Crochet Puff Stitch Bag: Free Pattern for a Striped Handbag With a Tassel

Crochet an oval base in brown, turn the sides up with one back-loop round, work 16 rounds of puff stitch in stripes of white, tan, mustard and brown, then finish with a brown band, a tube handle on two clasps and a tassel. In 2 mm macrame cord on a 4 mm hook the bag comes out about 20.5 cm wide at the top, 15.5 cm tall and 7.5 cm deep.

This is our own design. A script checks every round, and the sizes and cord amounts are estimates worked out from a planning gauge. Crochet a swatch first: puff stitches vary more than single crochet from one hand to the next.

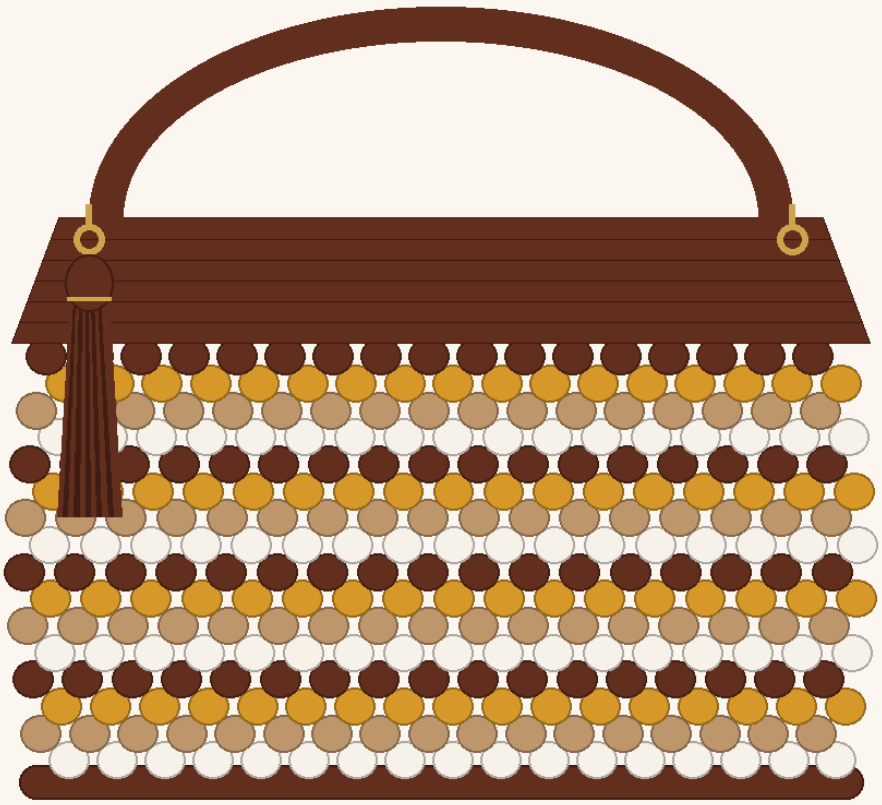
The parts

Part	Rounds	Colour	Stitches	Size
Base	1–7	brown	ch 22, then 74 sts	about 20 × 7.5 cm
Puff stripes	8–23	white, tan, mustard, brown	37 puffs a round	about 11.5 cm tall
Band	24–29	brown	74 to 66 sts	about 3.5 cm tall
Handle	1–54	brown	6 sts a round	about 30.5 cm long

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Puff stitch bag from the front

Drawn to scale: 16 puff rounds in 4 colours, 37 puffs a round.



About 23.1 cm across the stripes and 20.6 cm at the top. Half of each round's puffs show on this side.

Measurements from the parts table in this article **crochetbabygifts.com**

Every puff sits over two stitches of the round below, which is why the base ends on an even number. The stripes repeat four times, one colour a round.

What you need

Every tool our patterns use is on the Crochet essentials (https://crochetbabygifts.com/essentials/) page.

- 2 mm macrame cord in four colours: brown, white, tan and mustard, about the amounts in the cord section. A soft single-twist cord makes rounder puffs than a braided one.

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- A 4 mm crochet hook. The hook size chart (https://crochetbabygifts.com/crochet-hook-size-chart/) gives the US letter near it.
- Two swivel clasps and two 2 cm (¾ in) D-rings, gold or brass, for the handle.
- A tapestry needle with an eye big enough for the cord, scissors and a stitch marker.

Abbreviations

US crochet terms throughout. The UK name is in brackets.

