

## Accidental

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This is the dishcloth that accidentally became a purse. What a happy accident it turned out to be. This purse is quick to knit, easy to finish, and a beautiful addition to your summer purse wardrobe.

### Materials:

5 balls (or about ½ cone) Peaches and Cream Double Weight Worsted Cotton in Pastel Pink  
1 US size #8 (5.0 mm) 24" or longer circular needle  
1 set US size #8 (5.0 mm) double pointed needles (or another circular for 2-circular method)  
1 US size H (5.0 mm) crochet hook  
4 stitch markers  
Tapestry needle  
1 button  
1 purchased purse strap (There is enough yarn left over to knit a strap if you'd prefer to do that.)  
2 purchased purse loops  
2 ¼" chrome grommets, if desired, to make openings for purse loops in strap  
Lining fabric  
Coordinated sewing thread

### Gauge and finished size:

Approximately 2½" stitches per inch. 17½" square, finished and blocked.

### Abbreviations and special stitches:

CO Cast on  
PM Place marker  
K Knit  
P Purl  
SSK Slip, slip, knit  
K2tog Knit two together  
BO Bind off  
MT Make tuft

**Tuft stitch** – When you see the instruction "MT" here's what to do. Knit one stitch and remove it to the right needle. \*Insert the tip of the left needle into the front of the just-knitted stitch on the right needle and knit the stitch through the back loop.\* Repeat between the asterisks two more times. This creates a 4-stitch elongated tuft that will create texture in the knitted fabric.

### Begin knitting:

Use the circular needle and \*CO 44 stitches, PM\* 4 times. (176 stitches cast on, 4 markers placed). Join and knit in the round. Decreases will be made on the even numbered rounds, which is also the right side of the work.

### Border –

Round 1 \*K1, P1\*  
Round 2 SSK, \*K1, P1\* to the last 2 stitches, K2tog (168 stitches)  
Round 3 \*K1, P1\*  
Round 4 SSK, \*K1, P1\* to the last 2 stitches, K2tog (160 stitches)  
Round 5 K



Body –

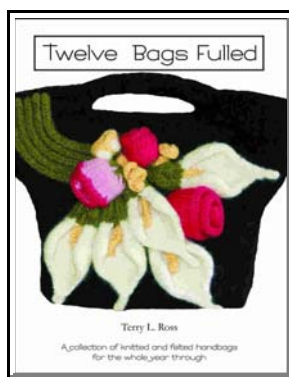
Round 6	SSK, K1, *MT, K3* to the last 5 stitches, MT, K2, K2tog (152 stitches)
Round 7	K
Round 8	SSK, K2, *MT, K3* to the last 2 stitches, K2tog (144 stitches)
Round 9	K
Round 10	SSK, *K3, MT* to the last 2 stitches, K2tog (136 stitches)
Round 11	K
Round 12	SSK, *MT, K3* to the last 4 stitches, MT, K1, K2tog (128 stitches)
Round 13	K

Repeat Rounds 6-13 until there are only 2 stitches between each marker (8 stitches total). As you decrease, switch to the double pointed needles or add in another circular as necessary. On the next round MT around (8 tufts made). Cut the yarn, pull through all 8 remaining stitches, and pull up tightly to BO. Pull through all 8 again and then weave ends securely.

### Finishing:

Pin out and block the square. To seam it, turn it on the diagonal and fold up the bottom and two side points. Seam them invisibly. Sew lining and then sew the lining into the bag.

Make a slip knot in the yarn and use the crochet hook to chain a length of fabric sufficient to make a button loop and then sew it on securely to the point of the flap. Sew on button. Fasten on strap.



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Terry Ross is the author of  
***Twelve Bags Filled***,  
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Available directly from the author's website, as well as [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com) and local yarn shops that carry Crystal Palace Yarns.