

Classic Elite Yarns

Inca Alpaca Felted Clutch

Inca Alpaca — 100% alpaca

The two projects in this week's web-letter offer a great opportunity to talk about how different fibers, when felted, give varied results. Renaissance is 100% wool. When felted until the stitches are no longer visible, a smooth even, sturdy fabric is formed.

Inca is 100% alpaca and the difference in the composition of the fiber reveals a different felted fabric. When Inca is felted so that the stitch definition is erased, it makes a more textured and much softer, more pliable fabric.

Renaissance's 40-color palette gives lots of choices for felted bags and other items. And because Renaissance comes in small, 50-gram hanks, you can work small projects or use many colors and they won't leave you with a ton of unused yarn.

Inca's super-soft hand, slight sheen, and wonderful texture are good for dressier projects, like this week's clutch or jewelry. Choose from the 41-colors in the Inca line.



Inca Alpaca Felted Clutch Pattern

Designed by: Leigh Radford

SIZE: One Size

Finished Measurements:

Pre-felted, unfolded 14" wide x 17½" tall
Felted, unfolded approx 10½" wide x 9½" tall
Felted, folded approx 10½" wide x 6" tall

MATERIALS:

Inca Alpaca by *Classic Elite* (100% alpaca; 50 gram hank = approx 109 yards)
• 3 hanks 1190 Delphinium

Needles

• One 24" circular size US 10 (6 mm)

Or size to obtain gauge

- Tapestry needle
- Stitch markers
- 1 yard of 1½" (2.5 cm) wide ribbon
- 1½" buckle
- 1" snap
- Sewing needle
- Sewing thread to match ribbon color

GAUGE: 18 sts and 23 rows = 4" in Stockinette Stitch. **Take time to save time, check your gauge.**

SPECIAL TERM:

m1: (make 1) Insert LH needle under horizontal strand between st just worked and next st, from the front to the back, knit through the back loop (1 st increased).

PATTERN STITCHES:

Stockinette Stitch (St st):

Circular — Knit all sts, every rnd.

Straight — Knit on RS, purl on WS.

Wrap and turn:

Knit row — Wyib, slip next st purlwise onto RH needle, bring yarn to front of work, return slipped st to LH needle, bring yarn to back of work, then turn work.

Purl row — Wyif slip next st purlwise onto RH needle, bring yarn to back of work, return slipped st to LH needle, bring yarn to front of work, then turn work.

Hide Wraps:

Knit row — Pick up the wrap from the front with the RH needle and knit together with the st it wraps.

Purl row — pick up the wrap through back of loop with RH needle and purl together with the st it wraps.

ABBREVIATIONS

approx – approximately
beg – begin(ning)
BO – bind off
BOR – beginning of round
CO – cast on
inc'd – increase(d)
k – knit
LH – left hand
m1 – see Special Term
meas – measures
p – purl
pc – piece
pm – place marker(s)
rep – repeat
RH – right hand
rnd(s) – round(s)
RS – right side
st(s) – stitch(es)
St st – Stockinette Stitch
WS – wrong side
wyib – with yarn in back
wyif – with yarn in front

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BAG

CO 114 sts placing a marker (pm) after the 67th st for the side. Pm for beg-of-rnd (BOR). Join work to beg working in-the-rnd, being careful not to twist sts—67 sts for back; 47 sts for front. **Begin Circular St st**; work 5 rnds even. **Shape Flap with Short Rows: Row 1:** (RS) Work to 25 sts before side marker, wrap and turn; (WS) work to 25 sts before BOR marker, wrap and turn. **Row 2:** (RS) Work to wrapped st of previous row, work the wrapped st hiding the wrap, k5, wrap and turn; (WS) work to wrapped st of previous row, work the wrapped st hiding the wrap, p5, wrap and turn. Rep Row 2 two more times. (RS) Work 8 rnds, hiding wraps as they appear. **Shape Sides, Inc Rnd:** *K2, m1, work to 2 sts before marker, m1, k2, slip marker; rep from * 1 more time—4 sts inc'd. Rep side inc rnd every 7th rnd 2 more times—126 sts; 73 sts for back; 53 sts for front. Work even until pc meas 17½" from beg, (meas along center of back to include short rows). BO all sts.

PRE-FELTING FINISHING

Weave in loose ends. With RS facing and tapestry needle threaded with yarn, sew CO edge to close the bottom. Turn bag inside out, so WS is facing; flatten bottom and sew a short seam across the triangular flap at each side approx 1¼" from end of each triangle point to form bottom and side gussets for bag, as shown in schematic.

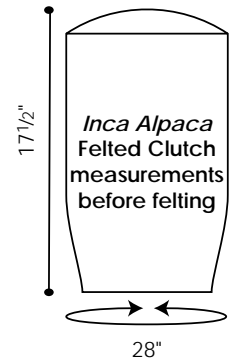
FELTING

NOTE: We recommend you test felt your yarn. Knit a swatch using the same yarn in the same colors shown and test felt it before proceeding with your project. Classic Elite cannot predict the effects of all washing machines, detergents and local water conditions. You are felting at your own risk. Felting is irreversible. Please proceed cautiously with the felting process. It is easy to felt "just a little more", but impossible to undo the effects of over-felting. Place the piece in a pillowcase or pillow cover and either zipper it shut or close it with a heavy duty elastic—this will help to prevent clogging your machine with fibers coming off in the washing process.

Place the pillowcase in the washer and add a very small amount of detergent (¼ cap). Set the washer on hot water/cold rinse cycle, minimum size load, and wash garment. Check the felting process every 1–2 minutes depending on your machine, detergent, and local water conditions. If using spin cycle to remove excess water, set on lowest setting—folds caused by the spin cycle are hard to remove. After the piece has finished washing, place in dryer on high heat to finish felting. Check frequently to obtain desired amount of felting.

FINISHING

Cut ribbon to approx 25" or desired length needed to wrap around clutch. Fold 1 end under flap ¼" and pin ribbon in place. Wrap ribbon around bag, weaving through buckle. Fold opposite end under ¼" and with threaded sewing needle, sew ribbon to bag. Sew snap in place.



bottom of bag, with WS facing

