



Cascading Leaves Bag

DESIGN BY DEBRA ARCH

Irresistible texture and shape are two of the unforgettable features of this dimensional handbag.

1 2 3 4 5 6 MODERATELY CHALLENGING

FINISHED MEASUREMENTS

11½ inches wide x 10 inches high x
5½ inches deep

MATERIALS

- Universal Yarn Classic Worsted medium (worsted) weight acrylic/wool yarn (3½ oz/197 yds/100g per ball): 3 balls #632 leaf green
- Sizes G/6/4mm and H/8/5mm crochet hooks or sizes needed to obtain gauge
- Tapestry needle
- 6-inch round cane handles
- Hand steamer
- Pressing ham or large cotton towel
- Straight pins
- Stitch marker



GAUGES

Size G hook: 4 sc or hdc = 1 inch; 4 sc rows = 1 inch

Size H hook: Complete leaf is 2½ inches wide x 3 inches high

PATTERN NOTES

Do not work into top of hdc behind fpdc unless otherwise noted.

Sl sts made to complete tops of leaves in rnds 20 & 26 do not count as a st and are not worked on next rnd.

Leaf stitches are worked from top to bottom over 5 front post double crochet stitches on left side of leaf placement, then work is turned and stitches are worked from bottom to top up 5 front post double crochet stitches on right side of leaf placement.

Join with slip stitch as indicated unless otherwise stated.

Chain-2 at beginning of round counts as first half double crochet unless otherwise stated.

Chain-3 at beginning of round counts as first double crochet unless otherwise stated.

SPECIAL STITCH

Cable: Beg on WS, sk indicated st, dc in each of next 3 sts, yo, move hook to RS and insert hook from front to back into sk st before dc group, loosely pull up lp, bring lp up to height of dc group, yo, complete as dc.

BAG

Rnd 1: Beg at bottom, with size G hook, ch 19, 5 hdc in 2nd ch from hook, hdc in each of next 16 chs, 5 hdc in last ch, working on opposite side of ch, hdc in each of next 16 chs, **join** (see *Pattern Notes*) in top of first hdc. (42 hdc)

Rnd 2: Ch 2 (see *Pattern Notes*), hdc in same st as beg ch-2, 2 hdc in each of next 4 sts, hdc in each of next 16 sts, 2 hdc in each of next 5 sts, hdc in each of last 16 sts, join in 2nd ch of beg ch-2. (52 hdc)

Rnd 3: Ch 2, [2 hdc in next st, hdc in next st] 5 times, hdc in each of next 16 sts, [2 hdc in next st, hdc in next st] 5 times, hdc in each of last 15 hdc, join in 2nd ch of beg ch-2. (62 hdc)

Rnds 4–7: Ch 2, hdc in each hdc around, and at same time evenly sp inc 4 times at each end of oval, join in 2nd ch of beg ch-2. (94 hdc at end of last rnd)

Rnd 8: Ch 2, hdc in each hdc around, and at same time evenly sp inc 3 times at each end of oval, join in 2nd ch of beg ch-2. (100 hdc)

Rnd 9: Working in **back lps** (see *Stitch Guide*), ch 2, hdc in each st around, join in 2nd ch of beg ch-2.

Rnd 10: Ch 2, hdc in each of next 2 sts, 2 **fpdc** (see *Stitch Guide*) around post of st in rnd 9 directly below last hdc made (*beg of leaf placement*), [sk st behind last fpdc just made (see *Pattern Notes*), hdc in each of next 9 sts, 2 fpdc around post of st in rnd 9 directly below last hdc made] 9 times, hdc in each of next 6 sts, join 2nd ch of beg ch-2, **turn** to WS. (110 sts)

Rnd 11: Ch 2, hdc in each of next 6 sts, **hdc dec** (see *Stitch Guide*) in next 2 fpdc, [hdc in each of next 9 sts, hdc dec in next 2 fpdc] 9 times, hdc in each of last 2 sts, join in 2nd ch of beg ch-2, **turn** to RS. (100 sts)

Rnd 12: Ch 2, hdc in each of next 3 sts, fpdc around each of next 2 fpdc, [hdc in each of next 9 sts, fpdc around each of next 2 fpdc] 9 times, hdc in each of next 5 sts, join in 2nd ch of beg ch-2, **turn**. (110 sts)

Rnd 13: Rep rnd 11.

Rnds 14 & 15: Rep rnds 12 and 13.

