



## 'LINEN-LINEN' PROJECT BAG & SACHET

*Designed by Karen Alfke and originally published in our July/August 2012 newsletter, our beloved Churchmouse linen project bag inspired this version knit in linen stitch in a linen blend yarn. We've since added instructions for an optional strap to create a crossbody bag. Use leftover contrasting yarn to create a sachet—add a muslin bag with your favorite filling, or use it to safely store small items in your main bag!*

- Finished Size:** **Bag:** Approx. 10 x 12"/25.5 x 30.5cm, after seaming. **Optional strap:** Approx 48"/122cm long.  
**Sachet:** Approx. 3 x 4½"/7.5 x 11.5cm, after seaming.
- Yarn:** **Bag:** 2 skeins Rowan *Creative Linen* (219 yds/200m each). Optional: 15 yds/14m in a contrasting color (CC) for tea towel-style striping (see note below).  
Or approx. 300 yds/274m total of an equivalent light worsted-weight plant-fiber yarn.  
Add approx. 70 yds/64m for optional strap.  
**Sachet:** 1 skein Rowan *Creative Linen* (219 yds/200m each) yields 7 sachets.  
Or approx. 30 yds/27m of an equivalent light worsted-weight plant-fiber yarn per sachet.
- Needles** US 9 (5.5mm) needles, or size needed to obtain gauge.  
**& Notions:** Blunt darning needle to finish.  
Optional: US 8 (5mm) needles, or one size smaller than gauge needle for strap. For hanging loop, 9"/23cm piece of ribbon, matching thread and sewing needle.
- Gauge:** Approx. 28 sts/40 rows = 4"/10cm, in linen stitch.
- Glossary:** CC = contrast color; **K** = knit; **MC** = main color; **P** = purl; **RS** = right side; **Sll** = slip one stitch purlwise (insert right needle into next stitch as if to purl and transfer it to the right needle without working it); **St(s)** = stitch(es); **TBL** = through back loop; **WS** = wrong side; **WYIB** = with yarn in back; **WYIF** = with yarn in front; **YB** = yarn back between needles; **YF** = yarn forward between needles.

---

*Instructions given for bag; sachet in parentheses ().*

- Cast on:** With gauge needle and using long-tail cast-on method, cast on 72 (24) sts.
- Linen Stitch:** Set-up Row (WS): \*P1, YB, Sll, YF\*; repeat between \* \* to last 2 sts; P1, WYIF Sll.  
Row 1 (RS): K1TBL, \*YF, Sll, YB, K1\*; repeat between \* \* to last st; YF, Sll.  
Row 2 (WS): K1, WYIB Sll, \*YF, P1, YB, Sll\*; repeat between \* \* to last 2 sts; YF, P1, WYIF Sll.  
Repeat Rows 1 and 2 until work measures 27 (10¼)"/68.5 (26)cm from cast-on edge. End with a WS row, ready for a RS row. *Note: To add linen tea towel-style striping on your bag, cast on and work six rows with main color (MC), then continue in the following stripe sequence: 2 rows CC, 4 rows MC, 4 rows CC, 4 rows MC and 2 rows CC. Finish bag in MC only, as written. Done in this way, your striping will appear on the flap—of course you could place your stripes anywhere!*

*Continued on next page...*

- Bind off:** Bind off in pattern (i.e. alternating knitted and slipped stitches while binding off); end with K2 for last 2 bound-off sts. *Note: Check every few inches, as you may need to adjust your tension to neaten bound-off edge.* Cut yarn and fasten off.
- Optional Strap:** With smaller needle and using long-tail cast-on method, cast on 10 sts.  
Set-up Row (WS): \*P1, YB, S11, YF\*; repeat between \* \* to last 2 sts; P1, WYIF S11.  
Repeat Rows 1 and 2 as for bag above until piece measures approx. 48"/122cm or desired length.  
Bind off in pattern as above.
- Finishing:** Place work WS up with bound-off edge at bottom. Fold bound-off end up 12 (4½)"/30.5 (11.5) cm from bottom. *Note: Count edge sts at each side to ensure equal seams.* With a new piece of yarn and darning needle, begin at one bottom corner and seam these two layers together using a whip stitch, catching the inner strand of the edge st of each layer in your seam. Repeat for other side.
- Sew on strap (optional):** If you're adding a strap to your bag, sew it on as follows:  
Thread a 24"/61cm piece of MC yarn onto darning needle. Center strap over the outer side seam of bag, with wrong side of strap facing right side of bag, approx. 2"/5cm from top edge. Use locking markers to temporarily secure strap in place. Starting with lower right corner of strap, bring darning needle from inside of bag out, catching strap approx. ¼"/.5cm from outer edges. Sew along right edge of strap, maintaining a ¼"/.5cm seam allowance, working towards top edge of bag, until you are a ¼"/.5cm from top edge. *Tip: To help keep your stitches straight when working vertically, follow a single column of 'V' stitches on bag.*  
Sew across strap, maintaining a ¼"/.5cm seam allowance from top edge of bag. *Tip: To help keep your stitches straight when working horizontally, follow a single row of slip stitches on bag.* Continue sewing down the left side and bottom edge of strap maintaining ¼"/.5cm seam allowance throughout. Secure tail on wrong side of bag at starting point. Weave in all ends on WS.  
Repeat for other side, taking care not to twist strap. Do not sew top flap of bag down.
- Sew down top flap (bag & sachet):** Fold cast-on edge down for a 3 (1¼)" flap. *Optional: Sew a ribbon loop for hanging to inside of flap at fold, before seaming.* Whip stitch the flap down, catching the inner strand of the flap edge st with the outer strand of the edge st of back layer. With darning needle, tuck ends to inside of bag and weave in all ends on WS.