



NTmaglia is an Italian crochet designer living on beautiful Lake Como in Italy. She loves roomy tote bags and slouchy purses. Her colorful designs combine traditional stitches with unusual yarns and fanciful embroidery patterns.

Natural Curls Tote

DESIGN BY NTMAGLIA

This large, roomy tote bag is easy and fast to make. Embellished with an elegant arabesque on its front and back, it combines functionality and glamour.

1 2 3 4 5 6 EASY

FINISHED MEASUREMENTS

16½ inches wide x 14 inches high, excluding Handles

MATERIALS

- Garnstudio DROPS Paris medium (worsted) weight cotton yarn (1¾ oz/82 yds/50g per skein):
8 skeins #08 dark purple
2 skeins #17 off-white
- Size 7/4.5mm crochet hook or size needed to obtain gauge
- Tapestry needle
- 1¼-inch-wide x 15¾-inch-long strips of corrugated plastic: 2 strips for top border
- ½-inch-diameter x 25¼-inch-long cotton rope: 2 pieces for Handles



GAUGE

16 sc = 4 inches; 17 sc rows = 4 inches

PATTERN NOTES

Tote is worked in rounds beginning from bottom.

Join with slip stitch as indicated unless otherwise stated.

Chain-1 at beginning of round counts as first single crochet unless otherwise stated.

SPECIAL STITCHES

Crossed double crochet (cross dc):

Sk next st, dc in next st, dc in st just sk.

Surface stitch (surface st): Holding yarn at back of work, insert hook between rows, yo, pull lp through st and lp on hook.

TOTE

Rnd 1: With dark purple, ch 57, 3 sc in first ch, sc in each of next 55 chs, 3 sc in last ch, working on opposite side of ch, sc in each of last 55 chs, **join** (see *Pattern Notes*) in first sc. (116 sc)

Rnd 2: Ch 1 (see *Pattern Notes*), sc in same st as beg ch-1, sc in next st, 2 sc in next st, sc in each of next 55 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next st, 2 sc in next st, sc in each of last 55 sts, join in beg ch-1. (120 sc)

Rnd 3: Ch 1, sc in same st as beg ch-1, sc in each of next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in each of next 55 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in each of last 55 sts, join in beg ch-1. (124 sc)

Rnd 4: Ch 1, sc in same st as beg ch-1, sc in each of next 5 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in each of next 55 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in each of last 55 sts, join in beg ch-1. (128 sc)

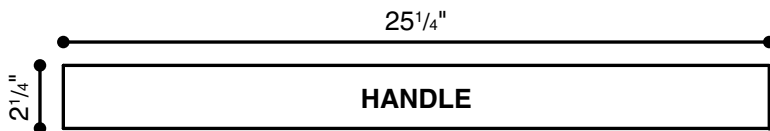
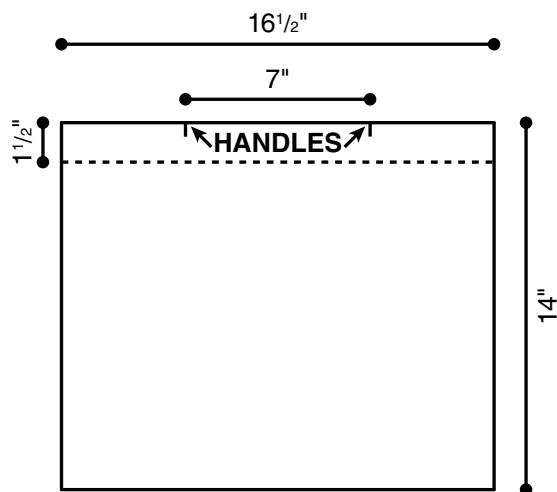
Rnds 5–62: Ch 1, sc in each st around, join in beg ch-1.

Rnd 63: Cross dc (see *Special Stitches*) around, join in first dc. (64 dc)

Rnds 64–69: Ch 1, sc in each st around, join in beg ch-1.

Rnd 70: Working 4 holes for Handles, [{cross dc} 9 times, ch 2, sk next 2 sts, {cross dc} 12 times, ch 2, sk next 2 sts, {cross dc} 9 times] twice, join in top of first dc.

Rnds 71–76: Ch 1, sc in each st around, join in beg ch-1. Fasten off. (128 sc)



**Handle
Make 2.**

Row 1: With off-white, ch 80, sc in each ch across, turn.

