

BLUE AND BROWN



MOCHILA STYLE HANDBAG

September 2022

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Disclaimer: I am not responsible for any damage as a result of errors in the pattern

Preface

This bag has been my first introduction to mochila crochet. It was a wonderful journey of discovery! Fortunately, we have many websites that explain the technique to us and that can provide us with tips and tricks and facebook groups that can help us when we run into problems! My technique has improved a lot during the making of this bag by visiting these sites and groups.

If you are "a beginner" like I was, I can recommend the following links:

- <https://www.youtube.com/c/MarionVerloop> I think Marion is an expert in mochila crochet and her videos have helped me a lot with the technique. Her other videos are also very worthwhile!
- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/mochilastylecrochet> An English-spoken group (from Marion Verloop) where people very quickly and kindly help anyone who encounters problems.
- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/mochilapatronen> The Dutch version of the previous group.

The links are posted with permission.

If you are "experienced" and already master the technique, I am sure that your bag will come out a lot better than mine 😊

So even though my execution is far from perfect, I still want to share the pattern, just because sharing is fun! 😊

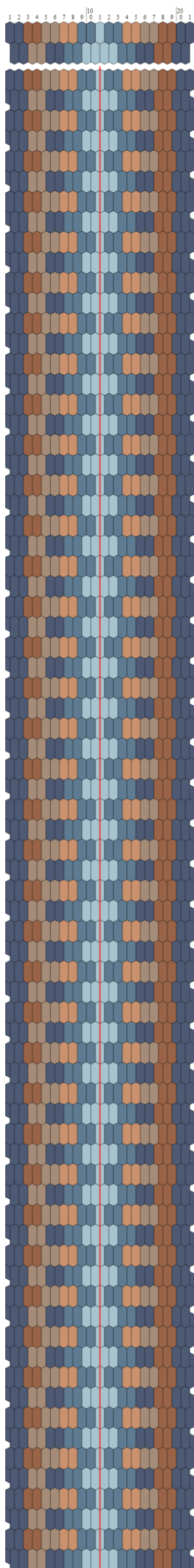
If you have any questions and/or comments, you can contact me here:

Ravelry: <https://www.ravelry.com/people/evelynkoerselman>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/evelyn.koerselman>

I hope you enjoy this pattern!

Greetings, Evelyn.



Link to the tool:
<https://www.raktres.net/seizenn>

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The bottom of my bag



I woven the shoulder strap according to the scheme on the left. Of course you can also crochet a shoulder strap

Mochila crochet has the following characteristics:

- You only work single crochets in the back loop, so that the stitches are straight above each other.
- The stitches are very close together (7-8 stitches at 2cm), you use a relatively thin crochet hook. For this bag I used a 2mm crochet hook.
- You work over at least 3 threads (the carry threads). In this pattern I use a total of 6 colors and so I have 5 carry threads.
- You crochet in a spiral. That means you always finish the round 1 row higher than you start it. This produces a jog in the pattern. You can simply accept this, but luckily there are also ways to hide the jog so that it is not immediately noticeable. More about that on page 5.

Yarn

Recommended yarn for mochila crochet is mercerized cotton yarn of 125 meters per 50 grams, in combination with a 2 mm crochet hook.

- For this bag I used Hobbii Rainbow 8/4 cotton with a length of 170 meters per 50 grams, just because I simply had this at hand. The yarn is a little too thin in proportion, but I'm still satisfied with the result.

- I used a 2mm crochet hook.

I used 2 skeins of each color. With this I had more than enough to also make test pieces and to be able to make the shoulder strap later on.



