## **Grocery Tote Bag**

Designed by Nancy Livengood

This bag works up quickly and stretches upwards to hold a large amount of items. Make yourself several and carry in your car for shopping trips and help the environment.



## Materials:

4 ply cotton yarn, 1 lb cone

Using a 1 lb cone ensures there is no joining of yarn in the mesh part of the bag. The 1 lb cone will make 2 bags.

Crochet Hook size H

Ch 40

**Row 1:** hdc in second ch from hook and in each ch across.

**Row 2:** ch 2 (counts as 1<sup>st</sup> hdc), hdc in each hdc across.

Row 3-18: repeat Row 2

At end of Row 18 DO NOT turn, you will now be working in rounds to work the sides of the bag.

**Rnd 1:** ch 3 (counts as 1<sup>st</sup> dc), work 17 dc in end of each row, work 39 dc across the bottom of row 1, work 18 dc in the end of the rows, work 39 dcs in row 18, join with sl st to top of ch 3. (114 total dcs).

**Rnd 2:** ch 3, dc in each dc around. Join with sl st to top of beg ch 3.

**Rnd 3:** ch 1, sc in same sp as joining, (ch 3, sk 2 dc, sc in dc) repeat around, join the last ch 3 to beg sc with sl st.

**Rnd 4:** ch 1, sc in same sp as joining, mark sc as the beg of rnd, (ch 3, sc in next ch 3 sp) repeat around to last ch 3 sp, sc in last ch 3 sp, sl st to beg sc. There will be 39 ch 3 spaces.

Repeat Rnd 4 until piece measures about 12"

**Next rnd:** sc in same sp as joining (2 sc in next ch 3 sp, sc in next sc) repeat around, join with sl st to top of beg sc.

**Next rnd:** ch 2, hdc in each sc around join with sl st to top of ch 2.

**Next rnd:** ch 2, hdc in each hdc around, join with sl st to top of ch 2, finish off.

## Handles (make 2)

Ch 4

**Row 1:** hdc in each ch across

Row 2-25: hdc in each hdc across

Using the picture for placement of handle join with sc to top of wide side of bag, placing the handle so there is a space in the center of the bag. Repeat for other side of bag.

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