Striped flap messenger bag

US terms



Finished size
About 13¼ in (33.5 cm) wide and 11 in (28 cm) tall, with a strap about 42¾ in (108.5 cm) long before sewing

Skill
Easy
It is worked in rounds from a chain, and the flap in rows.

Yarn
Medium (4), 3 colors

Hook
5 mm (US H-8)

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

You will need

Yarn A: charcoal, the bag, the flap and the strap	**about 475 yd (434 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: burnt orange, the wide stripes of the flap	**about 15 yd (14 m), an estimate**
Yarn C: pale blue, the stripe between	**about 10 yd (9 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
sc	single crochet (UK dc, double crochet)
st	stitch
rnd	round
RS	right side

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Gauge

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

There should be 14 stitches; rows worked back and forth are not quite as tall as rounds, so go by the stitches. If you count more stitches than that, change to a larger hook; if you count fewer, change to a smaller hook. The swatch can be pulled out and its yarn used again.

> **The swatch.** A test piece to measure and pull out. It is not the start of the pattern. Work a swatch before you begin: ch 22; row 1, sc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across (21 sc); rows 2 to 22, ch 1, turn, sc in each st across (21 sc). Lay it flat and count the stitches over 4 in (10 cm) in its middle.
>
> | | | |
> |---|---|---|
> | **Swatch foundation** | Ch 22. | |
> | **Swatch row 1 (RS)** | Sc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across | **(21 sc)** |
> | **Swatch rows 2 to 22** | Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across | **(21 sc)** |

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 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.
- To change color, draw the new yarn through as the last yarn over of the stitch before. Cut the old yarn, leaving a tail of 6 in (15 cm). Where only two rows are worked before the old yarn is used again, do not cut it: carry it loosely up the side.

Instructions

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 sc is double crochet.

Bag

Yarn A, charcoal.

☐ **Foundation**	Ch 46.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook, sc in next 43 chs, 3 sc in last ch, working along the other side of the foundation ch, sc in next 43 chs, 2 sc in last ch	**(92 sc)**
☐ **Rnds 2 to 41**	Sc in each st around	**(92 sc)**

A box for each round, 2 to 41: tick them off as you go.

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

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

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Flap

Yarns in order of use: A, charcoal; B, burnt orange; C, pale blue.

Lay the bag flat with the foundation chain as its bottom edge, so that 46 stitches of the last round lie on each side and each side fold falls between two stitches. The flap is worked into the back, the outside facing you, and 1 stitch is left free at each end. Join A with a slip stitch in the second stitch from the fold on your right (on your left if you work left-handed). Work the first single crochet of row 1 into that same stitch.

☐ **Foundation**	The top edge of the back, RS facing; 44 stitches.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Ch 1, sc in each st across	**(44 sc)**
☐ **Rows 2 to 28**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	**(44 sc)**

A box for each row, 2 to 28: tick them off as you go.

☐ 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

☐ **Row 29**	With B, ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	**(44 sc)**
☐ **Row 30**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	**(44 sc)**
☐ **Row 31**	With C, ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	**(44 sc)**
☐ **Row 32**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	**(44 sc)**
☐ **Row 33**	With B, ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	**(44 sc)**
☐ **Row 34**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	**(44 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a tail of 6 in (15 cm).	

Strap

Yarn A, charcoal.

☐ **Foundation**	Ch 151.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across	**(150 sc)**
☐ **Rows 2 to 6**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	**(150 sc)**

A box for each row, 2 to 6: tick them off as you go.

☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5 ☐ 6

☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a tail of 20 in (51 cm) to sew one end. To sew the other end, cut a new length of the same yarn, also 20 in (51 cm).

Putting it together

The strap is about 42¾ in (108.5 cm) long. Lay one of its ends inside the bag at a side fold, the fold at the middle of its width, so that 1 in (2.5 cm) of it lies over the top four rounds, and sew it down round all its edges. Sew the other end at the other side fold in the same way.

Finishing

- Weave every tail in on the inside.

In all: 3 pieces; 6,168 stitches (3,772 in the bag, 1,496 in the flap, 900 in the strap); 12 ends to weave in.

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

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