Navy Blue



Jeans Blue



Light Jeans blue



Brown



Grey Brown



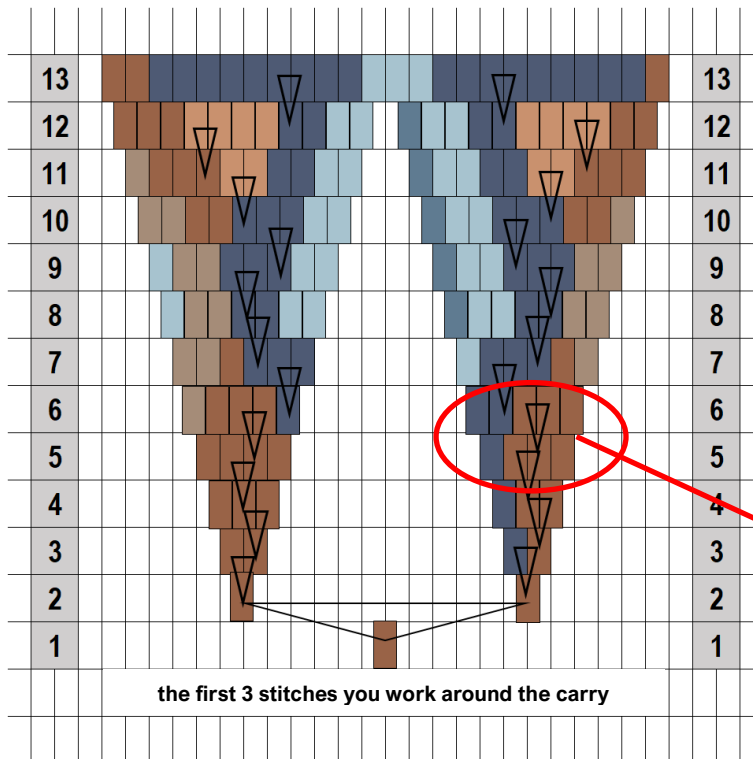
Light Brown

The size of my bag is 26 cm long, 14 cm wide and 22,5 cm high.

Explanation pattern

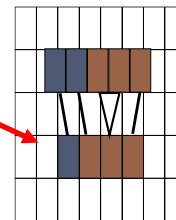
Every box in the pattern is 1 stitch. The color of the box indicates the color of that stitch. I assume that you understand how to change color and how to increase and decrease (otherwise watch the aforementioned videos on Youtube. Marion shows that very clearly).

What I want to explain is how I indicate the increases and decreases in the pattern.



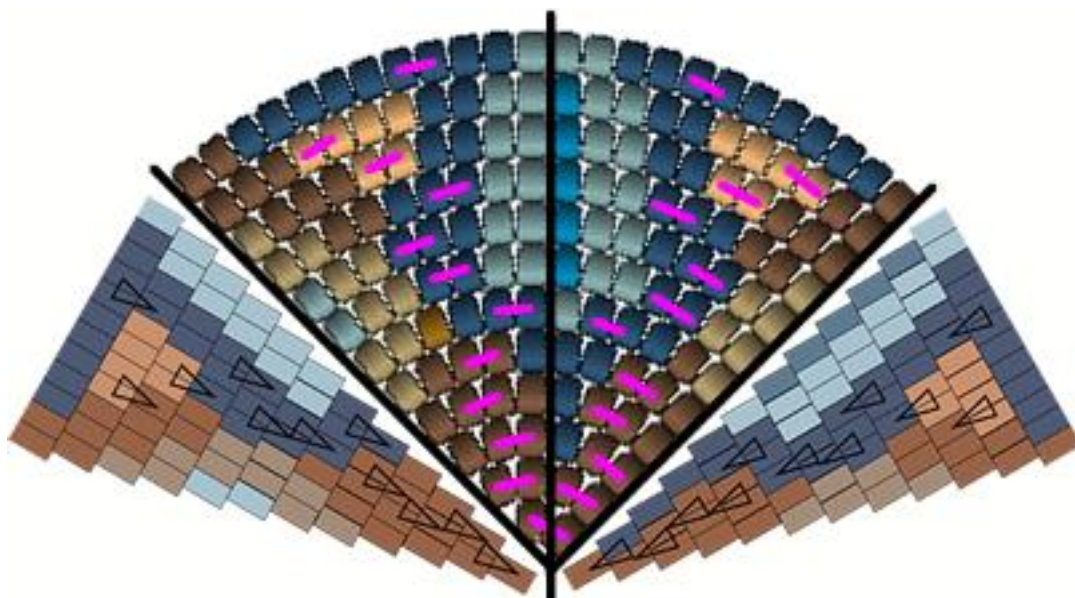
This is part of the bottom pattern as I draw it. Here you see 2 of the 6 “pie slices” that together form the roundness of the bottom on both sides. Each pie slice has 1 increase per round.

