Strawberry grocery bag holder

US terms



Finished size

About 24 in (61 cm) around at its widest and 9¾ in (25 cm) tall, for used plastic bags, without the strap, which stands about 3¼ in (8 cm) above the cap

Skill

Easy

It is single crochet in unjoined rounds; the seeds are sewn, and the leaves are one round each.

Yarn

Medium (4), 4 colors

Hook

5 mm (US H-8)

Gauge

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

In single crochet (UK double crochet).

What you need

Yarn A: strawberry red, the berry	**about 195 yd (178 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: cream, the seeds	**about 10 yd (9 m), an estimate**
Yarn C: leaf green, the cap and the leaves	**about 55 yd (50 m), an estimate**
Yarn D: moss green, the hanging strap	**about 15 yd (14 m), an estimate**

By weight: about 140 g in all, an estimate, where 100 g is 200 yd (183 m).

Fiber: acrylic

Hook: 5 mm (US H-8), or the size that gives you the gauge. Also: round elastic about 1/8 in (0.3 cm) thick, 11 in (28 cm) of it, 8 stitch markers, pins, a yarn needle and scissors.

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

Gauge

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

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 mouth should measure about 6¾ in (17 cm) around, laid flat and not stretched, measured across and doubled. If the piece measures more than that, begin again with a smaller hook; if it measures less, with a larger hook.

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Notes

- Join the foundation chain of the berry into a ring with a slip stitch, and take care that it is not twisted. Chain 1, which does not count as a stitch, and work the first single crochet (UK double crochet) of round 1 into the first chain, the one that has the slip stitch in it, then one into each of the other chains.
- The rounds of the berry are not joined: work in a spiral, and move a marker up to the first stitch of each round. The right side, the outside, faces you in every round.
- Keep a marker for the seeds as well: when you work rounds 11, 16, 21, 26 and 31, put a second marker in the first stitch of the round and leave it there.
- The cap is worked in joined rounds from a ring of 12 chains, with one stitch in each chain in round 1. The ring stays open as a hole for the strap. Each round is joined with a slip stitch in its first stitch. The chain at the start of a round does not count as a stitch; work the first stitch of the round into the stitch the round before was joined in.
- sc2tog: draw up a loop in each of the next 2 stitches, yarn over and pull through all 3 loops on the hook.
- The chain of 1 at the start of a row does not count as a stitch. The strap is worked in rows.
- Colors. The berry is A, the seeds B, the cap and the leaves C and the strap D.

Instructions

US terms.

ch chain, **sl st** slip stitch, **sc** single crochet (UK double crochet), **hdc** half double crochet (UK half treble), **dc** double crochet (UK treble), **tr** treble crochet (UK double treble), **st** stitch, **sp** space, **rnd** round.

sc2tog 2 sc made into one, **sk** skip, **RS** right side, the one that shows.

2 sc in next st: both in one stitch. **sc in next 4 sts**: one in each. **ch-1 sp**: the gap under the one chain; the hook goes in the gap.

[ ] 8 times: work what is inside 8 times in all.

(24 sc): the stitches you have when the round is done. **How to read a pattern**.

Berry

Yarn A, strawberry red.

☐ **Foundation**	Ch 24, sl st in first ch to form a ring.	
Mouth		
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	Ch 1, sc in each ch around	(24 sc)
☐ **Rnd 2**	Sc in each st around	(24 sc)
☐ **Rnd 3**	**[**Sc in next 2 sts, ch 1, sk next st**] 8 times**	(16 sc, 8 ch-1 sps)
☐ **Rnd 4**	**[**Sc in next 2 sts, sc in next ch-1 sp**] 8 times**	(24 sc)

> **Stop and measure now, after round 4.** The mouth should measure about 6¾ in (17 cm) around.