Rnd 16: Ch 2, hdc in each of next 3 sts, [fpdc around each of next 2 fpdc, hdc in each of next 4 sts, 2 fpdc around next hdc of rnd 14 (*beg of upper layer of leaf placement*), hdc in each of next 4 hdc] 9 times, fpdc around each of next 2 fpdc, hdc in each of next 4 hdc, 2 fpdc around next hdc of rnd 14, join in 2nd ch of beg ch-2, **turn**. (120 sts)

Rnd 17: Ch 2, hdc dec in next 2 fpdc, [hdc in each of next 4 sts, hdc dec in next 2 fpdc] 19 times, hdc in each of next 3 sts, join in 2nd ch of beg ch-2, **turn**. (100 sts)

Rnd 18: Ch 2, hdc in each of next 3 sts, fpdc around each of next 2 fpdc, hdc in each of next 4 sts, fpdc around each of next 2 fpdc, [hdc in each of next 4 sts, fpdc around each of next 2 fpdc] 9 times, join in 2nd ch of beg ch-2, **turn**. (120 sts)

Rnd 19: Rep rnd 17.

Rnd 20: Ch 2, hdc in each of next 4 sts, work the following steps to complete rnd:

A. with size H hook, turn and working from top to bottom around posts of next 5 fpdc on left side of first leaf placement, (sc, hdc, dc) around first fpdc, (tr, 2 dtr) around next post, (2 dtr, tr) around next post, (dc, hdc, sc) around next post, sl st around next post;

B. ch 1, turn and working from bottom to top around posts on right side of same leaf placement, sl st around next post, (sc, hdc, dc) around next post, (tr, 2 dtr) around next post, (2 dtr, tr) around next post, (dc, hdc, sc) around next post;

C. sl st into last hdc made of this rnd, with size G hook, **do not sk** any sts behind completed leaf;

D. [hdc in each of next 4 sts, fpdc around each of next 2 fpdc, hdc in each of next 5 sts, with size H hook, turn and working from top to bottom around posts of next 5 fpdc on left side of first leaf placement, (sc, hdc, dc) around first fpdc, (tr, 2 dtr) around next post, (2 dtr, tr) around next post, (dc, hdc, sc) around next post, sl st around next post, ch 1, turn and working

If you like this style of texture, you'll love Debra Arch's Annie's online class *Learn to Crocodile Stitch*.

from bottom to top around posts on right side of same leaf placement, sl st around next post, (sc, hdc, dc) around next post, (tr, 2 dtr) around next post, (2 dtr, tr) around next post, (dc, hdc, sc) around next post, sl st into last hdc made of this rnd, with size G hook] 9 times;

E. hdc in each of next 4 sts, fpdc around each of next 2 fpdc, join 2nd ch of beg ch-2, turn. (110 sts and 10 leaves)

Rnd 21: Ch 2, hdc dec in next 2 fpdc, [hdc in each of next 8 sts (see *Pattern Notes*), hdc dec in next 2 fpdc] 9 times, hdc in each of last 7 sts, join 2nd ch of beg ch-2, turn. (90 sts)

Rnd 22: Ch 2, hdc in each of next 7 sts, fpdc around each of next 2 fpdc, [hdc in each of next 8 sts, fpdc around each of next 2 fpdc] 9 times, join in 2nd ch of beg ch-2, turn. (100 sts)

Rnds 23 & 24: Rep rnds 21 and 22.

Rnd 25: Rep rnd 21.

Rnd 26: Ch 2, hdc in each of next 8 sts, work the following steps to complete rnd;

A. with size H hook, turn and working from top to bottom around posts of next 5 fpdc on left side of first leaf placement, (sc, hdc, dc) around first fpdc, (tr, 2 dtr) around next post, (2 dtr, tr) around next post, (dc, hdc, sc) around next post, sl st around next post;

B. ch 1, turn and working from bottom to top around posts on right side of same leaf placement, sl st around next post, (sc, hdc, dc) around next post, (tr, 2 dtr) around next post, (2 dtr, tr) around next post, (dc, hdc, sc) around next post;

C. sl st into last hdc made of this rnd;

D. [with size G hook, hdc in each of next 9 sts, with size H hook, turn and working from top to bottom around posts of next 5 fpdc

on left side of first leaf placement, (sc, hdc, dc) around first fpdc, (tr, 2 dtr) around next post, (2 dtr, tr) around next post, (dc, hdc, sc) around next post, sl st around next post, ch 1, turn and working from bottom to top around posts on right side of same leaf placement, sl st around next post, (sc, hdc, dc) around next post, (tr, 2 dtr) around next post, (2 dtr, tr) around next post, (dc, hdc, sc) around next post, sl st in last hdc made of this rnd] 9 times;

E. join in 2nd ch of beg ch-2, **do not turn.** (90 sts and 10 leaves)

Rnd 27: Ch 1, [work 8 sc in between each leaf] around, join in first sc, turn. (80 sc)

Rnd 28: Ch 3 (see *Pattern Notes*), [sk next st, dc in each of next 3 dc, **cable** (see *Special Stitch*)] 19 times, sk next st, dc in each of next 2 sts, sl st in top of beg ch-3, yo, and with WS facing, move hook to RS and insert hook from front to back into sk st before dc group, loosely pull up lp, bring it up to height of dc group, yo, complete as dc, join in first dc of next dc group, turn. (20 cables)

Rnd 29: Ch 1, sc in back lp of same st as join and in back lp of each st around, join in first sc. Fasten off. (80 sc)

Use needle and 1 strand to tack sides of each leaf to Bag, where desired.

