



Malia Shoulder Bag



Pattern by *Rebecca Langford*



Malia Shoulder Bag

Difficulty

Easyish

Language

American Standard

Finished Size

15.5" width x 12" height x 6" depth

Video Tutorial

A complete video tutorial is available at <https://youtu.be/L4PhGWxRFHs>. This tutorial is especially helpful in determining stitch placement when working in turned rounds (rounds 26-63).

Hook Size

E (3.5mm)

Yarn

Approx. 775 yards of #4 cotton. Sample photos show Lion Brand 24/7 Cotton in "Silver" (675 yards) and "White" (100 yards).

You'll Also Need

Yarn needle
Scissors

Two 36" lengths of 3/8" twisted rope
Eyelet or grommet kit (see next page)

Gauge

10 rows of 10 SC = 2" square

About the Pattern

A sturdy, mercerized cotton gives this bag its beautiful sheen and durability. Paired with eyelets or grommets and a set of rope handles, your bag will stay beautiful and strong long after you fasten off.

Abbreviations Used

ST/STS (stitch/stitches)

SL ST (slip stitch)

SK (skip)

CH (chain)

SC (single crochet)

HDC (half double crochet)

LBS (large bean stitch - see "Special Stitches")

BLO (back loop only)

3rd LOOP (work stitch into 3rd loop only - see "Special Stitches")

Special Stitches

Large Bean Stitch (LBS): Insert hook into stitch, yarn over and pull through (2 loops on hook). Yarn over, insert hook into same stitch, yarn over and pull through (4 loops on hook). Yarn over, insert hook into same stitch, yarn over and pull through (6 loops on hook). Yarn over, insert hook into same stitch, yarn over and pull through (8 loops on hook). Yarn over and pull through all 8 loops. Chain 1 to close the stitch. (Because this stitch creates two sets of loops - one when creating the bean, and one when closing the stitch - each completed Large Bean Stitch will count for two stitches in the row or round's final stitch count.)

3rd Loop Only: Half double crochet stitches have a 3rd loop that we utilize in this pattern. When working in turned rows, as in this pattern, the 3rd loop can be found just below the front loop on the side of the work that is facing you. When instructed to work in "3rd loop only", insert your hook into this special loop. This creates a delicate braided look on the opposite side of the pattern.

Additional Notes

(1) CH1s at the beginning of rows do not count as a stitch in the final stitch count.

Everything You Need to Know About Those Rope Handles

The rope handles are my favorite feature of this bag! You can find rope at pretty much any craft store, sold in packages or by-the-yard; just look for the 3/8" size. The rope I used was found at Joann Fabrics in the trim section and is technically called "twisted cord". It's a cotton/polyester blend and has a casing on it that gives it this really pretty sheen that looks beautiful with the sheen of the mercerized cotton yarn.

If you're wondering what those metallic circles are where the rope attaches to my bag - they're eyelets. I highly recommend them, but I've outlined 3 different options below, and I urge you to read through them to decide which option is best for you:

Option 1: Eyelet Or Grommet Kit (recommended)

I used an eyelet kit for my bag, and I know that "I used an eyelet kit" might be a foreign enough phrase to turn you off to the idea, but WAIT! It is NOT hard, and it doesn't take any expensive equipment. But it will give your bag a durability that is unmatched. Combined with the rope (i.e. not crocheted) handles, your bag will be strong and very stretch-resistant. For our purposes, the only difference between eyelets and grommets is how heavy-duty they are; grommets being the tougher of the two. But, for this project I used eyelets, and they worked just fine. It really just comes down to what you can find.

If you have a Hobby Lobby, you'll find an eyelet kit in the sewing notions section. You can buy the two-piece setting tool separate for \$7.99 and then choose your eyelet color for \$2.99 (I picked silver), or you can buy them in a package together but your color options are limited. You're looking for 15/32" (12mm) eyelets. Watch for the sale, and you'll score it all for 50% off. If you go with grommets, I recommend [this 1/2" grommet kit from Amazon](#) (affiliate link).

Option 2: Washer

If you don't want to mess with an eyelet kit, you can also simply thread the rope through a single washer so that it rests between the knot and the bag, which will give the handles something strong to pull on (taking the pressure off of the crocheted part of the bag). It will work basically the same way as an eyelet, it just won't look as finished and may move around a bit when gravity is not pulling the bag down.

Option 3: Nothing

Of course, you can simply stick your rope handles through the hole that we create, tie your knots big enough that they won't come back through the hole, and call it good. Be aware that your bag *will* stretch more.



The Pattern

To begin: With COLOR A, CH157.

Round 1: SC in 2nd CH from hook and in each remaining CH. Place a stitch marker in the final stitch, then join with a SL ST to the top of the first SC, being careful not to twist the round. (156)

Round 2: CH1. SC in first ST. Place a stitch marker in that stitch. SC in each remaining ST around. Do not join. (156)

Note: We are now transitioning to a seamless round. Once you SC in the final stitch for Round 2, which we marked with a stitch marker, you can remove the stitch marker - you don't need it for now. When you move on to Round 3, instead of chaining up, simply put your first SC right into the first stitch of the previous round (also marked with a stitch marker). Continue on seamlessly, moving that stitch marker up with each round to keep track of the first stitch of the round so that you don't lose your place.

Rounds 3-24: SC in each ST around. (156)

At the completion of Round 24, join to the first ST of the round with a SL ST.