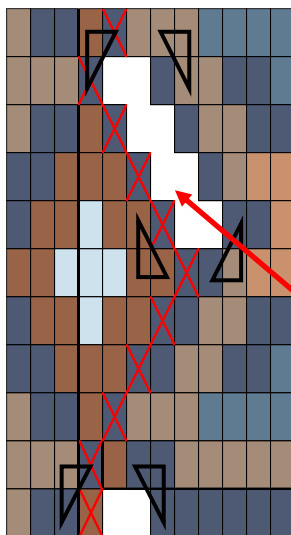
I indicate the increases with a triangle ▽.



If I would pull it apart it might be clearer how the stitches are on top of each other.

For the people who are used to the "Easybead-patterns" you can see here the comparison with how I draw it (I prefer to draw in Excel).





Indicates the start of the round.



Indicates an increase.

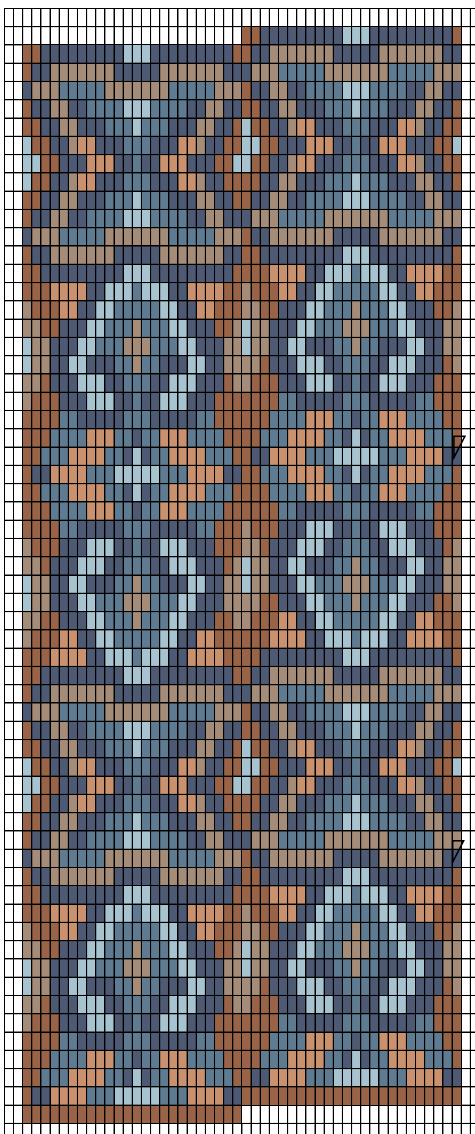


Indicates a decrease.

You can ignore this “empty space” (these are the stitches you decreased).

The Jog

Because you always finish the round 1 row higher than you started, you get a jog in the pattern.



The jog will look something like this.

