

The Calico Bag

(Pattern Draft 3. Comments and Corrections to fats@crochetology.net)



Skill Level:  EASY

Designer: Fatima Lasay

Website: <http://www.crochetology.net/>

Finished Measurements:

Approximately 8" wide x 5" high (excluding handle)

Materials:

Acrylic yarn, medium worsted (weight category: )

Colors: 1 skein Black, 3 skeins White, 2 skeins Ginger

Size 5/0 aluminum crochet hook, size G/6 (US), 8 (Canada) or size to obtain gauge

White Velcro strips, 2 1/2" x 1" (or magnetic snaps)

Kapok fiber for filling (or other filling material)

Needle and thread

Bag lining (optional)

Scissors

Gauge: 10 sts = 2.5", 16 rows = 4".

You may use any size hook to obtain the gauge.

Yarn Weight: Worsted / 10 ply (9 wpi)

Yardage: 164 - 219 yards (150 - 200 m)

Notes:

1. When changing color, draw new color through 2 loops on hook to complete a sc.
2. Use separate strand of yarn for each color change, except when changes are only 1 stitch apart.
3. Fuzzy edges are OK!
4. Choose colors that are nearest your calico or tortie cat. The color "ginger" may be "brown", "rust", "mustard", "copper" and the like.

Bag: (Front)

Mark Row 1 as the Right Side of the bag.

Finished size is approximately 9" x 5 1/2"

Using white yarn, ch 45 + 1.

Row 1: With White sc into 2nd ch from hook and each ch to end, ch 1, turn. (45 sc)

Row 2-8: With White sc in each sc to end, ch 1, turn. Rep to make 7 rows.

Row 9: With white sc in next 6 sc, with Ginger sc in next sc, with White sc in next 3 sc, with Ginger sc in next sc, with White sc in next 34 sc, ch 1, turn.

Row 10: With White sc in next 33 sc, with Ginger sc in next 3 sc, with White sc in next sc, with Ginger sc in next 4 sc, with White sc in next 4 sc, ch 1, turn.

Row 11: With White sc in next 4 sc, with Ginger sc in next 4 sc, with White sc in next sc, with Ginger sc in next 2 sc, with White sc in next 34 sc, ch 1, turn.

Row 12: With White sc in next 33 sc, with Ginger sc in next 9 sc, with White sc in next 3 sc, ch 1, turn.

Row 13: With White sc in next 2 sc, with Ginger sc in next 6 sc, with White sc in next sc, with Ginger sc in next 3 sc, with White sc in next 21 sc, with Ginger sc in next sc, with White sc in next 11 sc, ch 1, turn.

Row 14: With Ginger sc in next sc, with White sc in next 10 sc, with Ginger sc in next 2 sc, with White sc in next 19 sc, with Ginger sc in next 3 sc, with White sc in next 2 sc, with Ginger sc in next 4 sc, with Black sc in next 2 sc, with White sc in next 2 sc, ch 1, turn.

Row 15: With White sc in next 2 sc, with Black sc in next sc, with Ginger sc in next sc, with Black sc in next sc, with Ginger sc in next 3 sc, with White sc in next sc, with Ginger sc in next 4 sc, with White sc in next 16 sc, with Ginger sc in next 6 sc, with White sc in next 4 sc, with Black sc in next 3 sc, with Ginger sc in next 3 sc, ch 1, turn.

Row 16: With Ginger sc in next 3 sc, with Black sc in next 4 sc, with White sc in next 2 sc, with Ginger sc in next 8 sc, with White sc in next 19 sc, with Ginger sc in next 4 sc, with Black sc in next 3

sc, with White sc in next 2 sc, ch 1, turn.

Row 17: With White sc in next sc, with Black sc in next 4 sc, with Ginger sc in next 4 sc, with White sc in next 19 sc, with Ginger sc in next 7 sc, with White sc in next 3 sc, with Black sc in next 4 sc, with Ginger sc in next 3 sc, ch 1, turn.

