



Size: The finished bag will range upwards from between 8x12inches (20x30cm) depending on the thickness of the recycled yarn used and gauge.

Stitches used (US terms): ch (chain), Slst (slip stitch), SC (single crochet), DC (Double Crochet), HDC (Half Double Crochet)

Materials:

Recycled T shirt Cotton Yarn (size 6) - I used Hooookd Zpaghetti yarn approx.120m (850g)
US size O Hook (12 mm)
Scissors and Tapestry needle

Gauge: Not important.

Pattern Notes:

To start, create a magic loop rather than a slip knot. If you haven't tried this before it's more flexible than creating a chain then joining and is really useful for circular projects as it allows you to tighten your work to a stage that you are happy with.

Make a loop with the yarn, around the fingers of your left hand leaving a tail around 10cm long. Make sure the tail end is pointing to the bottom.

Insert your hook into the loop, from front to back. Wrap the working yarn around the hook anticlockwise and pull the yarn through the Magic Loop.

Now make a turning chain, work 6 SC stitches into the Magic Loop, making sure all the stitches are worked over both the loop itself and the tail end (so two strands of yarn) then Slst to the first SC stitch.

Pull the tail end of the yarn to draw up the ring until it is tight – this is the top of your bag. Turn your work.

ROW1 Ch1, SC2 then 3SC into the next stitch, SC2. Turn your work (7)

ROW2 Ch1, SC then 2SC into next stitch, SC then 3SC into the next (top) stitch, SC then 2SC into next stitch, SC into last stitch. Turn your work (11)

ROW3 Ch1, SC then 2SC into next st, SC3 then 2SC into next stitch, SC3 then 2SC into next stitch, SC into last stitch. Turn your work (14)

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ROW4 Ch1, SC2 then 2SC into the next stitch, SC3 then 2SC into the next two (top) stitches, SC3 then 2SC into the next stitch, SC the last 2 stitches. Turn your work (18)

ROW5 Ch1, SC3 then 2SC into the next stitch, SC4 then 2SC into the next two (top) stitches, SC4 then 2SC into next stitch, SC the last 3 stitches. Turn your work. (22)

ROW6 Ch1, SC4 then 2SC into the next stitch, SC5 then 2SC into the next two (top) stitches, SC5 then 2SC into the next stitch, SC the last 4 stitches (26)

ROW7 Ch1, SC around the whole piece including the flat edge (this should be 17 stitches long). You have now completed the bag flap!

ROW8 Ch1, SC across the flat edge, 2SC into last stitch (18)

ROW9 Ch1, SC across the flat edge, 2SC into last stitch (19)

ROW10-30 Ch1, SC across, turn your work.

If you would like a deeper bag you can add further rows until you are happy with the size.

Fold your rectangle so the top reaches the widest part of the flap and the triangle of the flap points away from you.

The sides of the bag can be fixed either by Slst up the sides or by sewing the sides using your yarn and a tapestry needle. Personally, I prefer to Slst as this gives a stronger seam and an interesting texture.



Now the fun part – time to make the tassel!!

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Take approximately 1m length of yarn and wrap it around your fingers – be generous here, remember a longer loop will give you a bigger more dramatic tassel – and that's what we all want!

Carefully lay the loops down on a surface, take a shorter length of yarn (approximately 20cm) and pass this through the centre of all of the loops horizontally (this will be used to fix the tassel to your bag) tie at the top of the loop. Position this length so it lies near to the top of the loops, i.e. the end furthest away from you.

Next, using another short strip of a similar length wrap it a couple of times around the loops near to where they are tied at the top but **BELOW** the horizontal piece of yarn, (you are aiming to 'trap' the horizontal yarn between this fixing and the top of the loops).



Pull it as tight as possible and secure the ends with a knot. It is important to ensure that this is fixed securely as we do not want the tassel to fall apart.

Holding the tassel at the knot end (ensure the yarn which runs through the loops is held away from the loops), take your scissors and cut the far end of the loops to create your tassel. Trim the ends to an appropriate size.

Fix your tassel to the point of your clutch bag using the lengths of yarn which run through the top of the tassel.

Pull on your party clothes, it's time to show off your glam bag!

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