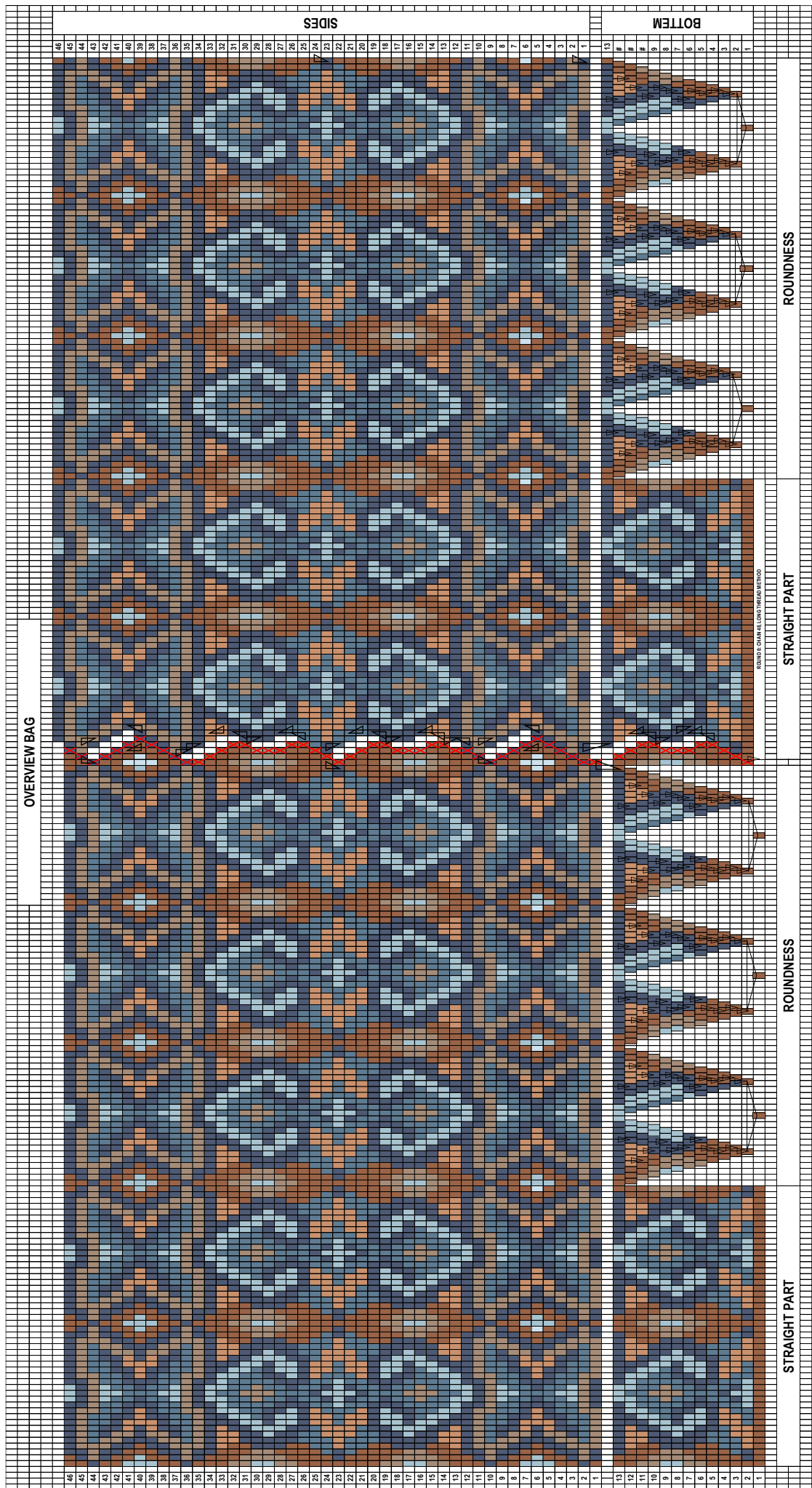
This bothers me, but if you're okay with this, that's fine of course!

