

The Weekender

by Hilary Hunt



Ready?
Grab These:

- 2 or 3 Skeins of Lion Brand Wool Ease Thick & Quick (Citron)
- Set of size 13 straight needles
- Set of size 13 circular needles (12")
- One stitch marker
- Set of purse handles and cinch strap



Enjoy this pattern for yourself and go ahead and make them for all your friends, but if you don't mind, please don't sell them. Thanks!, Hilary.

Instructions:

Cast on 27 Stitches to the straight needles. Knit in garter stitch (knit every row) until the piece is 4" long. Bind off.

Using the circular needles, pick up 72 stitches (27 each long side, 9 each short side).

Knit the 72 stitches and place a marker after the last stitch is knit. This will be the row marker. Start a new row every time you pass the marker. After you've placed the marker, join to knit in the round and start this pattern:

Row 1: Knit two, yarn over. – repeat until you hit the row marker.

Row 2: Knit.

Continue this pattern until the bag measures 16" from the base. End with a knit row.

Take out the marker and start a rib. K2 P2 until the rib measures 1 inch. Bind off in pattern.



Now you're ready for the handles. There are a lot of options, but the cheapest, greenest and easiest solution is to salvage them. I found a thrift store purse with black faux leather handles and luck of luck, a matching black belt. A belt is a great option to cinch the top of the bag because you can adjust the opening width as you use it. For the cinch strap, a 1/2" – 3/4" width is ideal.



Thread the belt through the top row of the lace pattern below the ribbing. You'll probably need to add a hole to the belt so you can buckle it tighter (mine is cinched to 24"). Then trim the excess belt length or weave it in.

Next, cut the handles off your purse and attach them to the belt. Because these handles were vinyl, superglue did the trick. If you use leather or cloth you'll need to sew them.



Now, to start planning that weekend getaway...