Row 18: With Ginger sc in next 3 sc, with Black sc in next 4 sc, with White sc in next 3 sc, with Ginger sc in next 6 sc, with White sc in next 20 sc, with Ginger sc in next 4 sc, with Black sc in next 4 sc, with White sc in next sc, ch 1, turn.

Row 19: With White sc in next sc, with Black sc in next 4 sc, with Ginger sc in next 4 sc, with White sc in next 22 sc, with Ginger sc in next 3 sc, with White sc in next 4 sc, with Ginger sc in next 2 sc, with Black sc in next 2 sc, with Ginger sc in next 3 sc, ch 1, turn.

Row 20: With Ginger sc in next 4 sc, with Black sc in next sc, with Ginger sc in next 2 sc, with White sc in next 4 sc, with Ginger sc in next 2 sc, with White sc in next 23 sc, with Ginger sc in next 4 sc, with Black sc in next 4 sc, with White sc in next sc, ch 1, turn.

Row 21: With White sc in next 2 sc, with Black sc in next 5 sc, with Ginger sc in next 2 sc, with White sc in next 26 sc, with Ginger sc in next 10 sc, ch 1, turn.

Row 22: With Ginger sc in next 10 sc, with White sc in next 11 sc, with Ginger sc in next 5 sc, with White sc in next 11 sc, with Black sc in next 6 sc, with White sc in next sc, with Ginger sc in next sc, ch 1, turn.

Row 23: With Ginger sc next 2 sc, with White sc in next sc, with Black sc in next 5 sc, with Ginger sc in next 2 sc, with White sc in next 7 sc, with Ginger sc in next 7 sc, with White sc in next 13 sc, with Ginger sc in next 8 sc, ch 1, turn.

Row 24: With Ginger sc in next 8 sc, with White sc in next 11 sc, with Ginger sc in next 10 sc, with White sc in next 5 sc, with Ginger sc in next sc, with Black sc in next 7 sc, with White sc in next sc, with Ginger sc in next 2 sc, ch 1, turn.

Row 25: With Ginger sc in next sc, with White sc in next 2 sc, with Black sc in next 6 sc, with White sc in next 7 sc, with Ginger sc in next 10 sc, with White sc in next 13 sc, with Ginger sc in next 6 sc, ch 1, turn.

Row 26: With Ginger sc in next 5 sc, with White sc in next 14 sc, with Ginger sc in next 10 sc, with White sc in next 6 sc, with Ginger sc in next sc, with Black sc in next 6 sc, with White sc in next 2 sc, with Ginger sc in next sc. Finish off and weave in all ends.



Photo 2: This side of the bag is based on the markings on Kitty2's face.

Bag: (Back)

Mark Row 1 as the Right Side of the bag.

Finished size is approximately 9" x 5 1/2"

Using Ginger yarn ch 45 + 1.

Row 1: With Ginger sc in each sc around; ch 1, turn. (45 sc)

Row 2: With Ginger sc in next 35 sc, with Black sc in next 2 sc, with Ginger sc in next 8 sc, ch 1, turn.

Row 3: With Ginger sc in next 8 sc, with Black sc in next 2 sc, with Ginger sc in next 33 sc, with White sc in next 2 sc, ch 1, turn.

Row 4: With White sc in next 3 sc, with Ginger sc in next 32 sc, with Black sc in next 2 sc, with Ginger sc in next 8 sc, ch 1, turn.

Row 5: With Ginger sc in next 6 sc, with Black sc in next 5 sc, with Ginger sc in next 29 sc, with White sc in next 5 sc, ch 1, turn.

Row 6: With White sc in next 9 sc, with Ginger sc in next 26 sc, with Black sc in next 4 sc, with Ginger sc in next 4 sc, with White sc in next 2 sc, ch 1, turn.

Row 7: With White sc in next 3 sc, with Ginger sc in next sc, with White sc in next 3 sc, with Black sc in next 2 sc, with Ginger sc in next 26 sc, with White sc in next 10 sc, ch 1, turn.

Row 8: With White sc in next 11 sc, with Ginger sc in next 27 sc, with White sc in next 7 sc, ch 1, turn.

