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## *Damascus handbag*

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Named from its stitch pattern "Damascus Rosebuds", here is a small discreet elegant handbag for springtime. It might take a bit of your time but its realization is a breeze!



This bag has benefited from the adjustments of its predecessor, the "Petit Frileux" handbag. As a result, it gains in strength, especially with the handles that are reinforced this time by 2 strands of ropes. The lining is elongated to cover the entire interior! It requires more work but it will gain in longevity :-).

This tutorial will give you a bag that measures 24 cm in height (excluding handles) x 26 cm. To adapt its size, it will be easy to increase the measures of the basic rectangle and the handles.

## What I used

- Merino wool from Phildar size 6: 2 balls for color and 4 for white
- Hooks of size 4 and size 5
- Rope
- Magnetic clasp
- Woolen yarn, scissors
- Vlieseline




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### The rectangle



- The rectangle is composed of 2 main parts:
  - outside side with the Rosebuds patterns of 44 x 30 cm: on the left in the picture
  - Interior lining 44 x 30 cm: on the right in the picture

### Outside side : Damascus Rosebuds

- Work with hook number 4
- Foundation chain of 50 stitches, then start the Damascus Rosebuds pattern
- You will have 6 rows of rosebuds, each row of rosebuds is separated by 3 rows of single crochet
- So that the roses are well inserted:
  - The first row of roses starts at the 10th tight stitch: means you start the row with 9 single crochet before starting the pattern
  - The second row of roses begins at the 6th tight stitch: means you start the row with 5 single crochet before starting the pattern
- After your 6 rows of rosebuds (about 20 cm), stop the work and cut the thread
- Flip the work to have the roses pointing down



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- Insert the hook at the foundation chain and continue the work with rows of single crochet on approximately 4 cm and start again the Rosebuds pattern
- **Note:** If you do not return the work, you will have roses with head down on one side of your bag
- The last row of rosebuds is followed by a row in single crochet

### Inner side: the lining

- Change crochet size, number 5, and continue the rectangle in moss stitch (you need an even number of stitches)
- **Tip:** If like me you collect amounts of leftover balls of yarn, it's time to use them: -) ... goodbye gasp! Be careful, however, with the gauge so you do not have any difference with the measures of the rectangle
- After 44 cm, stop the work

### Handles

- The handles are made on 30 cm >>> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wKodprlg09Y>
- Do not make the ranks of the beginning (in the video tutorial) but start immediately with the spirals
- In the 3rd or 4th row of the handle, insert the rope (90 cm rope fold in 2) in the handle





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- After 30 cm, close the rope to have a circle of 40 cm: the dimension for the rope is bigger because the wool will relax



- To close the rope: insert a strand into the start loop and make a double knot to the desired size
- Sew the handle on 2 turns for safety



## How to fix the handles

- Pull the rectangle through a handle and push the handle in the middle of the rectangle



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- Fold the work in half, the patterns on the outside, the first handle already installed at the bottom
- Pull the upper part of the lining panel into the second handle and join the two pieces together: the handle must be trapped between the liner panel and the pattern panel



- You now have in front of you the basic rectangle folded in 2 with the handles at each opposite side



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### The Vlieseline

- Cut a rectangle in the vlieseline 21 x 29 cm: the dimension is smaller than the work
- Place the vlieseline between the 2 sections, well centered and make a central sewing taking care to sew together the 3 layers: 2 sides + vlieseline



### Sewing the sides

- Return the work so to have the lining side towards you
- Fold the work in 2 to have the handles on the same side
- All that remains is to sew the 4 layers of the sides starting under the handles at about 4/5 cm



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- Once the two sides of the bag sewn, congratulations! Flip the book like a glove, put (or not) a magnetic clasp, hide the threads and take a lovely picture of your work :-)!



## Video tutorials

- Damascus Handbag >> [https://youtu.be/hQV0\\_-48YbQ](https://youtu.be/hQV0_-48YbQ)
- Moss Stitch tutorial >> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iR2N626qh9o>
- Damascus Rosebud stitch >> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p3lftFB8eg>
- Handles >> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wKodprlg09Y>

I wish you a happy crocheting!

And share without moderation pictures of your bags on my social networks!

Anne Lee