Round 25: CH1. HDC in each ST around. Join to the first ST of the round with a SL ST. (156)

Round 26: CH1, turn. SC in 3rd loops of each ST around. Join to the first ST of the round with a SL ST. (156)

Round 27: CH1, turn. SC in each ST across. Join to the first ST of the round with a SL ST. (156)

Round 28: CH1, turn. SK first ST, LBS in next ST. (SK next ST, LBS in next ST) across. Join to the first ST of the round with a SL ST. (156)

Round 29: CH1, turn. HDC in each ST around. Join to the first ST of the round with a SL ST. (156)

Round 30: CH1, turn. SC in 3rd loops of each ST around. Join to the first ST of the round with a SL ST. (156)

Rounds 31-62, or until bag measures between 12-13" high: Repeat Rounds 27-30. (156)

Round 63: CH1, turn. SC in each ST around. Join to the first ST of the round with a SL ST. (156)

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Switch to COLOR B.

We are now switching back to a seamless round. Do not join, chain or turn unless instructed.

Rounds 64-68: Do not chain up or turn. SC in first ST and in each ST around. Do not join. (156)

Round 69: SC in each of the first 24 STS. CH2; SK 3 STS. SC in each of the next 24 STS. CH2; SK 3 STS. SC in each of the next 48 STS. CH2; SK 3 STS. SC in each of the next 24 STS. CH2; SK 3 STS. SC in each of the next 24 STS. (144 SC + 4 CH2 holes)

Round 70: SC in each ST around, putting 3SC in each CH2 space from previous round. (156)

Rounds 71-72: SC in each ST around. (156)

Round 73: SC in each ST around. Join with a SL ST to the first SC of the round. (156)

Round 74: CH1, turn. SC in each ST around. Join with a SL ST to the first SC of the round. (156)

Fasten off; weave in all ends.

ATTACHING EYELETS OR GROMMETS

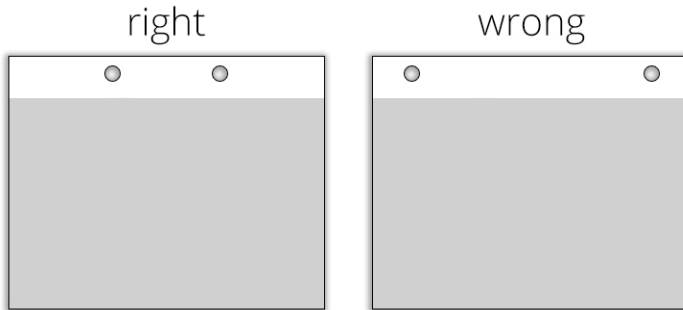
Open your eyelet or grommet kit and retrieve the base, insert handle, 4 washers, and 4 eyelets (or grommets). Turn your bag inside out, and set the base on a sturdy surface. Place an eyelet on top of it. Stretch one of the bag's holes over the eyelet, then place a washer (prong side down) over it. Place the insert handle into the hole of the eyelet and strike with a hammer several times until the eyelet and washer feel fused. Repeat for all 4 holes.



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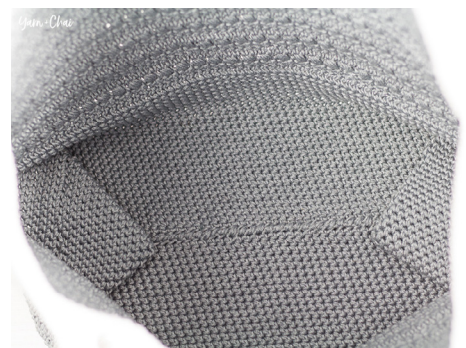
SEWING THE BOTTOM

Keeping the bag inside out, lay it flat, lining up the eyelets. Make sure they are lined up so that there is an even amount of space between each edge and its nearest eyelet, and between the two eyelets:



Use COLOR A (a length about 5x the width of the bag) to sew the bottom of the bag closed, stitch by stitch. Fasten off and weave in ends.

With the bag still inside out, turn it upside down and position the bottom so that one end lays out in a triangular shape, with the seam centered. Use a ruler and a piece of tape to measure and mark a 5" line across the corner of the base. Sew a seam across the line (through both layers) with COLOR A. Repeat on the opposite side. Turn bag right side out.



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ADDING ROPE HANDLES

Take your first rope handle and insert it through one of the eyelets, going from the inside of the bag to the outside. Tie a knot near the bottom of the rope on the outside of the bag and pull it tight (you can use your eyelet to help by gently but firmly pulling the rope from the inside of the bag, which will pull the knot against the eyelet and tighten it up). Then, use good scissors to cut the excess rope about 1/2" below the knot.

If your rope looks like mine, it will have a couple strands of thread ("casing") wrapped tightly around each twist. These are pretty easy to locate by gently pulling on the tips of the yarn. When you find them, pull them away from the yarn right up to the knot. Then use scissors to cut them off at that point. Give the exposed thread a little ruffle with your fingers; this will give your handles that classic weathered tassel look.



Repeat these instructions with the other end of the same rope (attaching it through the other eyelet on the same side of the bag) to complete your first handle. Then, do everything again for the 2nd handle on the other side. Note that you'll want both handles to be the same length, so be sure to compare them when you're about to tie your final knot to ensure that the handle sizes match.

That's it - you're done! If you're showing off your work, be sure to hashtag **#maliaoulderbag!**

♥ Rebecca