Shell stitch shoulder bag

US terms



Finished size
About 12 in (30.5 cm) wide laid flat and 6½ in (16.5 cm) tall, with a strap about 25¾ in (65.5 cm) long

Skill
Easy
It is worked in rounds, with increases in the base.

Yarn
Medium (4)

Hook
5 mm (US H-8)

Gauge
14 stitches and 15 rounds to 4 in (10 cm)
In single crochet.

You will need

Yarn: dusty mauve, medium (4) **about 250 yd (229 m), an estimate**

Fiber: cotton

Hook: 5 mm (US H-8). Also: a stitch marker, a yarn needle and scissors.

To find how many balls: divide by the length on your yarn's label and round up. The estimate is from the stitches of this size at this gauge, with 30 percent added.

Abbreviations

Written in US terms. Where the UK name differs it is given beside the US one.

ch	chain stitch
sl st	slip stitch (UK ss, slip stitch)
sc	single crochet (UK dc, double crochet)
dc	double crochet (UK tr, treble)
st	stitch
sk	skip (UK miss)
rnd	round
RS	right side

Gauge

14 stitches and 15 rounds to 4 in (10 cm) in single crochet.

If the piece measures more than that, begin again with a smaller hook; if it measures less, with a larger hook.

Check your gauge on the piece. Begin the pattern and measure the piece itself as you go. The gauge is checked on the piece itself: after round 4 the base should measure about 10¾ in (27.5 cm) long, laid flat and not stretched.

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Before you start

- Round 1 is worked along both sides of the foundation chain: along one side, 3 stitches in the last chain, then back along the other side.
- The rounds of the base are not joined: work in a spiral, and move a marker up to the first stitch of each round.
- The chain of 1 at the start of a row does not count as a stitch.
- For a longer strap begin with more chains: for every 4 in (10 cm) you want to add, as many more chains as the gauge has stitches in 4 in (10 cm). Every row then has as many more stitches.
- In shell stitch 5 rounds measure about 2 in (5 cm).
- From the first shell round on, the rounds are joined. A chain of 1 or 2 at the start of a round does not count as a stitch, and the first stitch named in a round is the one the round before was joined in.
- A shell is five double crochet (UK treble) in one stitch. Each shell stands on a single crochet, and each single crochet stands on the middle stitch of a shell.

Instructions

Square brackets [ ] hold a repeat: work what is inside as many times as it says. The count in round brackets at the end of a line is what that line leaves. Tick the box when a round is done. In UK terms sl st is slip stitch, sc is double crochet, dc is treble and sk is miss.

Bag

☐ **Foundation**	Ch 33.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook, sc in next 30 chs, 3 sc in last ch, working along the other side of the foundation ch, sc in next 30 chs, 2 sc in last ch	**(66 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	2 sc in next st, sc in next 30 sts, 2 sc in each of next 3 sts, sc in next 30 sts, 2 sc in each of next 2 sts	**(72 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 3**	2 sc in next st, sc in next st, sc in next 30 sts, **[**2 sc in next st, sc in next st**] 3 times**, sc in next 30 sts, **[**2 sc in next st, sc in next st**] 2 times**	**(78 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 4**	Sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 30 sts, **[**sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 3 times**, sc in next 30 sts, **[**sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 2 times**	**(84 sc)**

> **Stop and measure now, after round 4.** After round 4 the base should measure about 10¾ in (27.5 cm) long and 2¼ in (5.5 cm) wide. After round 4, slip stitch in the next stitch to level the edge. Every round after it is joined. Work the first stitch of round 5 into the stitch you slip stitched in.

Sides

☐ **Rnd 5**	Ch 1, **[**sc in next st, sk next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st, sk next 2 sts**] 14 times**, sl st in first sc to join	**(14 sc, 70 dc)**
☐ **Rnd 6**	Ch 2, **[**5 dc in next st, sk next 2 sts, sc in next st, sk next 2 sts**] 14 times**, sl st in first dc to join	**(70 dc, 14 sc)**

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☐ **Rnd 7**	Sl st in next 2 sts, ch 1, sc in next st, sk next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st, **[**sk next 2 sts, sc in next st, sk next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st**] 13 times**, sl st in first sc to join	**(14 sc, 70 dc)**
☐ **Rnd 8**	Ch 2, **[**5 dc in next st, sk next 2 sts, sc in next st, sk next 2 sts**] 14 times**, sl st in first dc to join	**(70 dc, 14 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 9**	Sl st in next 2 sts, ch 1, sc in next st, sk next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st, **[**sk next 2 sts, sc in next st, sk next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st**] 13 times**, sl st in first sc to join	**(14 sc, 70 dc)**
☐ **Rnd 10**	Ch 2, **[**5 dc in next st, sk next 2 sts, sc in next st, sk next 2 sts**] 14 times**, sl st in first dc to join	**(70 dc, 14 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 11**	Sl st in next 2 sts, ch 1, sc in next st, sk next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st, **[**sk next 2 sts, sc in next st, sk next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st**] 13 times**, sl st in first sc to join	**(14 sc, 70 dc)**
☐ **Rnd 12**	Ch 2, **[**5 dc in next st, sk next 2 sts, sc in next st, sk next 2 sts**] 14 times**, sl st in first dc to join	**(70 dc, 14 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 13**	Sl st in next 2 sts, ch 1, sc in next st, sk next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st, **[**sk next 2 sts, sc in next st, sk next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st**] 13 times**, sl st in first sc to join	**(14 sc, 70 dc)**
☐ **Rnd 14**	Ch 2, **[**5 dc in next st, sk next 2 sts, sc in next st, sk next 2 sts**] 14 times**, sl st in first dc to join	**(70 dc, 14 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 15**	Sl st in next 2 sts, ch 1, sc in next st, sk next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st, **[**sk next 2 sts, sc in next st, sk next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st**] 13 times**, sl st in first sc to join	**(14 sc, 70 dc)**
☐ **Rnd 16**	Ch 2, **[**5 dc in next st, sk next 2 sts, sc in next st, sk next 2 sts**] 14 times**, sl st in first dc to join	**(70 dc, 14 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 17**	Sl st in next 2 sts, ch 1, sc in next st, sk next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st, **[**sk next 2 sts, sc in next st, sk next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st**] 13 times**, sl st in first sc to join	**(14 sc, 70 dc)**
☐ **Rnd 18**	Ch 1, sc in each st around, sl st in first sc to join	**(84 sc)**

Top

☐ **Rnds 19 to 22**	Ch 1, sc in each st around, sl st in first sc to join	**(84 sc)**

A box for each round, 19 to 22: tick them off as you go.

19 20 21 22

☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a tail of 6 in (15 cm).	

Strap

☐ **Foundation**	Ch 91.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across	**(90 sc)**

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☐ **Rows 2 to 7**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	**(90 sc)**

A box for each row, 2 to 7: tick them off as you go.

2 3 4 5 6 7

☐ **End** Fasten off, leaving a tail of 12 in (30 cm) to sew one end. To sew the other end, cut a new length of the same yarn, also 12 in (30 cm).

Putting it together

The strap is about 25¾ in (65.5 cm) long. Sew its ends to the inside of the bag at the two ends of the oval, over the top 4 rounds.

Finishing

- Weave every tail in on the inside.

In all: 2 pieces; 2,442 stitches (1,812 in the bag, 630 in the strap); 4 ends to weave in.

Found a mistake in this pattern? Tell us at flossfield.com, under Make a request.

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