Row 9: With White sc in next 8 sc, [with Ginger sc in next sc, with White sc in next sc] 12 times, with

Ginger sc in next sc, with White sc in next 12 sc, ch 1, turn.

Row 10: With White sc in next 13 sc, [with Ginger sc in next sc, with White sc in next sc] 11 times, with White sc in next 10 sc, ch 1, turn.

Row 11: With White sc in next 10 sc, [with Ginger sc in next sc, with White sc in next sc] 11 times, with White sc in next 13 sc, ch 1, turn.

Row 12: Rep row 10.

Row 13: Rep row 11.

Row 14: With White sc in next 8 sc, with Ginger sc in next 2 sc, with White sc in next 27 sc, with Black sc in next 9 sc, ch 1, turn.

Row 15: With Black sc in next 10 sc, with White sc in next 24 sc, with Ginger sc in next 3 sc, with White sc in next 3 sc, with Ginger sc in next 3 sc, with White sc in next 2 sc, ch 1, turn.

Row 16: With White sc in next 2 sc, with Ginger sc in next 4 sc, with White sc in next sc, with Ginger sc in next 5 sc, with White sc in next 23 sc, with Black sc in next 10 sc, ch 1, turn.

Row 17: With Black sc in next 11 sc, with White sc in next 22 sc, with Ginger sc in next 5 sc, with White sc in next 2 sc, with Ginger sc in next 5 sc, ch 1, turn.

Row 18: With Black sc in next sc, with Ginger sc in next 10 sc, with White sc in next 23 sc, with Black sc in next 11 sc, ch 1, turn.

Row 19: With Black sc in next 12 sc, with White sc in next 21 sc, with Ginger sc in next 10 sc, with Black sc in next 2 sc, ch 1, turn.

Row 20: With Black sc in next 2 sc, with Ginger sc in next 12 sc, with White sc in next 18 sc, with Black sc in next 13 sc, ch 1, turn.

Row 21: With Black sc in next 14 sc, with White sc in next 14 sc, with Ginger sc in next 9 sc, with Black sc in next 4 sc, with Ginger sc in next 2 sc, with Black sc in next 2 sc, ch 1, turn.

Row 22: With Black sc in next 11 sc, with Ginger sc in next 10 sc, with White sc in next 8 sc, with Black sc in next 16 sc, ch 1, turn.

Row 23: With Black sc in next sc, with Ginger sc in next 6 sc, with Black sc in next 9 sc, with White sc in next 4 sc, with Ginger sc in next 17 sc, with Black sc in next 8 sc, ch 1, turn.

Row 24: With Black sc in next 8 sc, with Ginger sc in next 13 sc, with White sc in next sc, with Ginger sc in next sc, with White sc in next sc, with Ginger sc in next sc, with White sc in next 3 sc, with Black sc in next 12 sc, with Ginger sc in next 3 sc, with Black sc in next 2 sc, ch 1, turn.

Row 25: With Black sc in next 3 sc, with Ginger sc in next 3 sc, with Black sc in next 10 sc, with

Ginger sc in next 23 sc, with Black sc in next 6 sc, ch 1, turn.

Row 26: With Black sc in next 5 sc, with Ginger sc in next 22 sc, with Black sc in next 11 sc, with Ginger sc in next 3 sc, with Black sc in next 4 sc. Finish off and weave in all ends.

Handle:

(Stuff the handles with kapok as you work)

With White yarn ch 12. Join with sl st to form a ring.

Row 1-55: With White sc in each ch around, dropping and carrying White, Black and Ginger colors for the desired mix of calico markings. Finish off and close both ends of the handle with sc. The handle should measure at least 15 ½ inches long.

Assembly:

(Block the pieces before assembly).

Use White to join the bottom of the bag with slip stitch:

With right sides of Front and Back together, insert the hook all the way through both edge stitches. YO and pull through loop. *Insert hook into next pair of sc and pull up a loop through both layers of the crocheted fabric and draw through the loop on the hook. Repeat from * to join the bottom of the bag.

