



Photography: Interweave

DIAMOND BAG

by Kyle Kunnecke



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With proper preparation and planning, steeking can be a fearless act. Use this project to build confidence with the steps involved in cutting knitted fabric. The Diamond bag pattern is well supported in my online workshop, Fearless Steeking; available as an online workshop at Interweave.com.

With a series of detailed videos, you'll be guided step by step through the making of this little bag. Once finished, you should be ready to tackle any steeking project.

Finished Size

About 8" wide x 5" high

Yarn

Universal Deluxe Worsted (100% wool; 220 yards / 100 grams), about 50 yards each:

MC: 3649 Forest

CC: 71662 Turquoise

Needles

Size U.S. 8 (5.00 mm): DPNs or 40" circular for magic loop, or size needed to obtain desired gauge. Adjust needle size if necessary to obtain the correct gauge.

Notions

Stitch marker, tapestry needle, 8-10" separating zipper, sewing needle and thread matching MC, blocking wires, T-pins, straight pins, sharp scissors, measuring tape

Gauge

28 stitches and 21 rounds = 4" (10 cm) in pattern, blocked.

Knitting Knowledge

This project is worked in the round, and requires knitting knowledge including:

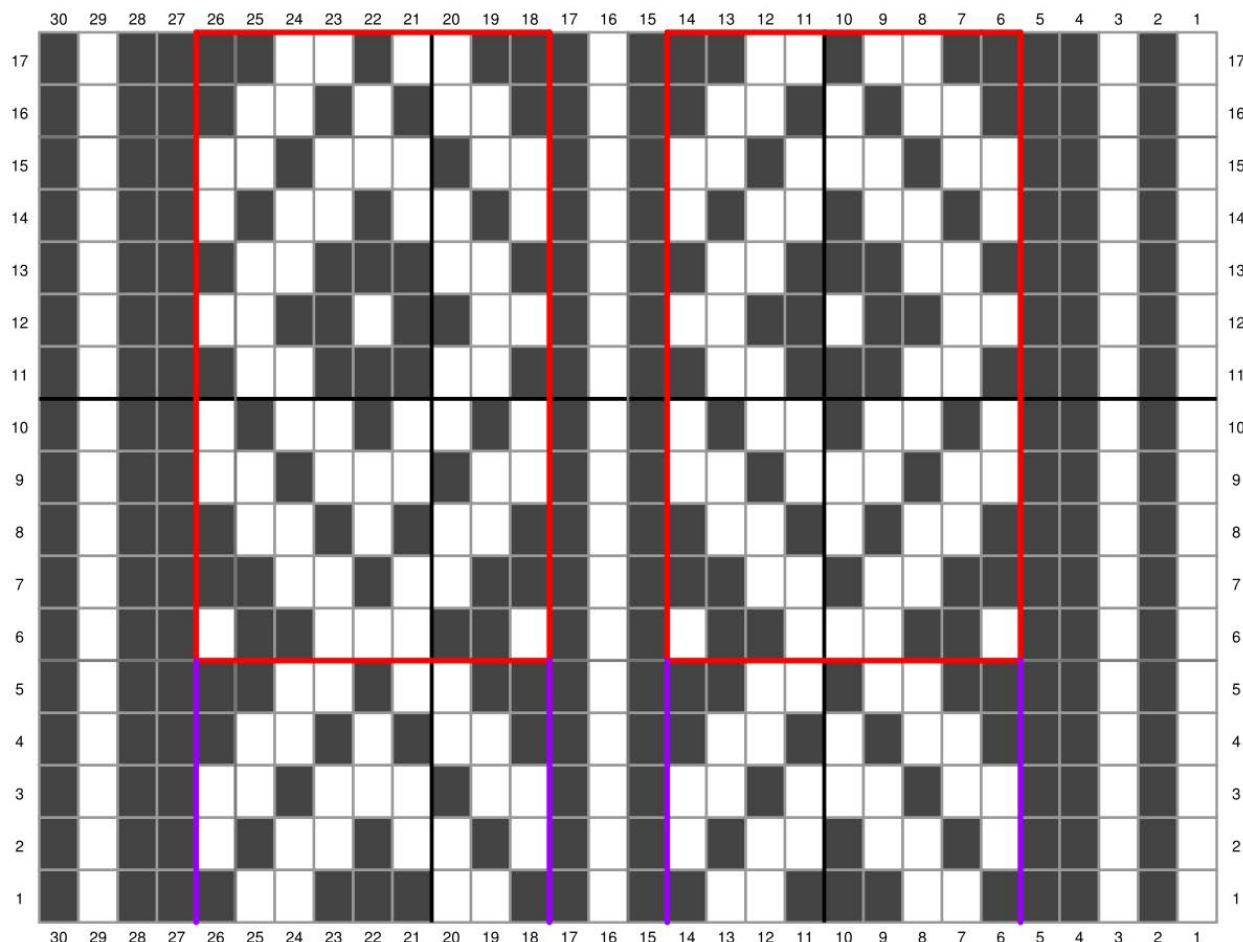
- Casting on, joining in the round
- Simple stranded knitting in the round
- Reinforcing steek stitches
- Installing a zipper
- Binding off and finishing

This pattern compliments Kyle's online workshop:



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Instructions

With MC, CO 66 sts. Do not join.

P 1 row

K 1 row

Now join, PM to indicate beg of round.
Join CC and work when indicated on chart. Work the chart reading from right to left, keeping yarns in same order throughout. On each row, work in color indicated by chart: K5, work first 9-st repeat 3 times, K3, work second 9-st repeat 3 times, K4. Repeat rounds 6-17 (marked in red) a total of 4 times.

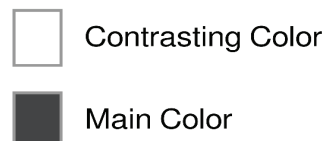
Cut CC, leaving a 6" tail. Complete with MC.

K 1 row, removing mkr

Turn work

P 1 row.

Bind off. Cut yarn, leaving a 12" tail.



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The Steek

It's almost time to cut... but before we do, we need to prepare our knitting by blocking the work, and then reinforcing the stitches on either side of the spot where we will be cutting.

For those participating in the online workshop, be sure to review the video in section 4. Block and pin the knitting to measurements.

Use either the crocheted or machine, or hand sewn method to reinforce the fabric before cutting. Refer to section 5 in the online workshop.

OK! Now it's time to cut. Use sharp, dedicated scissors to cut down the center of the steeked stitches

Pin flat, (yes, more blocking) and steam block to shape.

Install the Zipper

Zippers can be shortened if necessary. If your zipper needs to be shortened, remember to create a new stopper using needle and thread.

Place zipper face down on the inside (purl side) of fabric to ensure it will be oriented correctly when the project is sewn.



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Note: Using shortened blocking wires to align the edges of the project is a helpful way to line up the knit fabric to the zipper. If using this method, sure to file down the ends.

Pin your project carefully. The fabric may be thick, and the pins are sharp! Once your project is pinned, fold it up to see what it will look like before sewing. Make any necessary adjustments before moving forward.

With needle and thread, use a backstitch to sew the zipper on by hand. Knot and cut thread. Trim thread tails.

Finishing

With MC and mattress stitch, seam up each side of the bag. Take care to line up the pattern as you go.

Weave in all ends, trim yarn tails flush with work, being careful not to cut the floats.

Contact

Questions or comments? Get in touch! I love to see your progress and finished projects. Please tag me in social media @KyleWilliam and use hashtags so others can see your work!

#KyleWilliam #FearlessSteeking #KyleKunnecke

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