

Frankie's Knitted Stuff

Pyramid Pouch



This is a knitted version of those lovely fabric pyramid shaped bags. It is about 5" tall but you could easily adapt the pattern to make other sizes. The pouch is lined with fabric and closed with a zip.

The knitting is really simple and the sewing can all be done by hand and is not difficult.

Before I get started on the pattern, a word about that sheep tag I've used on the zip. The sheep is called Herdy and he is inspired by the Herdwick sheep of the Lake District in England. You can buy all sorts of beautifully designed Herdy products at www.herdy.co.uk and read about the company's mission to support rural community projects at home and overseas. You can watch films starring Herdy and there are even free knitting and crochet patterns so that you can make your own Herdy.

My little sheep tags are actually stitch markers; I bought them because they were just so lovely... it was only when I got home that I realised they matched the yarn I'd bought at the same time.



Apart from the tags, you will need:

30 g of DK weight yarn

A small amount of 4 ply yarn (to cover the ends of the zip)

2.75, 3.25 mm and 3.75 mm / US sizes 2, 3 and 5 needles

A 4" / 10 cm zip

Fabric for lining the pouch, 11" × 6"

Sewing thread to match the zip and the lining

I used Adriafile Knitcol (125 m / 50 g, shade 59) for my pouch; it really looks good in a self-stripping yarn like this.

Tension: 13 stitches and 24 rows = 2" / 5 cm², working in moss stitch (US seed stitch) with 3.25 mm needles.

I worked in inches for this pattern as I tend to do when using zips.

The Knitting

Using 3.75 mm needles and the cable method, cast on 33 stitches. Change to 3.25 mm needles and work 120 rows in moss stitch:

Every row: K1, *P1, K1, repeat from * to end.

Cast off in moss stitch.

You should now have a knitted rectangle measuring 5 × 10"



That was the easy part. Now you have to turn that rectangle into a pyramid, beginning with the zip.

Covering the Ends of the Zip

I always admire those bags with fabric covered zip ends so I decided to knit covers for my zip too. These are worked with 4 ply yarn and 2.75 mm needles; I used Sirdar Country Style 4 ply (226 m / 50 g, shade 527).

Using the long tail method, cast on eight stitches.
Beginning with a purl row, work 11 rows in stocking stitch.
Cast off and darn in the ends.

You are aiming for a small rectangle of knitting, 1" wide and 1¼" long. Knit two of these in any colour.
Before sewing the covers to the zip, pull the ends of the zip together with a few stitches.



Now pin one of the covers to the bottom of the zip with the cast on edge immediately below the stop point on the zip. Using sewing thread to match the cover, oversew / whipstitch the cast on edge down. Then fold the cover in half and oversew the side seam. Sew down the cast off edge of the cover to the back of the zip and then close the other side seam. Repeat this to sew the other cover to the top of the zip.



Sewing the Zip to the Knitting

Position one short end of the knitted rectangle over one side of the zip and pin it in place. The knitted edge should just meet the teeth of the zip. Using sewing thread to match your zip, sew the knitting in place. Sew in a line just below the knitted edge, using small running stitches and pulling the thread tight to bury it in the knitting. When sewing the knitting to the knitted covers at the ends of the zip you only need to sew through the top layer.



Lining the Pouch

It is easiest to do this now, while you are dealing with a simple rectangle rather than a pyramid.

Cut a piece of cardboard the same size as your knitting (5 × 10") and a piece of fabric about an inch bigger all round (6 × 11").

Fold the fabric over the card and iron in place, then remove the card and press the fabric again.

Pin the fabric lining to the wrong side of the knitting, matching one short side to the line of stitching on the zip. Make sure you are leaving the zip pull free to work.

Slip stitch the half of the lining at the zip end in place, working just inside the edge of the knitting and using sewing thread to match the lining. The other half of the lining is left free so that you can join the other side of the zip to the knitting.



Pin that free edge of lining back while you finish sewing the zip. The zip is sewn to the other side of the knitting in exactly the same way as before.

When you have done that, turn the pouch inside out and pin and sew the other half of the lining in place. It will seem that it isn't big enough but, if you ease the knitting back a bit, it will all fit.



This is what you should have now. Using yarn, oversew / whipstitch the bottom edge together, making sure that the zip is in the middle.

Now comes the magic part. Fold the top seam so that the top of the zip is at one side and oversew it together.

Having the two seams at right angles to each other is what makes the pyramid shape. All you need to do is add a tag to the zip (sheep related or otherwise) and you're finished.

Varying the Pattern

To make different sized pouches, just add 1" to your zip length to determine how wide your knitted rectangle should be. The length

of the rectangle should be twice its width. The rest of the pattern is the same. A bigger pouch would make a nice small project bag.

I used the rest of my ball of yarn (about 20g) to make a flat pouch. This time I only knitted 90 rows in moss stitch, giving me a rectangle of 5" × 7½". I sewed both the top and bottom seams from side to side and ended up with a pouch measuring 5 × 3½".



Either pouch would be ideal for holding a small gift.

Abbreviations

K	knit
P	purl



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