Handle Ring

Make 2.

Row 1: With size G hook, ch 6, sc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across, turn. (5 sc)

Rows 2–65: Ch 1, sc in each st across, turn. Leaving 18-inch end, fasten off at end of last row. Fold long edges of Handle Ring around bone ring, sew long edges tog and short edges tog to cover ring.

Handle Casing

Make 2.

Row 1: With size G hook, ch 31, hdc in 2nd ch from hook and in each of next 9 chs, sc in each of next 10 chs, hdc in each of last 10 chs, turn. (30 sts)

Rows 2–20: Ch 2 (does not count as first hdc), working in back lps, hdc in first st and in

each of next 9 sts, sc in each of next 10 sts, hdc in each of last 10 sts, turn. **Do not turn** at end of last row. (30 sts)

Handle Join

Beg at center of Bag side edge, divide top edge into front and back sections consisting of 40 sts each, turn Handle piece to right, working across ends of rows and in back lps of sts on RS of Bag front, work sl st, ch 1 in end of first row and in first st of Bag, sl st, ch 1 in end of same row and in next st of Bag, [(sl st, ch 1 in end of next row and in next st of bag) 2 times] 19 times. Leaving 24-inch end, fasten off.

Fold casing through Handle Ring and to WS of Bag, use long end and sew opposite end of Casing to Handle Join.

Rep on opposite side of Bag.

Flower

Rnd 1: With size G hook, ch 2, 9 sc in first ch, **do not join, mark first st of rnd.** (9 sc)

Rnd 2: 2 sc in each ch around. (18 sc)

Rnd 3: Sc in back lp in each st around.

Rnd 4: Sc in first sc, 2 sc in next sc, [sc in next sc, 2 sc in next sc] 7 times, sc in next sc, 3 sc in last sc. (28 sc)

Rnd 5 (petal rnd): [Ch 9, sl st in 2nd ch from hook, dc in each of next 3 chs, tr in each of next 3 chs, sk next 3 sts of rnd 4, sl st in next st] 7 times ending with sl st in base of beg ch-9. Leaving 36-inch end, fasten off. (7 petals)

Flower Center

With size G hook, ch 8, sl st in first ch to form ring, ch 2 (counts as hdc), hdc in each ch around, join in 2nd ch of beg ch-2. Leaving 12-inch end, fasten off. (8 hdc)

Assembly

Beg at tip, roll petal up to flower rnd 2, use long end to tack in place.

Rep for rem 6 petals. Use 12-inch end to sew beg ch of Center to Flower and Flower where desired on Handle Casing of Bag.

Insert pressing ham or rolled up towel into Bag and pin a few leaves flat to Bag. Lightly steam-block with hand steamer and allow to dry. Turn Bag and rep until all leaves have been steamed flat. **C!**

STITCH GUIDE

Need help? ▶ StitchGuide.com • ILLUSTRATED GUIDES • HOW-TO VIDEOS

STITCH ABBREVIATIONS

beg	begin/begins/beginning
bpdc	back post double crochet
bpsc	back post single crochet
bptr	back post treble crochet
CC	contrasting color
ch(s)	chain(s)
ch-	refers to chain or space previously made (i.e., ch-1 space)
ch sp(s)	chain space(s)
cl(s)	cluster(s)
cm	centimeter(s)
dc	double crochet (singular/plural)
dc dec	double crochet 2 or more stitches together, as indicated
dec	decrease/decreases/decreasing
dtr	double treble crochet
ext	extended
fpdc	front post double crochet
fpdc	front post double crochet
fpdc	front post double crochet
fpdc	front post double crochet
g	gram(s)
hdc	half double crochet
hdc dec	half double crochet 2 or more stitches together, as indicated
inc	increase/increases/increasing
lp(s)	loop(s)
MC	main color
mm	millimeter(s)
oz	ounce(s)
pc	popcorn(s)
rem	remain/remains/remaining
rep(s)	repeat(s)
rnd(s)	round(s)
RS	right side
sc	single crochet (singular/plural)
sc dec	single crochet 2 or more stitches together, as indicated
sk	skip/skipped/skipping
sl st(s)	slip stitch(es)
sp(s)	space(s)/spaced
st(s)	stitch(es)
tog	together
tr	treble crochet
trtr	triple treble
WS	wrong side
yd(s)	yard(s)
yo	yarn over

