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## Finished Size

Approximately:

- Width: 13.5 inches (34 cm)
- Height: 12 inches (30.5 cm)
- Depth: 6.7 inches (17 cm)

## Skill Level

Intermediate

You should be comfortable with:

- Chain stitches
- Single crochet
- Half double crochet
- Double crochet
- Treble crochet
- Working into chain spaces
- Color changes
- Seaming panels

## Materials Needed

### Yarn

Main Color (MC) – Deep Teal

- Approximately 400–500 yards

Contrast Color (CC) – Natural Cream

- Approximately 300–400 yards

Use a medium weight (#4 Worsted) cotton or cotton-blend yarn for best structure.

### Hooks and Notions

- 5.0 mm (H/8) crochet hook
- Stitch markers
- Yarn needle
- Scissors
- 2 decorative O-rings
- Magnetic snap closure
- Fabric lining (optional)
- Zipper for interior pocket (optional)

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- Handle insert core (rope, cord, or handle tubing)

## Crochet Abbreviations (US Terms)

- ch = chain
- sl st = slip stitch
- sc = single crochet
- hdc = half double crochet
- dc = double crochet
- tr = treble crochet
- BLO = back loop only
- MC = Main Color
- CC = Contrast Color

## Understanding the Shell Pattern

The body is built from repeating shell motifs.

### Pattern Repeat

The chart shows a repeat of:

**12 stitches + 1 stitch**

For the sample size shown:

- Chain 61
- (5 repeats × 12 stitches)
- Plus 1 additional stitch

You may adjust the width by increasing or decreasing in multiples of 12 stitches.

## Front Panel

### Foundation Row

Using MC:

Ch 61.

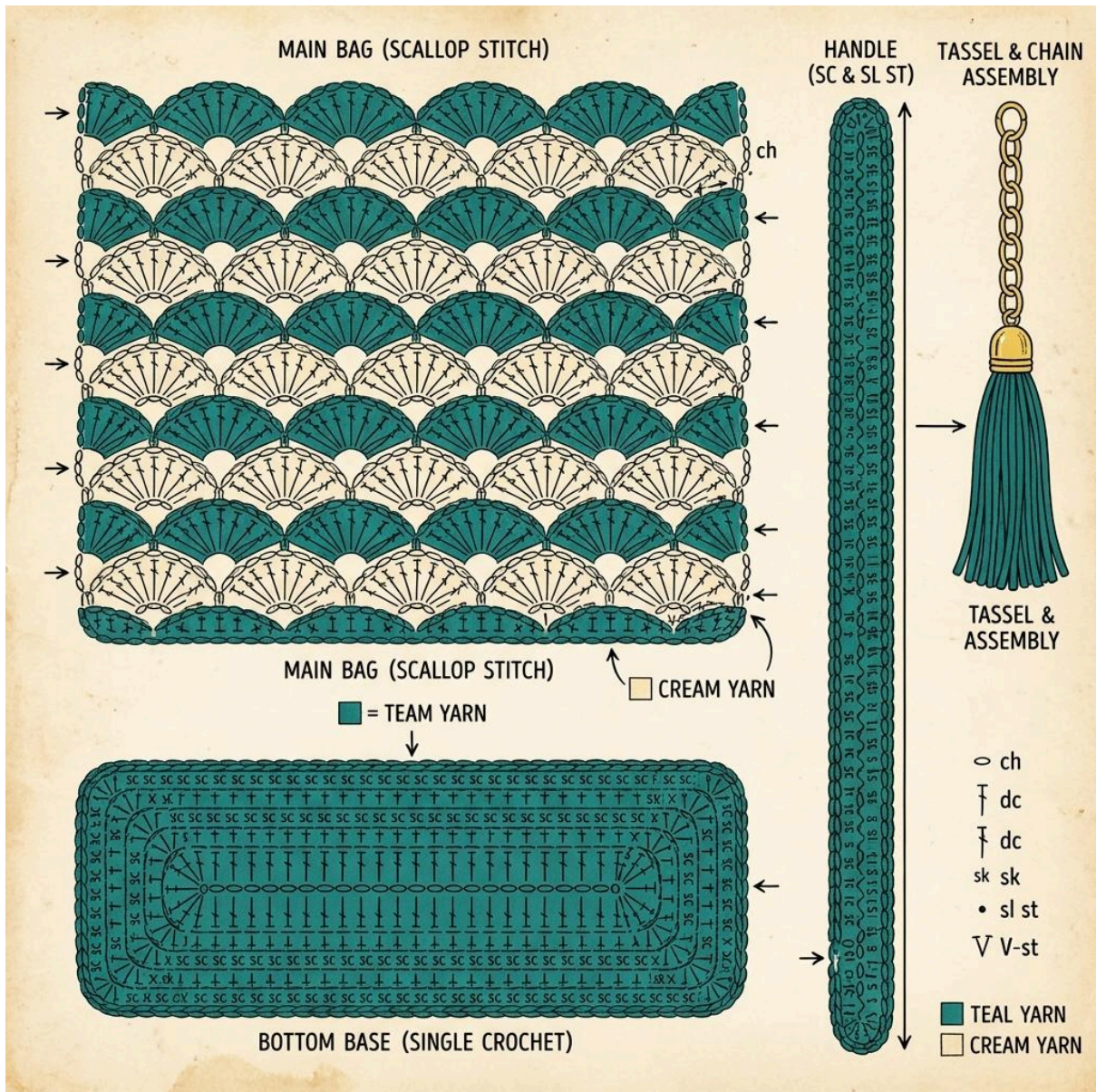
Row 1:

Work 1 sc into the 2nd chain from hook and in every chain across.