Join the sides of the bag with sc. Use the color of one of the two sides being joined together.

Cut Velcro strips about 1” long and sew to inner opening of the bag.

Attaching the Handle:

Sew the end of the handle over the outer side seam of the bag. Fold the sides of the bag over the section where the handle is connected and, using yarn, sew the two sides of the bag together along two rows. Repeat for the other end of the handle.



Illustration 1: Attaching the handle of the bag to the side seams.

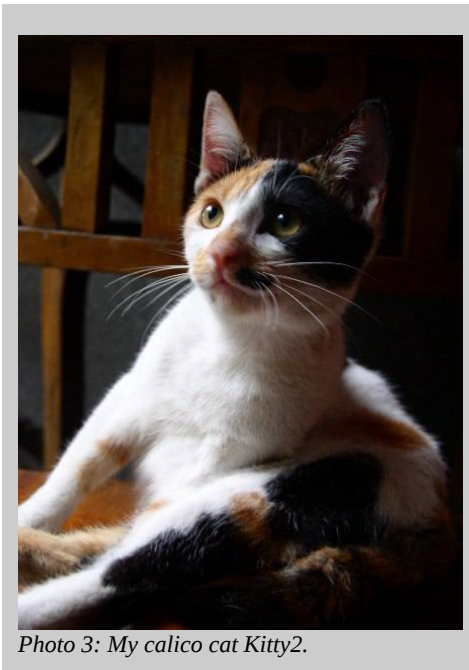


Photo 3: My calico cat Kitty2.

DIY: The Calico Bag

Make your own pattern for the Calico Bag.

Have a portrait session (not so easy with a frisky cat!) with your calico cat and make a sketch as such:



Illustration 2: My sketch of Kitty2's body and face.

You can already use a rough sketch such as this as your color pattern guide while you work. You may also wish to make a sketch of your cat's tail as pattern for the bag handle.

If you want to make a more detailed pattern, transfer the rough sketch to a graphing paper and draw a pattern chart. There are free on-line Graph Paper Generators such as Incompetech Square Graphing

[Paper](#) that you can use.

Here are the color pattern charts for front and back of The Calico Bag. Each color square represents a sc of the same color yarn. There are 26 rows and 45 stitches in a row.

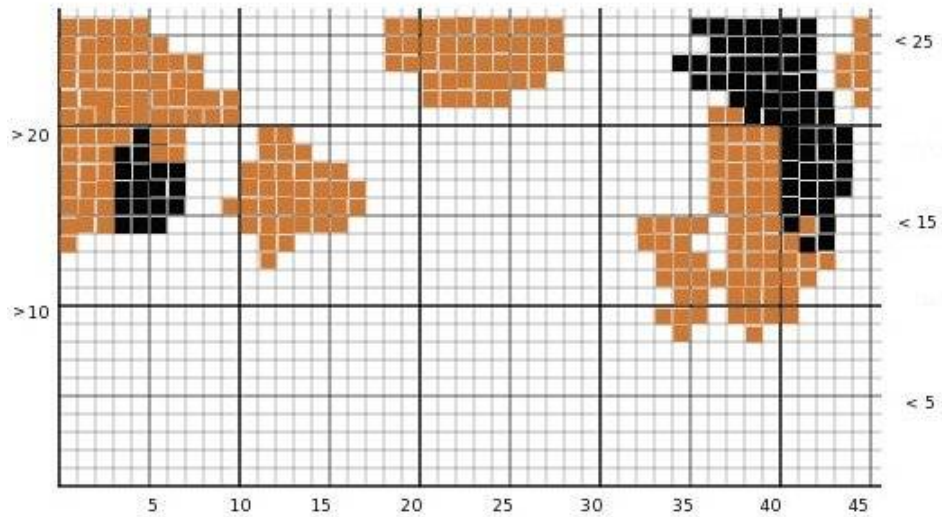


Illustration 3: Color Pattern Chart for the Front of the bag.

