

THE
WOOLMARK
COMPANY



FELTED TOTE BAG

BY CMMN SWDN

Skill Level – Advanced





MATERIALS

- 100% Merino wool yarn, 10Ply – Worsted weight – 600 grams
- 2 Sets – 5.00mm (US 8) circular needles – at least 80cm in length
- Stitch markers
- Stitch holders x 3
- Yarn needle

ABBREVIATIONS

CO = Cast on, **K** = Knit, **P** = Purl, **St** = Stitch,
BO = Bind Off, **YO**= Yarn Over, **K2tog**= Knit 2 together,
RS= right side, **WS**= wrong side, **PM** = Place Marker,
SM = Slip Marker

SKILLS REQUIRED

- Cast on
- Cast off/Bind off
- Stockinette stitch
(alternate a knit row with a purl row)

LET'S GET STARTED!

STEP 1



Cast on 80 stitches onto 1 set of circular needles.
Begin working 30 rows in stockinette stitch as follows:
Row 1: **RS**- Knit
Row 2: **WS**- Purl

STEP 2



Row 31: **RS**- Knit to end of row. **PM**
With 2nd circular needle, pick up 30 stitches on side edge - knit. **PM**
Again with 2nd circular needle, pick up 80 stitches on cast on edge - knit. **PM**
And again with 2nd circular needle, pick up 30 stitches on remaining side edge - knit. **PM**

STEP 3



Work 3 rounds in stockinette (knit) st, making sure to **SM**'s as you come to them.

STEP 4



Round 4: (Front) K2, *YO, k2tog * repeat from * to *, until last stitch, K1, **SM**.
(Side) *K2, YO, k2tog * repeat from * to *, until last stitch, K1, **SM**.
(Back) *K2, YO, k2tog * repeat from * to *, until last stitch, K1, **SM**.
(Side) *K2, YO, k2tog * repeat from * to *, until last stitch, K1, **SM**.

STEP 5



Round 5 -7: Work 3 rounds in stockinette (knit) stitch, making sure to **SM**'s as you come to them.

Repeat pattern for rounds 4 – 7 - 20 times.

SHAPING THE HANDLES



Round 1- (Front) BO 2, K25, BO until 28 stitches remain. K25, BO 3.

(Side) BO all stitches.

(Back) BO 2, K25, BO until 28 stitches remain. K25, BO 3.

(Side) BO all stitches.

DIVIDE FOR STRAPS

Note: Sts are now divided and each strap is worked separately. Place each strap's stitches onto stitch holders if required - or they can remain on the circular needles if you prefer.

First Strap

Row 1 (RS): K2tog, k until 2 stitches remain, k2tog.

Row 2: Purl.

Row 3: K2tog, k until 2 stitches remain, k2tog

Row 4: Purl.

Work in Stockinette st until strap measures about 25cm from dividing row.

Bind off.

Second Strap

Sl 25 sts for second strap back onto needle. Rep Rows 2 – 4 of first strap until 21 sts rem.

Work in Stockinette st until strap measures about 30 cm from dividing row.

Bind off.

Repeat for remaining 2 straps.

Sew the front handles to the back handles using a close and firm running stitch from the same yarn you have used for the bag. Remove any remaining markers and weave in ends before felting.

Felt Tote by hand or in a machine, as follows:

Felt by machine

Wash by domestic washing machine on a hot wash/cold rinse cycle with detergent and several pieces of clothing to agitate. Pull tote bag into shape and allow to dry. You may need to repeat this cycle a few times to achieve your desired finished size.

Felt by hand

Fill a sink with hot water and a small amount of liquid soap (any soap, hand or dish soap will work). Put on rubber gloves. Submerge tote bag in hot soapy water. Hold tote with one hand, rub surface of fabric with your other hand, working over entire surface until stitches begin to lose their definition. Rinse gently to remove soap residue. Pull into shape and allow to dry.

Note: It is recommended to fill your tote with towels during the drying process to help with shaping.

Should your wool tote need a freshen up from time to time, wash using a wool detergent on a wool wash cycle in your machine or by hand if you prefer. Remember to use the towels during drying to ensure it maintains its shape. Visit woolmark.com/care for more simple tips on washing and drying wool.

