) 6x, SC into the last stitch. Join with **Cream**, and fasten off **Purple**. (70 stitches)

**R13:** In **Cream**, chain 1. SC into the 1st stitch, and each stitch around. Join with **Brown**, and fasten off **Cream**. (70 SC)

**R14 - 15:** In **Brown**, chain 1. SC into the 1st stitch, and each stitch around. Join. (70 SC)

Fasten Off, and weave in ends.

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## FAQs:

# What is the best yarn to use to crochet a cosmetic bag?

I really like to use cotton yarn when I crochet a bag because it is durable and absorbent, which not only applies to the wear and tear it sees either being handled by you as a clutch, or being put into and taken out of a larger bag for smaller items, like make up or toiletries, but also in case anything spills and sweat and oils from your hands. I live in Florida where it is hot so much of the time, and I have noticed that with other yarns, my bags tend to fuzz up faster so I prefer WeCrochet Dishie or Lion Brand 24/7 Cotton. Lily Sugar n Cream is also a great cotton yarn for bags - my only issue with it is that it isn't colorfast so if it gets wet or washed, the colors fade and bleed. If you do use Lily Sugar n Cream, you might need to go down a hook size as it's a touch thicker.

With that said, you absolutely could use your favorite worsted weight yarn for making bags. I know a lot of makers like to use Red Heart Super Saver, and Hobby Lobby I Love This Yarn, and have great results. If you do decide to go with a synthetic yarn like these, I would suggest going up a hook size as the fiber produces tighter stitches than cotton.

## Should you line a crocheted bag?

I always line my crochet bags, and I always recommend doing the same. I have made so many bags over the years, and love using them, especially my <u>Plarn Handbag</u>, which oddly enough is the only material I don't line. Everything else regardless of whether it's cotton or acrylic... lightweight or heavyweight... one stitch or another... it always stretches out as soon as you put anything in it, and if you are hanging it by a strap, the weight of the items will not only stretch the body of the bag out, but also the strap, and while this is super annoying, it also will permanently affect a 100% cotton bag as it does not have any other fibers within it to help it bounce back to shape after the items are removed.

For my cosmetic bag lining, I like to use a pre-made bag from Hobby Lobby that I stick inside and then sew in place. It measures 9" wide by 6" tall. I like to use Silamide thread for sewing, which is a durable, waxy 2-ply nylon thread. If you use this, you will only need to cut 1 strand, and double. If you use a regular sewing thread, like an all-purpose one, you should cut 2 strands, and double.

Now, I know a lot of makers like to hot glue the linings in too. I am the first to admit that sewing and I aren't the best of friends, but I do prefer sewing as opposed to hot glue for two reasons: 1.) It could gum up if machine washed; 2.) While it holds really well for a while, eventually, the Florida heat and humidity do take it's toll on it and I've had hot glued pieces come apart.

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You may have some better luck with something like Titebond Quick & Thick for Multi-Surface, which I quite like for projects and dries pretty quickly, or a permanent fabric glue.

If the cosmetic bag (which I actually use for notions most of the time) is for me, then I usually don't even sew it in place, which allows me to easily change out the cover whenever I want without needing to have a bunch of finished bags, but if I am gifting or selling, I do sew in the lining.

## Can I put my crocheted bag in the washing machine?

One reason while a yarn being colorfast is important to me is because I like being able to throw it into the washing machine if I need to because no way am I handwashing so I choose yarns that withstand machine washing, like the WeCrochet Dishie or Red Heart Super Saver, which I know machine wash and dry well. You can put the bag into a mesh lingerie bag to protect the zipper and prevent it from getting caught on anything else in the wash, and then wash in cold water on the gentle cycle, and dry on low heat. If it's still wet after one cycle in the dryer, you can run it through again, or lay flat to finish drying.

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### **Links Included in this Pattern:**

There may be links throughout the pattern, such as to the video tutorial. If you are viewing from the digital version, you can click directly on those links to be taken to its respective post or video, but if you are viewing from a printed version, you can use your mobile device to scan any of the following QR codes to get to the same place. Open your camera, hover over the QR code, and a link will pop up. Click on the link.

