

# INTRODUCTION TO ENTRELAC

## Homework

Hello future Entrelac knitters!

I have a little homework for you to do before our first class. If you don't have it done ahead of time, you will not be able to start the Entrelac knitting in the first session. Okay?

First, the project: You will be making a bag as your class project. You will have two sizes to choose from. The larger, rectangular bag (pictured on my website) measures APPROXIMATELY 20" long, 10" wide, and 12" tall. The smaller, squarish bag (not pictured, because it hasn't been finished yet) will measure APPROXIMATELY 10" long, 10" wide, and 12" tall. Sizes will vary based on yarn choice, needle size, and the felting process, which is not an exact science.

Second, the needles: I used a U.S. size 13 (9 mm) circular needle, 24 inches in length. For the square bag, a 24 inch long needle is adequate. For the rectangular bag, you might find a longer needle easier to work with. The size (U.S. 13) isn't super critical -- it just needs to make big, loose, sloppy stitches.

Third, the yarn: I used Brown Sheep Lamb's Pride Worsted, but you can use any 100% wool yarn. NOT superwash wool -- it won't felt. NOT a blend. NOT acrylic, cotton, etc. 100% wool ONLY. I'd hate for you to get all that knitting done and then have a big floppy bag that won't felt. I've heard that white and cream (natural) colored wool don't felt very well, so try to avoid those.

For the large, rectangular bag (look at the photo on my work website to see how the colors are used), I used 300 grams of black, 170 grams of dark gray, 170 grams of light gray, and 85 grams of purple. All numbers are approximate.

For the small, square bag, I'm guessing it will take 200 grams of black, 120 grams of dark gray, 120 grams of light gray, and 60 grams of purple.

Use as many colors as you want, as long as there are at least two. Each row of squares uses approximately 85 grams of yarn. The base and handle color (black in both of the examples below) uses 300 grams (larger bag) or 200 grams (smaller bag). Buy too much yarn, and save your receipts.

Next, the homework (the base of the bag):

For the larger, rectangular bag, loosely cast on 72 stitches, and work garter stitch (knit every row) for 72 rows. There will be 36 ridges on the front of the fabric, and 36 ridges on the back of the fabric. Bind off loosely.

For the smaller, square bag, loosely cast on 36 stitches, and work garter stitch (knit every row) for 72 rows. There will be 36 ridges on the front of the fabric, and 36 ridges on the back of the fabric. Bind off loosely.

Your knitted fabric should look awful. The stitches will be big and loose, like in the photo below. The stitches have to be big and sloppy so they will have room to shrink when you felt your bag.

I think that's about it. If you have ANY questions, please don't hesitate to contact me by e-mail ([sarah@sarahpeasley.com](mailto:sarah@sarahpeasley.com)) or by phone (517)339-3411. I would appreciate it if you would let me know that you have received this information. If I don't hear from you within a few days of the first session, I'll try contacting you.

Thanks! I'm excited about teaching this class, and I can't wait to see the colors you pick out for your bags! See you soon!

