



Skull & Bone Purse

A MOREHOUSE ORIGINAL



- Size:** about 6" tall and 6" wide
Yarn: 1 skein of Gator Yarn (sport weight with tight twist, 225 yards)
Needles: set of double-pointed # 4 or #5; 24" circular needle #4 for string, crochet hook
Gauge: about 6 stitches = 1 inch over pattern
Other material: 1 button, 4" x 4" white felt

Wind skein into 2 balls.

Bottom of Purse Use yarn double (knit from both balls of yarn) and cast on 20 stitches. Knit 12 rows. Continue with single yarn (break off one of the strands). Next row: *knit 3 stitches, knit next stitch 2x (knit stitch, but don't drop stitch off left-hand needle; knit into same stitch again, but this time through the back of the stitch). Repeat from * to end of row = 25 stitches total. Start with a new needle and pick up stitches at side, along the 12 rows you just knit: pick up 1 stitch per row = 12 stitches. Start a new needle and pick up stitches along cast-on edge: pick up 1 stitch per stitch and every 4th stitch, pick up 1 extra stitch = 25 stitches total. Start a new needle again and pick up stitches along side same as before = 12 stitches. You now have a total of 74 stitches. From now on you'll be knitting in the round for body of purse .

Body Join with stitches on first needle and start pattern:

- Round 1** *knit 1, slip 1 stitch (slip stitch as if to purl stitch, with yarn in back); repeat from * to end of round
Rounds 2 & 4 knit
Round 3 *slip 1 stitch (again, with yarn in back), knit 1; repeat from * to end of round.

Repeat these 4 rounds until purse measures 4½" from beginning of pattern (not including bottom). For border at top, use yarn double and work next round as follows: *knit 3 stitches, knit 2 stitches together; repeat from * to last 4 stitches, knit the 4 stitches = 60 stitches. Purl 1 round; then knit 1 round. Next, work eyelet round (for threading tie through): *purl 3 stitches, yarn over, purl 2 stitches together; repeat from * to end of round. Knit next round, then purl 1 round. Next round: knit the first 20 stitches, then bind off remaining stitches.

Flap Use the 20 stitches you have left for fold-over flap. Use yarn double for entire flap. Knit 4 rows. Next, *knit row to last 2 stitches, knit those 2 stitches together; repeat from * until you have 6 stitches left. Bind off 5 stitches. To create buttonhole, use last stitch to crochet 6 chain stitches (use last stitch from bind-off as your first crochet stitch). Attach end to first bind-off stitch to form buttonhole.

Tie Crochet (chain stitch) or braid cord 18" long and thread through eyelet round in border starting in middle of flap on back of purse (to close purse, tie string, then button down flap).

Purse string For 32" long string, cast on 150 stitches using yarn double (use circular needle for string). For longer or shorter string, adjust stitch count. Knit 3 rows, then bind off in next row. Attach string to sides of purse.

Finishing Felt purse in washing machine or felt by hand (submerge purse in basin filled with hot water, add mild soap; rub purse vigorously). Squeeze out water and let purse dry. When completely dry, add button and felt skull.

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Cut out skull and sew on front of purse using white sewing thread