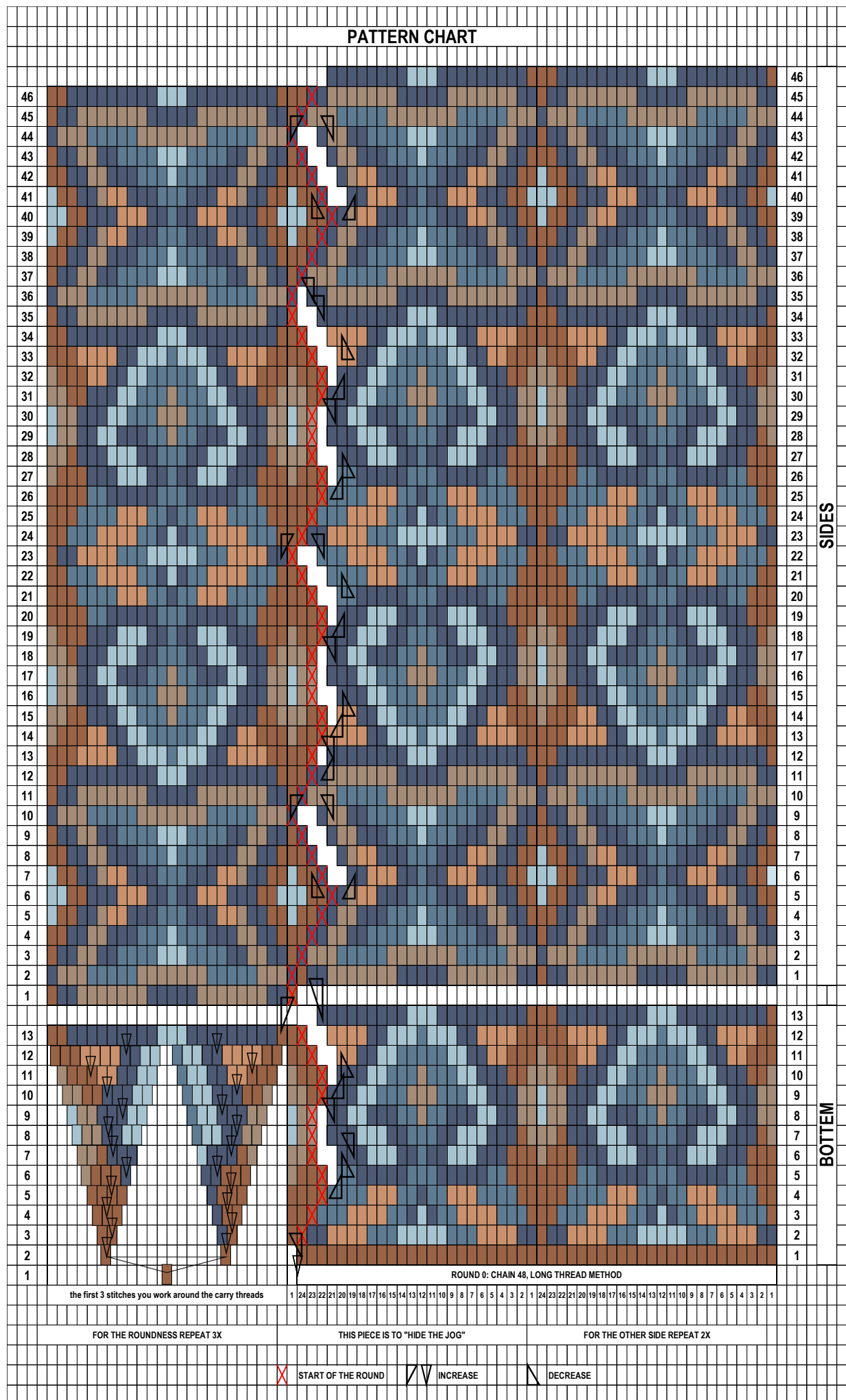
By increasing and decreasing in places you can make the jog a little less noticeable and I have also incorporated that in this pattern.

The jog then looks like this:

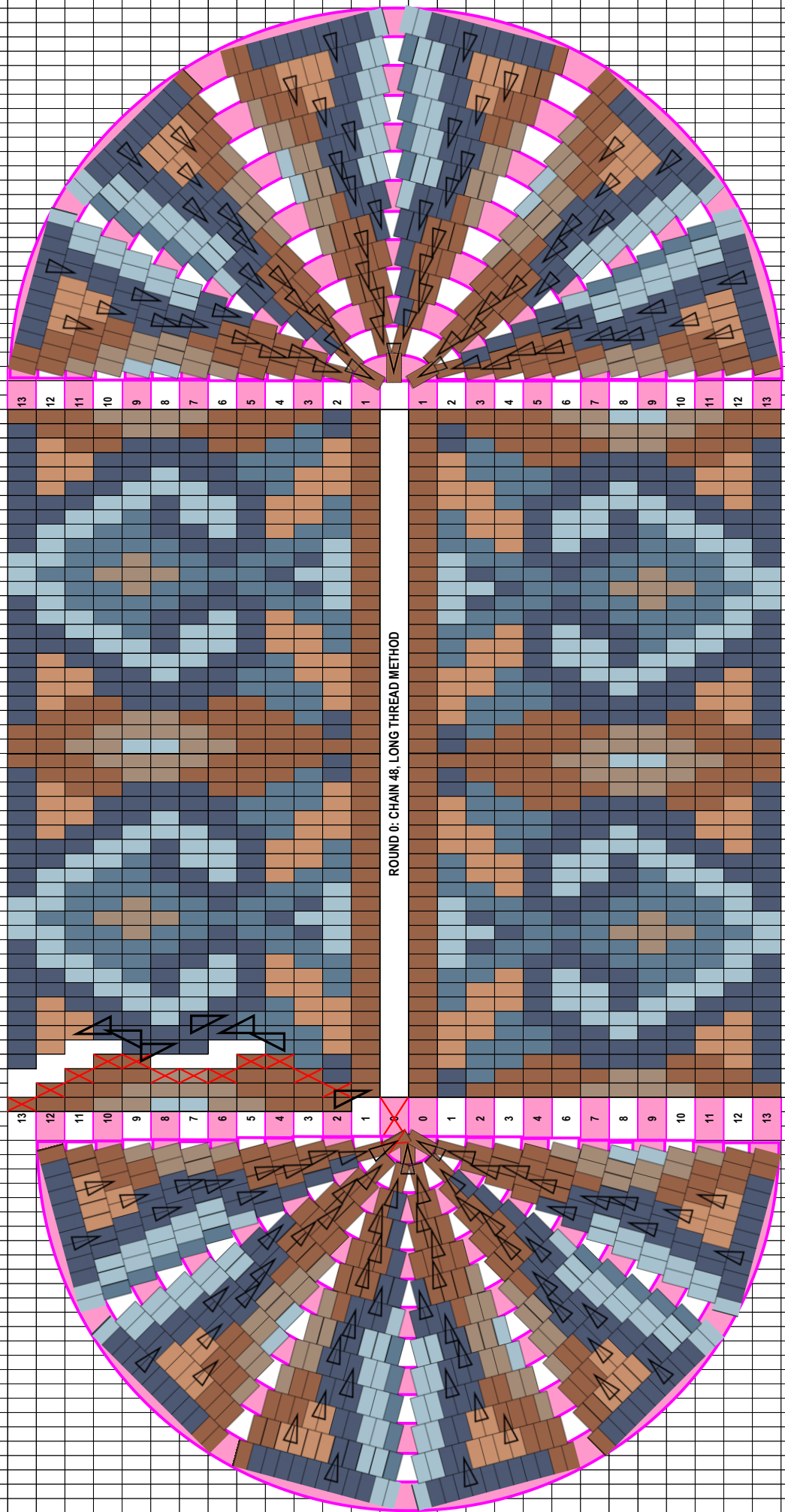
The brown diamonds are more the same. There is still a jump due to the horizontal elements, but I think it turned out pretty well.







