

# frabjous fibers

every yard is an adventure™

## Havana Bag

designed by Stephanie Shiman



**Yarn:** Kathmandu Original 200g : 1 skein  
or 200g in Hand Picked, or Hand Picked Hues

**Needles:** US sz 8, 24" circular

**Notions:** stitch markers (4), yarn needle, sheet of plastic canvas (at least 12"x16), fabric for lining, sewing thread to match lining color, sewing needle, bamboo handles (handles shown measure 8.5" wide by 7" tall)

**Gauge:** 16 sts = 4" (approximately, aim for tight fabric more than exact gauge)

**Measurements:** 8" tall, 12" wide

### Bag Body

With 24" circular needles: CO 44 sts, PM, CO 56 sts, PM, CO 44, PM, CO 56 sts, PM.

Join in the round, careful not to twist.

Work in garter stitch as follows, decreasing 2 sts in every quarter section of the rectangle, switching to dpn when necessary:

**Row 1:** ssk, \*Knit to two sts before marker, K2tog, PM, SSK, rep from \* 2 more times then K to last two stitches and K2tog.

**Row 2:** purl.

Continue as above decreasing 8 sts in every row until 2, 14, 2, 14 remain between the markers.

continued on reverse...

Remove the start of round marker. K1. Place the next 16 stitches on one dpn (remove markers as you come to them). Place remaining 16 stitches on second dpn. Use three needle bind off to close center. Weave in ends.

### Gusset: (Make two)

CO 2 sts. Knit every row unless directed otherwise.

Rows 3, 7, 11, 15, 17, 21: Kfb, knit to last st, kfb. (14 sts at end of row 21.)

Rows 23-27: K2tog, knit to last 2 sts, ssk. Bind off remaining 4 sts. Weave in ends.

**Finishing:** Notes: Use sewing thread doubled throughout. By pulling your stitches tight, they should not be visible on the recycled silk.

Lay out bag body on plastic canvas. Stretch in all directions to determine what size to cut the plastic canvas. The plastic canvas lining should be half to one inch larger on all sides than the bag body. This is so when the bag body is sewn onto the canvas, the knitting does not sag but keeps tight against the canvas. Cut out plastic canvas rectangle with this in mind.

Lay cut canvas on wrong side of lining fabric and cut fabric to be .5" larger on all sides. Turn back the raw edges of the fabric around canvas and sew fabric onto canvas on all sides, folding neatly at the corners.

Once the fabric is sewn onto the plastic canvas, use the sewing thread to stitch the bag body to the back side of the canvas (where the raw edges of the fabric are).

Position the canvas/lining piece just below the cast-on row of the rectangle so the lining does not show on the outside of the bag.

**Add gussets:** With sewing thread doubled, start at on top corner of the bag and sew approx. 2.5" toward bottom of bag. Fit gusset into teardrop shape remaining and sew in place. Repeat for second side.

**Add handles:** With yarn needle and recycled silk yarn, sew handles at the opening of the bag on either side.

### Tips for working with recycled silk yarn:

- It is easier to work from a hand rolled ball
- As soon as you can, weave in your cast-on tail to keep it from catching on your working yarn.
- If your yarn is over-twisted, letting out some of the twist will make it easier to work with and maximize your yardage. The easiest way to do this is by putting a rubber band around your ball and dangling it allowing it to turn and untwist the working yarn.

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