- ch: chain. sl st: slip stitch. st(s): stitch(es). inc: 2 sc in the same stitch. dec: sc 2 together.
- sc: single crochet (UK: double crochet).
- Puff: [yarn over, put the hook into the stitch or space, yarn over and pull up a loop to the height of a half double crochet] 3 times, then yarn over and pull through all 7 loops on the hook.
- Back loops only: put the hook under the back loop of the stitch only. It leaves a ridge that turns the flat base into the sides.

The video

HONEY HOOK CROCHET's 13-second Short shows a striped puff stitch handbag with a tassel, made in a few quick shots. It does not show the rounds, so follow the pattern on this page.

Watch the video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gcX97jcRfpU

Video: HONEY HOOK CROCHET, "How to Crochet Stylish Handbag" (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gcX97jcRfpU), 2026, a 13-second Short. The pattern on this page is our own.

The pattern

Work the base in continuous rounds with a marker in the first stitch. Join the puff and band rounds with a sl st in the first stitch.

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1. Base

- Foundation: in brown, ch 22.
- Rnd 1: sc in 2nd ch from hook, sc 19, 3 sc in last ch; working along the other side of the chain, sc 19, 2 sc in last ch. [44 sts]
- Rnd 2: inc, sc 19, [inc] 3 times, sc 19, [inc] 2 times. [50 sts]
- Rnd 3: sc 1, inc, sc 19, [sc 1, inc] 3 times, sc 19, [sc 1, inc] 2 times. [56 sts]
- Rnd 4: sc 2, inc, sc 19, [sc 2, inc] 3 times, sc 19, [sc 2, inc] 2 times. [62 sts]
- Rnd 5: sc 3, inc, sc 19, [sc 3, inc] 3 times, sc 19, [sc 3, inc] 2 times. [68 sts]
- Rnd 6: sc 4, inc, sc 19, [sc 4, inc] 3 times, sc 19, [sc 4, inc] 2 times. [74 sts]
- Rnd 7: in back loops only, sc in each st. [74 sts]

Lay the base flat after round 6: it should be an oval about 20 cm long. If it cups, the increases are tight; if it ruffles, go down a hook size. Fasten off brown after round 7.

2. Puff stripes

Change colour at the start of every puff round, in this colour order, starting again after brown: white, tan, mustard, brown. Join each round with a sl st in the top of the first puff, fasten off, and join the next colour in the next ch-1 space.

- Rnd 8: [puff in next st, ch 1, skip 1] 37 times. [37 puffs]
- Rnds 9–23: [puff in next ch-1 space, ch 1] 37 times. [37 puffs]

Each round's puffs sit between the puffs of the round below, so the stripes look like rows of beads. Weave every end in on the inside, along the same colour, as you go.

3. Band

In brown.

- Rnd 24: sc in each puff and in each ch-1 space. [74 sts]
- Rnd 25: [sc 7, dec] 8 times, sc 2. [66 sts]
- Rnds 26–29: sc in each st. [66 sts]

Round 25 draws the top in a little, so the bag is rounder at the stripes than at the mouth. Fasten off and weave in.

4. Handle and tassel

- Handle: in brown, ch 6, join with a sl st to make a ring.
- Rnds 1–54: sc in each st. [6 sts]

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Work in a continuous spiral. The tube rounds out on its own. Fasten off with a 30 cm tail, flatten each end round the ring of a swivel clasp and sew it closed.

Sew a D-ring to the inside of the band at each end of the bag, 1 cm below the top, with cord, going through the band several times. Clip the handle's clasps onto the D-rings.

For the tassel, cut 20 strands of brown cord, each 30 cm (12 in) long. Thread them through one clasp's ring, fold them in half, and wrap a separate length of cord tightly round all of them 2 cm below the fold, 6 times. Tie it off inside the wrap and trim the ends level.

Cord and time

It takes about 110 m of brown and 45 m each of white, tan and mustard, about 200 to 260 g of cord in all. The amounts come from counting every stitch and allowing a length of cord per stitch scaled from published DK figures, so they are estimates.

It is about 1,700 stitches, most of them puffs. Make the base and the first stripe, measure them, and adjust the hook before going on.

Frequently asked questions

Do I need a lining? Puff stitch leaves small gaps between the puffs. For keys and coins, sew in a fabric lining cut to the base and the inside of the sides, or make the crochet ribbed shoulder bag (https://crochetbabygifts.com/crochet-ribbed-shoulder-bag/), which is solid back-loop single crochet in the same macrame cord.

Can I use T-shirt yarn? Yes, with a 6 to 8 mm hook. The bag will be much bigger, so make a smaller base: start with fewer chains and stop the increases when the oval measures 20 cm.

Can I change the colours? Yes. Keep four colours so the stripes repeat evenly, or use two colours and alternate them.

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