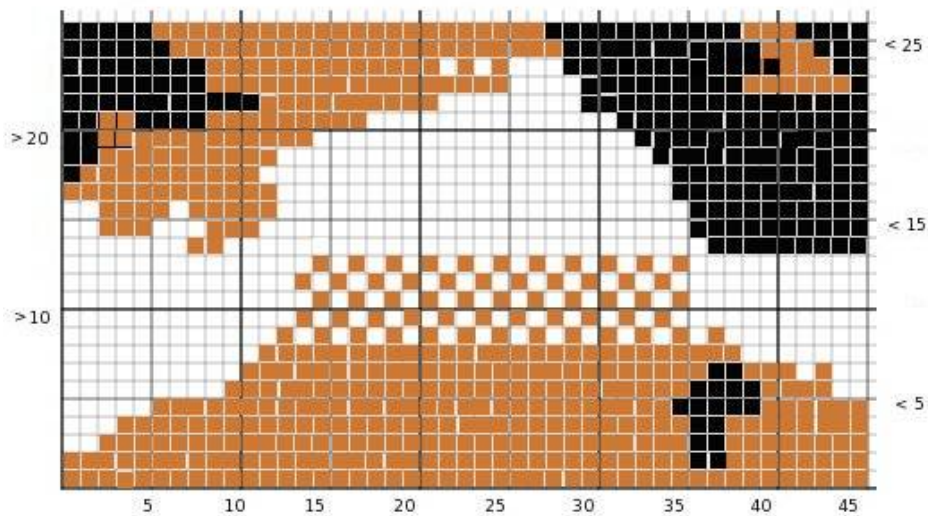


Illustration 4: Color Pattern Chart for the Back of the bag.

The pattern chart can be used as color guide, and at the same time, you can write the detailed pattern instructions using the chart.

You may also sew a lining for the bag, and use magnetic snaps instead of Velcro strips. To attach the

magnetic snaps, I crocheted two circles the same color as the bag lining and slightly larger than the snaps. Then I attached the snaps to the crocheted circles and sew these to the bag.

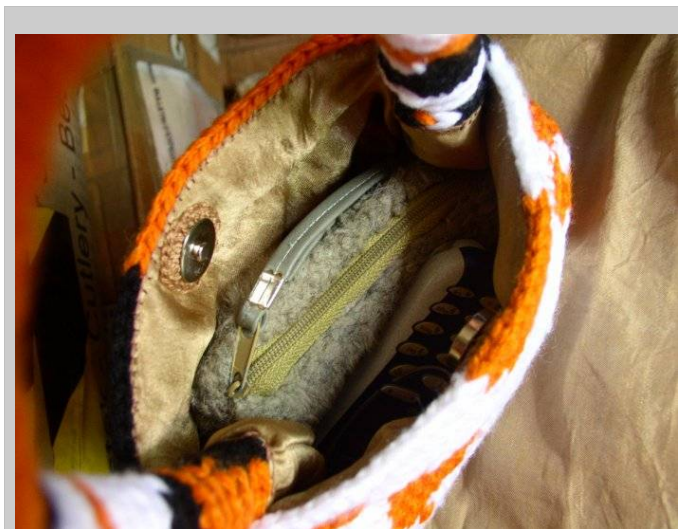


Photo 4: The Calico Bag can be lined with fabric, and magnetic snaps can be used instead of Velcro strips.

If you like this pattern and make a finished object, please let me know! I would love to see finished work or modifications of the patterns I make. If you're on Ravelry, you may find me thru <http://www.ravelry.com/designers/fatima-lasay>. You can also visit my website at <http://www.crochetology.net/>

Happy crocheting!



fatima lasay

For more information about this pattern, visit <http://crochetology.net/2009/12/the-calico-purse/>
For CAL, documentation and new developments on this pattern, visit
<http://crochetology.net/2010/03/cal-the-calico-bag/>
<http://crochetology.net/2010/03/cal-the-calico-bag-handle-assembly-finishing/>

Acknowledgments:

[Bheng](#) and [Mimi](#) for encouraging me to write patterns
[Mimi Alesis](#) for the tip on attaching magnetic snaps