Turn.

You should have 60 sc.

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## Row 2 – First Shell Row

Ch 3 (counts as first dc).

Skip 2 sts.

Work 7 dc into next stitch.

Skip 2 sts.

Sc into next stitch.

Skip 2 sts.

Work 7 dc into next stitch.

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Repeat across the row.

Finish with a dc in the final stitch.

Turn.

You should now see a row of shell fans.

## **Row 3 – Chevron Connection Row**

Ch 1.

Sc into first stitch.

Ch 3.

Sc into center of first shell.

Ch 3.

Sc into center of next shell.

Repeat across.

End with sc in final stitch.

Turn.

This row creates the valleys that form the chevron effect.

## **Row 4 – Second Shell Layer**

Ch 3.

Work 7 dc into first chain-3 space.

Sc into next chain-3 space.

Work 7 dc into next chain-3 space.

Repeat across.

Finish with dc in final stitch.

Turn.

The shells should now sit between the shells from the previous row.

## **Rows 5–8**

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Repeat Rows 3 and 4 until you have completed eight rows in Main Color.

The chart indicates that the lower section is worked entirely in Deep Teal before the first color change.

Fasten off MC.

## Color Change to Cream

Join CC in the first stitch.

The shell structure remains exactly the same.

Continue repeating:

- Chevron Connection Row
- Shell Row

for another section of approximately 8 rows.

Keep all shell placement aligned with the previous section.

## Alternate Color Sections

Follow the chart sequence:

1. Deep Teal Section
2. Cream Section
3. Deep Teal Section
4. Cream Section

Continue until the panel reaches approximately 12 inches in height.

End with a shell row.

Fasten off.

## Back Panel

Create a second panel identical to the Front Panel.

Make sure:

- Same stitch count
- Same color sequence
- Same height

Do not block one panel without blocking the other.

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## Blocking the Panels

Lightly steam block or wet block.

Ensure both panels measure exactly the same dimensions.

Allow to dry completely before assembly.

## Solid Base Construction

The chart shows a rectangular base worked in rows.

### Foundation

Using MC:

Ch 36.

### Row 1

Sc in second chain from hook.

Sc across.

Turn.

35 sc.

### Rows 2–36

Ch 1.

Work sc BLO across.

Turn.

Continue until a firm rectangle is formed.

The BLO construction creates attractive ribbing and extra structure.

The completed base should measure approximately:

- 13.5 inches long
- 6.7 inches wide

Fasten off.

## Preparing for Assembly

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Lay pieces flat:

- Front panel
- Back panel
- Base rectangle

Place right sides facing outward.

Use stitch markers to align all corners.

## Joining Base to Front Panel

Attach yarn at one corner.

Using sc through both layers:

Work evenly around one long edge of the base and corresponding bottom edge of the front panel.

Ensure no puckering occurs.

Fasten off.

## Joining Base to Back Panel

Repeat the same process with the back panel.

Check that:

- Front panel aligns evenly
- Back panel aligns evenly
- Base remains centered

## Joining Side Seams

Fold the tote into shape.

Using sc seam or whip stitch:

Join each side edge from the base upward.

Work carefully through matching stitches.

Fasten off.

Turn right side out.

The bag body is now complete. 🎉

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## Handle Construction

The chart indicates a continuous spiral handle worked around a rigid core.

### Foundation

Using MC:

Ch 6.

Join to form a ring.

### Round 1

Work 6 sc into ring.

Do not join.

Place marker.

### Continuous Spiral

Work continuously:

2 sc in each stitch around.

Then continue working even rounds until a tube forms.

Insert the handle core as you crochet.

Continue until handle reaches approximately:

20–24 inches long.

Fasten off leaving a long tail.

Create a second identical handle.

### Attaching O-Rings

Thread one end of each handle through an O-ring.

Fold over approximately 1 inch.

Sew securely.

Repeat for all handle ends.

The handles should now terminate in decorative rings.

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## Attaching Handles to Bag

Locate handle placement approximately:

- 3 inches from each side seam
- Centered along the top edge

Sew O-rings securely to the bag.

Reinforce stitching several times.

The handles must support the full weight of the finished tote.

## Top Edge Finishing

Attach MC at side seam.

Work one round of sc around the entire opening.

Join with sl st.

Work a second round if extra firmness is desired.

Fasten off.

Weave in all ends.

## Magnetic Closure Installation

- Position closure at the center of the top opening.

Install according to manufacturer's instructions.

Reinforce with small fabric patches on the interior if necessary.

## Optional Fabric Lining

### Cut Fabric

Cut:

- Front lining piece
- Back lining piece
- Base strip

Using the assembled bag dimensions.

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## **Sew Lining**

Join lining pieces.

Press seams.

Insert into crochet bag.

Hand sew around top edge using matching thread.

## **Optional Zipper Pocket**

Before inserting the lining:

1. Cut pocket fabric.
2. Install zipper.
3. Sew pocket onto lining panel.
4. Insert completed lining into tote.

This follows the construction layout shown in the diagram.

## **Optional Tassel Decoration ✨**

Using CC or MC:

Cut approximately 40 strands of yarn at 10 inches each.

Fold in half.

Wrap tightly near the top.

Trim evenly.

Attach tassel to one O-ring.

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## Final Inspection

Check:

- ✓ All seams are secure
- ✓ Handles are firmly attached
- ✓ Base sits flat
- ✓ Panels match in height
- ✓ Lining is secure
- ✓ Closure functions properly

Your Two-Tone Chevron Shell Tote Bag is now complete and ready for everyday use, shopping trips, beach outings, or as a beautiful handmade gift. 🛍️💙💜