

Felted Finger Bag

Materials

8mm needles / 2 discs Lopi Roving colour A / 1 disc Lopi Roving colour B

You will be knitting the Lopi Roving double so, wind yourself a 2nd ball of colour B by taking the yarn from the centre of the disc.

Base of bag

Using 2 strands of colour A together, cast on 30 stitches.

Working in stocking stitch, work 2 rows colour A, and 2 rows colour B. Repeat until you have worked a total of 8 sets of stripes ending with 2 rows colour A.

Body of bag

Using colour A, knit 30 stitches, then cast on an additional 106 stitches. Total stitches will be 136.

Using only colour A, work in stocking stitch until the body of the bag measures 14", ending with a purl row.

Then using colour B knit 1 row and purl 1 row.

Making the fingers

Using colour B,

K1, cast on an additional 8 stitches (I used the simple thumb method), turn work, put the yarn to the back, cast off the 8 stitches you just added, turn work, put the yarn to the back, slip stitch (with the 'finger' attached) over onto opposite needle. Voila...1 finger...

Repeat this across the entire row, it is slow but looks great when finished!!!

Purl 1 row with colour B.

Change back to colour A and work 4 rows in Garter stitch.

Cast off.

Handles

(knit 2 of these)

With yarn A cast on 5 stitches.

Working in Stocking stitch, work 2 rows yarn A, 2 rows yarn B. Repeat this until you have 47 sets of stripes ending with 2 stripes of yarn A.

Cast off.

To make up the bag

Stitch up the side of the bag. Stitch the base of the bag into the body of the bag, you may have to ease it in as the base of the bag may be a little smaller than the body. Carefully but securely stitch on the handles at evenly spaced intervals using 2 or 3 strands of the roving.

Felting the bag

Put the bag into your washing machine and add about a half measure of washing powder. Put in a pair of jeans as the bag will need something to help it tumble around against during the washing cycle.

Measurements after a 40° 1hr 15min wash in my machine 26cm / 10" H / base 14cm / 5.5" x 20cm / 8".

If you would prefer a larger bag try a gentler wash, you may need to pop it back in for a second wash if you are not happy with the size. If you are concerned begin with a gentle wash !!!

Every washing machine is different so my measurement is just a guide.

Drying

Once you are happy with the texture and size of the bag, pull it into a bucket shape (you can be very forceful with it at this point!!!) Let the bag dry.