## A crocheted shopping bag from cotton yarn

Crochet a shopping bag using the pattern available from this page. The crocheted bag is made using two types of stitches and is ideal for beginners. It is made by crocheting a square and then crocheting the border and handles around the square.

1. Crochet 140 ch
2. Crochet a dc in the 8 th ch, Crochet " 5 ch, skip 3 ch and crochet 1 dc in the 4th ch". Repeat from "till "to the end of the row.
3. Turn with " 5 ch . Secure in the ch-sp with a dc". Repeat from "till " to the end of the row.
4. Repeat row 3 until you have a total of 29 rows.
5. Crochet row 30 as follows; 4 ch and 1 sl st in the chsp underneath in order to achieve a tight edge like the starting edge.
6. Turn the crocheted square. Crochet on the left hand side; 1 dc in each edge of the ch-sp; 30 stitches.
7. Turn with 1 ch . Crochet back with a row of dc . Crochet a total of 6 rows of dc . Cut the yarn.
8. Repeat rows 6 \& 7 and crochet in the opposite side of the crocheted square, but do not cut the yarn. The sides of the crocheted square will form the top edge of the bag.
9. Turn the section in order to crochet the sides of the bag. Begin with 5 dc which are crocheted in the top edge of dc.
10. Crochet 2 dc in each ch-sp. Finish the row with 5 dc in the opposite firm edge of the section. Do not cut the yarn.
11. Cast on 60 ch for the handle.
12. Repeat steps 9 \& 10 on the last side of the crocheted square.
13. Secure the handle with a dc in the first dc on the opposite side. Crochet another 4 dc on the top edge.

14. Crochet 22 dc in the first dc along the side.
15. Decrease the next 26 dc to 13 dc by pushing the crochet hook through the stitch, yarn over hook, pull back and leave the loop on the crochet hook. Repeat in the next stitch; yarn over hook and pull the crochet hook through all 3 loops.
16. Crochet $22 \mathrm{dc}+$ the 5 dc in the top edge. Also crochet 1 dc in each ch in the handle.
17. Repeat steps 14 to 16.
18. Crochet $d c$ in each $d c$ around the entire circle; a total of 6 rows.
19. Cut the yarn and secure the ends.
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Abbreviations and symbols explanation:
ch = chain stitch
sl st = slip stitch
ch-sp = chain space
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