

# frabjous fibers

every yard is an adventure™

## Bucket Bag

designed by Stephanie Shiman



**Yarn:** Kathmandu Original 200g : 1 skein, Cascade 220, col. 7802: 1 skein (or similar feltable wool yarn), Sari Ribbon 50g: 1 skein (for flower detail)  
**Needles:** Sz 11, 24" circular & doublepoints (or second circular needle)  
**Notions:** yarn needle, marker, similar colored cotton sewing thread, bamboo handles  
**Gauge:** 2.5 sts & 4 rows = 1" (approximately)  
**Measurements:** *before felting:* 10" tall, 12" wide  
*after felting:* 8" tall, 11" wide

### Bag body:

**Note:** The bag body is worked double stranded, with one strand of wool and one strand of recycled silk held together

CO 3 sts.

Row 1: Kfb, knit to last stitch, Kfb.

Row 2: Purl.

Work rows 1 & 2 for seven repeats (15 sts). Next, work stockinette stitch for 10 rows. Then begin working rows 3 & 4 as follows until you have 3 stitches remaining:

Row 3: SSK, knit to last two stitches, K2tog.

Row 4: Purl.

Bind off.

With RS facing, pick up 24 stitches from either side of football shape. Join and knit in the round until bag measures 10" from picked up bottom.  
**continued below...**

**Work bind-off i-cord as follows:** Cast on 3 sts onto left needle. Knit these three sts through the back loops and slide them back to left needle (do not turn). The working yarn is now on the left.

\*Pull yarn snugly across the back of these sts then K 2, knit the last stitch through the back loops with one live stitch from the body of the bag. Slide these 3 sts back to left needle.\* Repeat around from \* to \* until all the live stitches have been bound off. Sew this end to the beginning of the i-cord.

**Felting:** *Before felting please note:* Using hot, hot water can cause the recycled silk to bleed and possibly stain other items in the washer. Also, hot water will mute the shine of the silk. To avoid bleeding and for best results use warm water and multiple wash cycles.

Throw bag into a pillow case and put into the washer with detergent. Add other items (note the possible bleeding) for agitation. Use warm water and enough wash cycles to felt the fabric as desired. Remove from washer, stretch into shape as necessary. Stuff bag with bubble wrap or dark colored towels and place the bag to dry sitting on the flat bottom.

**Finishing:** Once dry, use leftover recycled silk yarn to sew the handles on either side.

### Sari Ribbon Flower: (shown)

Choose a 1 yard section of Sari Ribbon that coordinates with your bag colors. Form a figure eight that measures about 4-5" tall. Sew center where ribbon meets. Next, form a second figure eight perpendicular to the first one and sew the

centers together. Add another petal or another set of two (figure eight) until desired look is achieved. Roll up remaining sari ribbon and sew in place for the flower center.

**I-cord Flower:** With leftover recycled silk yarn, CO 3 sts. Work i-cord until pieces measures 25". Stitch the ends together to form a loop. Form your petals: Starting with the ends you just sewed together, use yarn scraps to mark 5 equal length sections. Bring the marked points together and stitch together. You should have 5 petals. Knit a bobble or use a button to accent the flower's center.

Sew or use a safety pin to attach the flower to the desired spot on your bag.

### Tips for working with recycled silk yarn:

- It is easier to work from a hand rolled ball
- As soon as you can, weave in your cast-on tail to keep it from catching on your working yarn.
- If your yarn is over-twisted, letting out some of the twist will make it easier to work with and maximize your yardage. The easiest way to do this is by putting a rubber band around your ball and dangling it (or your knitting, whichever is smaller at the time) allowing it to turn and untwist the working yarn.

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