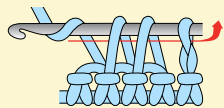
YARN CONVERSION

OUNCES TO GRAMS	GRAMS TO OUNCES
1.....28.4	25.....7/8
2.....56.7	40.....1 3/8
3.....85.0	50.....1 3/4
4.....113.4	100.....3 1/2

UNITED STATES UNITED KINGDOM

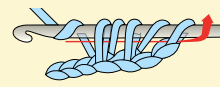
sl st (slip stitch)	=	sc (single crochet)
sc (single crochet)	=	dc (double crochet)
hdc (half double crochet)	=	htr (half treble crochet)
dc (double crochet)	=	tr (treble crochet)
tr (treble crochet)	=	dtr (double treble crochet)
dtr (double treble crochet)	=	ttr (triple treble crochet)
skip	=	miss

Single crochet decrease (sc dec):
(Insert hook, yo, draw lp through) in each of the sts indicated, yo, draw through all lps on hook.



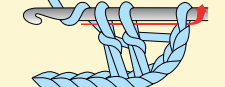
Example of 2-sc dec

Half double crochet decrease (hdc dec):
(Yo, insert hook, yo, draw lp through) in each of the sts indicated, yo, draw through all lps on hook.



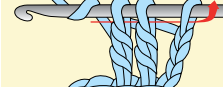
Example of 2-hdc dec

Double crochet decrease (dc dec): (Yo, insert hook, yo, draw lp through, yo, draw through 2 lps on hook) in each of the sts indicated, yo, draw through all lps on hook.



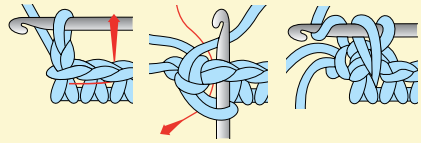
Example of 2-dc dec

Treble crochet decrease (tr dec): Holding back last lp of each st, tr in each of the sts indicated, yo, pull through all lps on hook.

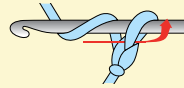


Example of 2-tr dec

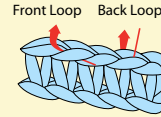
Reverse single crochet (reverse sc): Ch 1, sk first st, working from left to right, insert hook in next st from front to back, draw up lp on hook, yo and draw through both lps on hook.



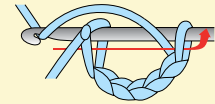
Chain (ch): Yo, pull through lp on hook.



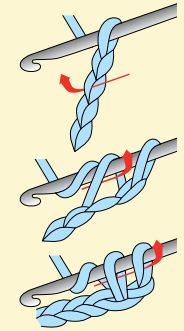
Front loop (front lp) Back loop (back lp)



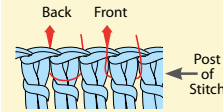
Slip stitch (sl st): Insert hook in st, pull through both lps on hook.



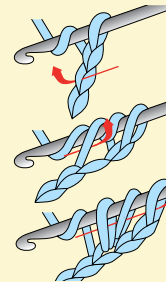
Single crochet (sc): Insert hook in st, yo, pull through st, yo, pull through both lps on hook.



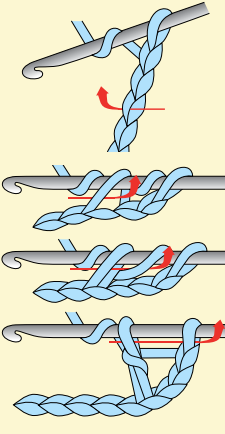
Front post stitch (fp): Back post stitch (bp): When working post st, insert hook from right to left around post of st on previous row.



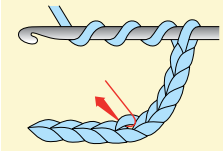
Half double crochet (hdc): Yo, insert hook in st, yo, pull through st, yo, pull through all 3 lps on hook.



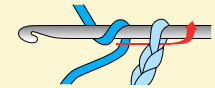
Double crochet (dc): Yo, insert hook in st, yo, pull through st, [yo, pull through 2 lps] twice.



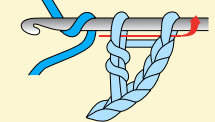
Double treble crochet (dtr): Yo 3 times, insert hook in st, yo, pull through st, [yo, pull through 2 lps] 4 times.



Chain color change (ch color change)
Yo with new color, draw through last lp on hook.



Double crochet color change (dc color change)
Drop first color, yo with new color, draw through last 2 lps of st.



Treble crochet (tr): Yo twice, insert hook in st, yo, pull through st, [yo, pull through 2 lps] 3 times.

