



DONASSE

Pocket

Sturdy bag in Icelandic wool

From the 17th century, pockets were in use in many European countries, both among poorer and richer women. In Flanders, they got the fancy name: *moederkenschak*. The bags had the function that today's handbag has. You could store all kinds of objects in them: money, a handkerchief, food, a knife, scissors, keys, papers, tobacco ... or spices. The pocket was worn between the skirt and apron or between the skirt and underskirt, and tied around the waist with ribbons. The upper skirt usually had a side opening to reach the bag. Rich women's purses were sometimes beautifully decorated.

From pocket to handbag

Poor women made their bag from leftover fabric, from an old skirt or something. But they also chose to decorate their sacks, for example with embroidery. At the end of the eighteenth century, many rich women stopped wearing these sacks. Despite changing fashions, many women continued to use the pocket for a long time, also in the countryside of Flanders. They were taken into the forest to collect herbs and roots. That is why I chose decorations of leaves and stems in green. The bottom consists of a crocheted hexagon.



Pure sheep's wool in natural shades

Lopi yarns come from Iceland. The wool is made from the fleece of Icelandic sheep, a unique breed of sheep that has never been mixed with other breeds. The wool of this sheep is fully adapted to the Icelandic climate and is known for its insulating properties. It is a strong, sturdy thread that feels a bit stiff at first. But through knitting and wearing, the wool becomes softer and more supple.

Warm and water-repellent

The fleece of the Icelandic sheep consists of two layers, each with a different type of wool. The water-resistant outer layer has long shiny fibers, while the fine and soft inner fibers are exceptionally good at insulating. The yarn is therefore very warm, strong and water-repellent.

Natural and environmentally friendly

The production process is carried out as environmentally friendly as possible. Only natural energy sources are used, such as geothermal energy and hydropower. During the washing of the wool, the use of chemicals is kept to a minimum to preserve the natural oils. This keeps the wool warm, light and water-repellent.



Even more Lettlopi in Micca

With Lettlopi you can knit breathable, warm winter clothing, such as the leg warmers and gloves for Jeanne, the coat for Martine, the rune sweater for Jean, the cape for Martha and this pocket for Donasse.

DIMENSIONS



Width all around: 62 cm

Height: 25 cm

YARN

Istex, Lettlopi

100% wool

50 g = 100 m

1707 Galaxy 100 g

(for knitting and crochet)

1706 Lyme Grass 50 g or leftover

(for meshing)



STITCHES AND TECHNIQUES (UK)

chain st (ch), single crochet (sc),

double crochet (dc)

stockinette stitch

mesh stitch

NEEDLES

Knitting needles 4

Crochet hook 4 and 5

SAMPLER

18 stitches x 26 rows in stockinette stitch

knitted with needles 4 = 10 cm

DIFFICULTY LEVEL



METHOD



1

HEXAGON AS BASE, CROCHET

To crochet a nice hexagon, increase 6 stitches in every row.

Take your hook size 4. Ch 3 into a magic circle and dc 6 into the circle. Ch 1, place a stitch marker in the ch (see tip) and dc 2 into each stitch = 12 stitches.

Begin each round with a ch. Close each round with a sc in that ch.

6 x (1 dc, 2 dc in next st) = 18 sts

6 x (2 dc, 2 dc in next st) = 24 sts

6 x (3 dc, 2 dc in next st) = 30 sts

6 x (4 dc, 2 dc in next st) = 36 sts

6 x (5 dc, 2 dc in next st) = 42 sts

6 x (6 dc, 2 dc in next st) = 48 sts

6 x (7 dc, 2 dc in next st) = 54 sts

6 x (8 dc, 2 dc in next st) = 60 sts

6 x (9 dc, 2 dc in next st) = 66 sts

6 x (10 dc, 2 dc in next st) = 72 sts

6 x (11 dc, 2 dc in next st) = 78 sts

6 x (12 dc, 2 dc in next st) = 84 sts

6 x (13 dc, 2 dc in next st) = 90 sts

TIP

Use a stitch marker to mark the first ch of your row. Carry the stitch marker along, one row higher each time.



2

BODY, KNITTING

Pull the bottom a little into shape. It is not completely flat anyway, but slightly bulging. Take your circular needles 4. While knitting along the outer edge of your crocheted bottom, pick up 108 stitches. That is the 90 crochet stitches + 18 increases. For that, increase 1 stitch after every 5 stitches.

Continue knitting stockinette stitch in the round with the remaining 108 stitches until the piece measures 20 cm.



3

HOLES FOR THE THREADING CORD

Make holes in the next row to thread the cords through at the finish. Repeat for this (4 stitches, 1 yarn over, knit 2 stitches together). Knit a normal stitch in the yarn over in the following rows. We have 108 stitches again. Knit until a total height of 25 cm. Bind off the stitches. The edge curls a little, but that is the intention.



FINISHING

Weave all the ends in. Crochet 2 chains. One you thread all the way around the bag to open and close it. The other you thread only through the back so that you can easily tie the bag around your waist or over your shoulders. You can also thread a narrow belt through the back. That makes it a bit sturdier.

Crochet the chains with crochet hook 5 with a double thread. Make them as long as you want, but at least 70 cm. You can finish the ends with a bead or button.



Embroider stems and leaves with the contrasting color using the chain stitch. Be inspired by my example or find pictures on Pinterest.



HEXAGON



Balance and harmony

The hexagon is a symbol of balance, harmony and efficiency. The strong shape distributes forces or weight evenly over the sides. The hexagon is remarkably common in nature and can be found in, for example, the cell structures of plants, snow crystals, quartz crystals and basalt.

The ancient Greeks used hexagons to make complicated calculations. These shapes are still used in construction today. But hexagons have been around for much longer. Just think of the efficient hexagon that bees have been using in their honeycombs for 120 million years.

The hexagon has traditionally been given great mystical significance. The shape consists of two interlocking triangles that symbolically connect heaven and earth, spirit and matter or the male and female principles.

Tribute to thousands of 'witches'

The pocket for Donasse is part of MICCA, a collection that pays tribute to the many victims of the witch hunt. In Europe alone, more than 100,000 alleged witches were burned at the stake. Mostly women, but also men and even children.

Donasse le Latteur was one of the victims. She was 56 years old. On March 10, 1599, she was strangled and burned in Tournai. She lived in Ellezelles, a small village in the Belgian Hainaut.

Threads of love

MICCA weaves the history of all victims into timeless creations of thread. Each stitch is part of the chain that connects us across the generations. You can find my designs on my Ravelry page Micca-witchcraft and also on my website www.micca-witchcraft.be.

Want to know more about the witch hunt? Send me an email. You will receive my short story for free, in which I present the cruel reality of witch madness in an original way.



Colofon

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Micca witchcraft



Miekemicca



Micca-witchcraft