

DESIGN INSPIRATION & STYLING OPTIONS

The Tote d'Azur is the first design in my Riviera Collection. Its name is inspired by the Côte d'Azur, the beautiful Mediterranean coast known as the French Riviera. I love traveling in the south of France and am always inspired by the pastel whitewashed buildings, clear blue sea, and the woven tote bags carried by chic visitors and locals alike. This tote is perfect for perusing the farmers' market or taking to the beach. It fits a bottle of rosé and other picnic essentials but can easily be the perfect accessory for a stylish seaside apéritif. I like to wear it with my favorite sundress and espadrilles. I hope you love it as much as I do.

xoxo, Erin @cathedralsandcafes

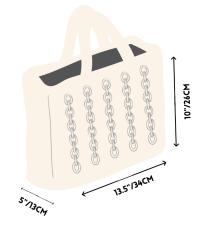
MATERIALS

- 3 skeins <u>Hobbii World of Yarn Java</u> in Sandy (03) (bulky, weight 5; 136yds/125m per skein)
- Size US J/10 (6mm) crochet hook
- Stitch markers
- Tapestry needle

GAUGE

10 sts + 9 rows = 4"/10cm in single crochet

FINISHED DIMENSIONS



13.5"/34cm x 5"/13cm x 10"/26cm (excl. handles)

ABBREVIATIONS

All Cathedrals & Cafes patterns are written in standard US terms.

- Blo Back loop only
- Ch Chain
- Dc Double crochet
- **Rs** Right side
- **Sc** Single crochet
- SI st Slip stitch
- St(s) Stitch/Stitches
- Ws Wrong side

STITCH EXPLANATION FOR CHAIN LOOPS

To make chain loops - After completing a dc, ch 10 and sl st into the front two loops of the last dc the chain comes from (see figure 1). The sl st anchors the chain loop to the row. Chain loops are then chained together using your fingers (see figure 2).







NOTES

Bag is worked in 5 separate pieces, then seamed together with slip stitches. Turn at the end of each row. Turning chains do not count as stitches. Front and back panels with chain loops are made first. The bottom panel and two side panels are made next. It is helpful to block your pieces before seaming. Handles are attached to the top of the bag before seaming all panels together. Any bulky, weight 5 yarn may be used, including ribbon/tape, and t-shirt yarns. Gauge is not greatly important but work should measure close to the finished dimensions provided.

PATTERN

Front and Back Chain Loop Panels (make 2)

Ch 32.

- Row 1 (Rs) Starting in 3rd ch from hook, dc across row. First 2 ch do not count as a stitch here and throughout, turn. (30 dc)
- Row 2 Ch 1, sc 30, turn. Ch 1 does not count as a stitch here and throughout. (30 sts)

- Row 3 Ch 2, *dc 5, ch 10, sl st into front two loops of last dc, Repeat from * 4 more times, dc 5, turn. (30 dc sts, 5 chain loops)
- Row 4 Ch 1, sc 5, push chain loop forward and out of the way, sc in very next dc and in each dc across row, pushing chain loops forward as you go, turn. (30 sts)
- Row 5 Repeat row 3. (30 sts, 5 chain loops)
- Row 6 Repeat row 4. (30 sts)
- Row 7-14 Continue alternating rows 3 and 4, ending with row 4. (30 sts)
- Row 15 Ch 2, dc 30, turn. (30 sts)

Beginning at bottom of panel, use your fingers to loop the chain loop above through the chain loop below it and repeat, working your way up. You're chaining the chain loops. Repeat for each of the 5 chain loop columns. You should have 6 chain loops in each chain column (this is the Rs of the panel).

- Row 16 Ch 1, *sc 4, insert hook in next st, yo around top of chain loop and make 1 sc, Repeat from * 4 more times, sc 5, turn. (30 sts)
- Row 17 Ch 2, dc 30, turn. (30 sts)
- Row 18 Ch 1, sc 30. (30 sts)

Fasten off. Weave in ends.

<u>Bottom</u>

Ch 31.

- Row 1 Starting in the 2nd ch from hook, sc across row, turn. (30 sts)
- Row 2 Ch 1, sc across row, turn. (30 sts)

Fasten off. Weave in ends.

<u>Side Panels (make 2)</u>

Ch 12.

- Row 1 Starting in 3rd ch from hook, dc 10 across row. First 2 ch do not count as a stitch here and throughout, turn. (10 sts)
- Row 2 Ch 1, sc 10, turn. (10 sts)
- Row 3 Ch 2, dc 10, turn. (10 sts)
- Row 4 Repeat row 2. (10 sts)
- Row 5 Repeat row 3. (10 sts)
- Row 6-18 Continue alternating rows 2 and 3, ending with row 2. (10 sts)

Fasten off. Weave in ends.

Block your work.

<u>Handles</u>

With Rs facing up, join yarn to top of 6th st from the right side of chain loop panel. It may be helpful to place stitch markers in 10th, 21st, and 25th sts from the right side of chain loop panel.

- Row 1 Ch 1, sc in same st as join, sc 4, turn. (5 sts)
- Row 2 Ch 1, sc 5, turn. (5 sts)
- Row 3-32 Repeat row 2. (5 sts)

Fasten off, leaving a 44" tail for attaching/seaming.

Without twisting the handle strap, bring the end down to the top of the panel. Using tapestry needle, whip stitch into 6th st from right side (into stitch marker) <u>twice</u> to create a faux sc. Continue to double whip stitch across front of strap, working from right to left, with last double whip stitch into 10th st (into stitch marker).

With Ws facing, whip stitch the edges of the handle together leaving about 1" of handle unsewn where it connects to the chain loop panel. Whip stitching the edges together creates a thicker, sturdier handle.

Faten off. Weave in ends. Repeat above for second handle.

Seaming/Construction

With Rs facing up, join yarn to 1st stitch of long side of bottom panel. Insert hook through same st as join and corner st of chain loop panel and ch 1. SI st evenly through BLO across bottom panel and chain loop panel to seam. The slip stitches will be visible on the outside of the bag, creating a nice detail and structure.

After slip stitching bottom panel, continue evenly slip stitching first side panel to bottom panel.



Continue evenly slip stitching bottom panel to second chain loop panel, working your way around the bottom of the bag. Do not cut yarn.

Finish bottom by slip stitching second side panel to bottom panel. You now have bottom of bag completely seamed and will begin seaming up side panels into place.

Continue slip stitching up the side of the bag to seam side panel to chain loop panel. The side panel and chain loop panel stitches should line up evenly. Once you reach the top of the bag, fasten off.

Join yarn at bottom of other side of side panel and slip stitch to top, lining up stitches with chain loop panel. Fasten off. Join yarn to other side of bag and slip stitch second side panel in same fashion. Fasten off, weave in ends.



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