Sides		
☐ **Rnd 5**	**[**Sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	(30 sc)
☐ **Rnd 6**	Sc in each st around	(30 sc)
☐ **Rnd 7**	Sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st, **[**sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 5 times**, sc in next 2 sts	(36 sc)

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☐ **Rnd 8**	Sc in each st around	(36 sc)
☐ **Rnd 9**	**[**Sc in next 5 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	(42 sc)
☐ **Rnd 10**	Sc in each st around	(42 sc)
☐ **Rnd 11**	Sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st, **[**sc in next 6 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 5 times**, sc in next 3 sts	(48 sc)
☐ **Rnd 12**	Sc in each st around	(48 sc)
☐ **Rnd 13**	**[**Sc in next 7 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	(54 sc)
☐ **Rnd 14**	Sc in each st around	(54 sc)
☐ **Rnd 15**	Sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in next st, **[**sc in next 8 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 5 times**, sc in next 4 sts	(60 sc)
☐ **Rnd 16**	Sc in each st around	(60 sc)
☐ **Rnd 17**	**[**Sc in next 9 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	(66 sc)
☐ **Rnds 18 to 19**	Sc in each st around	(66 sc)
18 19		
☐ **Rnd 20**	Sc in next 5 sts, 2 sc in next st, **[**sc in next 10 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 5 times**, sc in next 5 sts	(72 sc)
☐ **Rnds 21 to 22**	Sc in each st around	(72 sc)
21 22		
☐ **Rnd 23**	**[**Sc in next 11 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	(78 sc)
☐ **Rnds 24 to 25**	Sc in each st around	(78 sc)
24 25		
☐ **Rnd 26**	Sc in next 6 sts, 2 sc in next st, **[**sc in next 12 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 5 times**, sc in next 6 sts	(84 sc)
☐ **Rnds 27 to 33**	Sc in each st around	(84 sc)
27 28 29 30 31 32 33		

Shoulders

☐ **Rnd 34**	**[**Sc in next 12 sts, sc2tog**] 6 times**	(78 sc)
☐ **Rnd 35**	Sc in each st around	(78 sc)
☐ **Rnd 36**	Sc in next 5 sts, sc2tog, **[**sc in next 11 sts, sc2tog**] 5 times**, sc in next 6 sts	(72 sc)
☐ **Rnd 37**	**[**Sc in next 10 sts, sc2tog**] 6 times**	(66 sc)
☐ **Rnd 38**	Sc in next 4 sts, sc2tog, **[**sc in next 9 sts, sc2tog**] 5 times**, sc in next 5 sts	(60 sc)
☐ **Rnd 39**	**[**Sc in next 8 sts, sc2tog**] 6 times**	(54 sc)
☐ **Rnd 40**	Sc in next 3 sts, sc2tog, **[**sc in next 7 sts, sc2tog**] 5 times**, sc in next 4 sts	(48 sc)
☐ **Rnd 41**	**[**Sc in next 6 sts, sc2tog**] 6 times**	(42 sc)

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☐ **Rnds 42 to 43**	Sc in each st around	(42 sc)

42 43

☐ **End**	Slip stitch in the next stitch to level the edge. Fasten off, leaving a tail of 6 in (15 cm).	

Cap

Yarn C, leaf green.

☐ **Foundation**	Ch 12, sl st in first ch to form a ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	Ch 1, sc in each ch around, sl st in first sc to join	(12 sc)
☐ **Rnd 2**	Ch 1, **[**sc in next st, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**, sl st in first sc to join	(18 sc)
☐ **Rnd 3**	Ch 1, **[**sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**, sl st in first sc to join	(24 sc)
☐ **Rnd 4**	Ch 1, **[**sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**, sl st in first sc to join	(30 sc)
☐ **Rnd 5**	Ch 1, **[**sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**, sl st in first sc to join	(36 sc)
☐ **Rnd 6**	Ch 1, **[**sc in next 5 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**, sl st in first sc to join	(42 sc)
☐ **Rnd 7**	Ch 1, **[**sc in next 6 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**, sl st in first sc to join	(48 sc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a tail of 6 in (15 cm).	

Leaf: make 8

Yarn C, leaf green.

The leaf is one round along both sides of its chain. The joined end is its foot, and the 3 sc in one chain make its point.

