

Cross Body Bag Knitting Pattern



SKILL LEVEL

Advanced

FINISHED SIZE

Bag - 16.5 in (W) x 15.5 in (H);
Strap - 31 in long x 2" wid

By Oriental Trading Company

MATERIALS

- Size 8 US Knitting Needles (for Bag Body)
- Size 7 US Knitting Needles (for Strap)
- 350-450 yards worsted weight #4 durable fiber yarn (cotton blend or wool/nylon)
- Notions: Tapestry needle, optional magnetic snap or zipper, optional fabric for lining, sewing needle and thread

GAUGE

- Bag Body (US 8); -18sts X 24 rows+ 4"(10cm) in stockinette (=4.5 sts/in and 6 rows/in)
- Strap (US7, garter): typically 7 sts/in: measure as you knit

ABBREVIATIONS

CO: cast on
BO: bind off
St(s): stitch(es)
K: knit
P: purl
RS/WS: right side/wrong side
Rep: repeat

INSTRUCTIONS

Construction Overview

Work one flat rectangle with garter borders (to prevent curl and add strength). Fold and seam the sides to form the bag. Knit the strap separately as a dense garter strip and sew it securely to the top edge with a box stitch.

Bag Body-Row by Row

Cast On:

CO 74 sts on US 8 (=16.5 in at gauge). Maintain a 3 st garter border at each side throughout (k3 at start and end of every row). Center panel in stockinette (k on RS, p on WS).

Bottom Garter Hem (prevents curling)

Rows 1-10: k across every row (garter) - 1.5in

Main Body (stockinette with garter side borders)

Row 11 (RS): K all stitches

Row 12 (WS): k3, p to last 3 sts, k3

Rep rows 11-12 until piece is 13" long.



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Top Garter Hem

Knit every row (garter stitch) for 9 rows, bind off on the final row. Final piece should be approximately 14 inches tall.

Strap Row By Row

Worked flat on US 7 needles for firmness. CO 12 stitches (approx. 2 inch wide in garter).

Row 1 (RS): K all sts.

Row 2 (WS): K all sts.

Continue in garter stitch until strap measures 31 in (79 cm) or desired length.

Assembly & Finishing

- Block to square edges and avoid over stretching.
- Fold body in half (garter hem to garter hem), RS facing in. Seam both sides with mattress stitch, using the outer stitch of the garter border for a clean edge.
- Turn RS out. Optional: work one round of slip stitch crochet or whip stitch along the top edge to firm it up.
- Attach strap: position each end 2 inches from side seams at top edge. Overlap inside by 1 inch and sew in a box stitch (rectangle with an X) through strap and top hem.
- Optional closure: magnetic snap or zipper inside top hem.
- Optional lining: Sew a fabric lining to the bag interior to increase durability and prevent stretching.

Notes for Durability and Care

- Choose yarns with low pilling and good abrasion resistance (cotton nylon or superwash wool/nylon).
- Lining greatly improves longevity and keeps the bag from stretching under heavy loads.
- Reinforce strap joints with box stitches; consider additional bar tacks or small rivets if carrying heavy items.



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