EXTRA BOTTOM CHART for those who find this easier

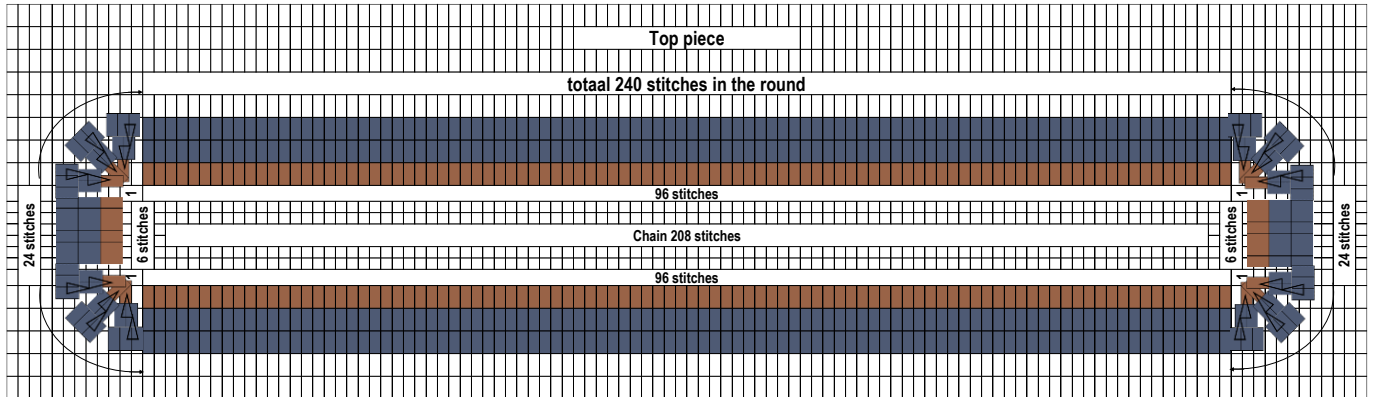


The finishing

How you finish the bag is completely the way you want it. I'm just telling you how I did it.

To start with, I finished the top edge with a double crab stitch (see the videos of Marion Verloop on Youtube for an explanation).

I wanted a zipper in my bag. I crocheted a top piece for this as shown schematically below.



The zipper fits nicely.



I like to have compartments in my bag.
For this bag I made an interior from an old pair of jeans.



The back pockets turn out to be perfect!

HAVE FUN WITH THIS PATTERN! 😊