Heart bag pattern By Lidia Higson

Standard gauge machine - Knit 2 pieces

'E' wrap 10sts. Knit 2 rows.
Increase 1st each side, knit 2 rows. Repeat until you have 40sts.
Knit 20 rows

<u>Divide for heart.</u> Set carriage to hold.
Put 20sts at left to HP
Right side: *Decrease 1st (FF) both sides every 3rd row till 12sts are left.
Decrease 2sts (FF) both sides every 3rd row to 4sts. Cast off **
Cancel hold. Repeat from * to ** for left side.

Chunky gauge machine - Knit 2 pieces

'E'wrap 4sts. Knit 2 rows.
Increase 1st at side opposite to carriage every row to 30sts.
Knit 12 rows.

<u>Divide for heart.</u> Set carriage to hold.
Put 15sts at left into HP.
Right side: *Decrease 1st nearest the carriage every row to 4sts. Cast off.**
Cancel hold. Repeat from * to ** for left side.

<u>For All Bags</u>

Join the two pieces along the outside edge on the knitting machine, or crochet or blanket stitch together. You could join the bag together using a shell edging, – starting from the top where the handle will join pick up 3 stitches from each piece and hang on 3 needles, *knit 8 rows, pick up the next 3 sts from the edge of each piece*, repeat from * to * until you have put an edge all round the hearts to where the handle joins at the other side, then continue on each piece separately where the bag opening will be.

Add a handle. This can be a simple i-cord, but knit on a tighter tension so that it does not stretch too much.

Add embellishment, trimmings, buttons, beads, flowers or embroidery.

Designed for the Heartease project with Ruth & Belinda for Kids Company. To find out more go to www.kidsco.org.uk and www.ruthandbelinda.co.uk where there is an address to send the bags. The project will run until 14 February 2014.

www.guild-mach-knit.org.uk