☐ **Foundation**	Ch 14.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook, hdc in next ch, dc in next 2 chs, tr in next 4 chs, dc in next 2 chs, hdc in next ch, sc in next ch, 3 sc in last ch, working along the other side of the foundation ch, sc in next ch, hdc in next ch, dc in next 2 chs, tr in next 4 chs, dc in next 2 chs, hdc in next ch, sc in next ch, sl st in first sc to join	(7 sc, 4 hdc, 8 dc, 8 tr)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a tail of 16 in (40.5 cm) for sewing.	

Strap

Yarn D, moss green.

☐ **Foundation**	Ch 4.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across	(3 sc)
☐ **Rows 2 to 46**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	(3 sc)

2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29
30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46

☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a tail of 16 in (40.5 cm) to sew one end. To sew the other end, cut a new length of the same yarn, also 16 in (40.5 cm).	

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Assembly

1. Weave in the tails of the berry and of the cap on their wrong sides. Weave in the starting tail of each leaf along its chain on the wrong side and the starting tail of the strap. Leave the long tail of each leaf and of the strap.

2. The elastic. Cut 11 in (28 cm) of round elastic and thread it on the yarn needle. Begin at any chain-1 space of round 3: take the needle in through that space to the inside and out through the next, in and out through all 8 spaces, so that the end of the elastic comes out of the last space beside the one where you began. Both ends are now on the outside, in two spaces that are neighbors. Draw them up until the opening is about 1 in (2.5 cm) across, tie the ends in a firm double knot, cut them off ½ in (1.5 cm) from the knot and push the knot and the ends in through the nearest space to the inside.

3. The seeds are detached chain stitches in B, 58 in all, on five rounds: 11, 16, 21, 26 and 31. Detached chain stitch: bring the needle up from the inside at the top of the seed, lay the yarn in a loop below it and hold the loop with your thumb, put the needle down again where it came up and bring it out 2 rounds lower, straight below and inside the loop, draw the yarn until the loop lies flat, and go down just below the loop, so that a tiny stitch holds its round end.

4. Place the seeds so. The berry hangs with the mouth down. Count the stitches of each round from the marked stitch, which is stitch 1, in the direction you worked. On rounds 11, 21 and 31 the first seed is in stitch 1 and the next in every 6th stitch after it: 7, 13, 19 and so on to the end of the round. On rounds 16 and 26 the first is in stitch 4 and the next in 10, 16, 22 and so on. The thin end of a seed, its top, is in the stitch that is named, and the seed reaches straight down over the 2 rounds below it, toward the mouth. Use lengths of about 30 in (76 cm) and fasten each off on the inside. Between two seeds run the needle through the backs of the stitches on the inside, so that no long strand is left to catch. Take a marker out when its round is done.

5. The leaves. Lay the cap with its wrong side up and put a marker in every 6th stitch of its last round, 8 in all. Lay the foot of a leaf at each marker, the wrong side of the leaf up too and its point outward: the foot reaches 2 rounds in from the edge of the cap and its middle is at the marker. Pin the leaves, and take the markers out. Sew each leaf with its own tail, which hangs at its foot, through the leaf and the back of the cap together: 5 stitches round the foot, and one at each side where the leaf leaves the edge of the cap. Do not let the stitches show on the right side of the cap. Fasten off on the wrong side.

6. The strap. The last round of the berry has 42 stitches. Put a marker in the first of them and one in the 22nd: these are the two sides. Lay the end of the strap with the long tail flat against the inside of the berry at one marker, the strap standing up, its right side to the inside of the berry, its end 3 rounds below the edge and the marker at the middle of its width. With that tail sew it down along its end edge and up both of its sides to the edge: bring the needle through the strap one stitch in from its edge and through the berry behind it, a stitch for each stitch and row, and fasten off on the inside. Fold the strap in half and push the fold up through the hole of the cap, from the wrong side of the cap to its right side. Sew the other end inside the berry at the other marker in the same way with the new length, the strap not twisted and its right side to the inside again. Fasten off and take the markers out.

7. Slide the cap down the strap until it lies on the berry, the leaves over the shoulders. Weave in all the tails that are left on the inside. To fill the holder, slide the cap up.

Finishing

- Press the leaves down over the berry with your hands so that they follow its curve.

In all: 11 pieces; 3,094 stitches (2,530 in the berry, 210 in the cap, 27 in each leaf, 138 in the strap).

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

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