

Mesh Bag expands to fit parcels

MATERIALS:

Just the handiest thing imaginable, a big shopping bag that folds into its own little bag when not in use. The little bag forms the bottom of the big one, so it cannot be mislaid. For the maximum of hard wear, be sure to use P & B 3 ply Permanent Crimp-Set Nylon, the 100% pure nylon yarn and you will need:—2 (1 oz.) balls. One No. 4 Steel Crochet Hook (American Gauge). One Button.

Beginning at bottom, Ch. 6. Join with s.s. to form ring.

1st round: Work 1 s.c. then 14 d.c. in ring. **Do not join** as this is planned for a spiral effect.

2nd round: 2 d.c. in each of the 15 sts. of 1st. round.

3rd round: *1 d.c. in next st. 2 d.c. (an increase) in next st. Repeat from * around.

Work 2 rounds with 3 d.c. between increases, then 2 rounds with 5 d.c. between increases. Increasing in this manner will keep work flat and the increases do not always come above one another. On last round, adjust increases if necessary, so there will be 96 sts. in round. The circle should be approx. 4 $\frac{3}{4}$ ins. in diameter as care should be taken to work this article firmly for added strength. Fasten off with s.s. in next st.

Make another circle exactly the same but **do not** fasten off. Place the 2 circles together, right sides facing, and join by working 1 s.s. through any st. of other circle. Proceed:—

To make loop pattern: **1st round:** Working through both circles to join, work 1 s.c. in same st. as 1st. joining s.s. *Ch.7. Miss 2 sts. (2 on each circle). 2 s.c. in next st. Repeat from * until there are 25 loops. Working through 1 circle only, repeat from * to end of round. (32 loops in round).

2nd round: *Ch.9. 2 s.c. in next loop, which in this 1st. instance will be the 1st. loop of previous round. Repeat from * to end of round.

3rd round: *Ch.11. 2 s.c. in next loop. Repeat from * to end of round. Continue in this manner, working 2 more Ch. in each loop, until 8 rounds have been worked. (21 Ch. in each loop).

Remainder of bag is worked with 21 Ch. in each loop. Work 9 rounds more, working last 2 s.c. in 11th Ch. of loop to prevent loop sliding. **Turn.** Divide work in 4 sections for sides and handles as follows:—

To make 1st section: **1st row:** 1 s.s. in each st. to centre of 1st. loop. *Ch.21. 2 s.c. in next loop. Repeat from * until there are 7 loops in all, working last 2 s.c. in 11th Ch. to prevent loop sliding. Before turning work around, with a safety pin mark 11th Ch. of next loop, to indicate starting point of next section. **Turn.** Working 1 loop less in each row, repeat 1st. row twice more. (5 loops in last row).

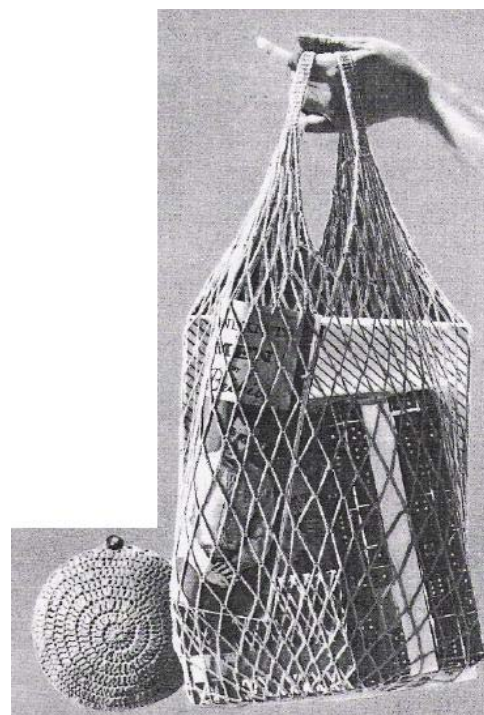
Next row: 1 s.s. in each st. to centre of 1st. loop. 1 s.c. in same st. as last s.s. 1 s.c. in each of next 3 loops. 1 s.c. in 11th Ch. of last loop. Ch.1. **Turn.** Work 25 rows s.c. on these 5 sts. for one half of handle. Fasten off.

To make 2nd and 3rd sections: Join yarn in st. marked by safety pin. Beginning at * on 1st. row, work to correspond to 1st. section.

To make 4th section: Join yarn in st. marked by safety pin. *Ch.21. 2 s.c. in next loop. Repeat from * until there are 7 loops in all. Ch.21. 1 s.s. in 1st. s.s. of 1st. section. **Turn.** Working 1 loop less in each row, repeat 1st. row of 1st. section twice more. (6 loops in last row).

Next row: 1 s.s. in each st. to centre of 1st. loop. Ch.11. 1 s.c. in each of next 4 loops. 1 s.c. in 11th Ch. of last loop. Ch.1. **Turn.** Work 25 rows s.c. on these 5 sts. Fasten off.

Sew the 5 s.c. of 1st. and 2nd sections together to complete handle. Sew the 5 s.c. of 3rd and 4th sections together to complete other handle. Reinforce these side openings and handles thus made, by working around each in s.c. allowing for stretch by working about 11 s.c. for each loop and 1 s.c. in each row of handle. Turn bottom section inside out and tuck remainder of bag in opening. Sew button at centre of free edge and make a Ch. loop on other side to fasten.



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