Rows 2–8: Ch 1, sc in each st across. At end of last row, fasten off.

Fold Handle lengthwise around cotton rope, with dark purple, sl st first and last rows tog. Fasten off.

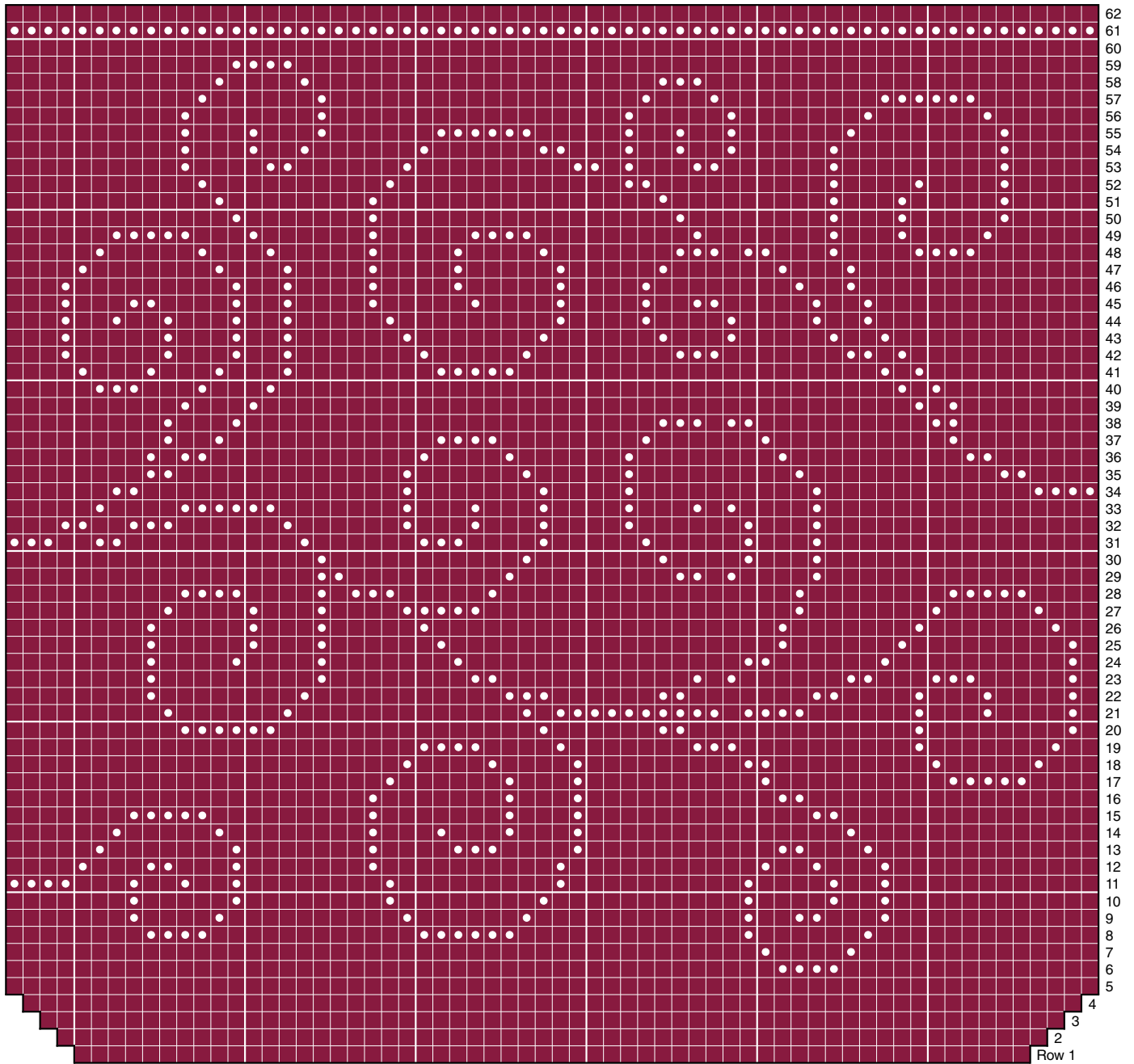
Sew ends closed.

Rep with rem Handle.

Assembly

Pull ends of Handles through holes on rnd 70, sew them in place to inside of Tote.

Fold top edge of Tote down to rnd 70, insert plastic strips centrally in front and back sides of rnd 70, sew top edge to rnd 70 covering plastic strips.

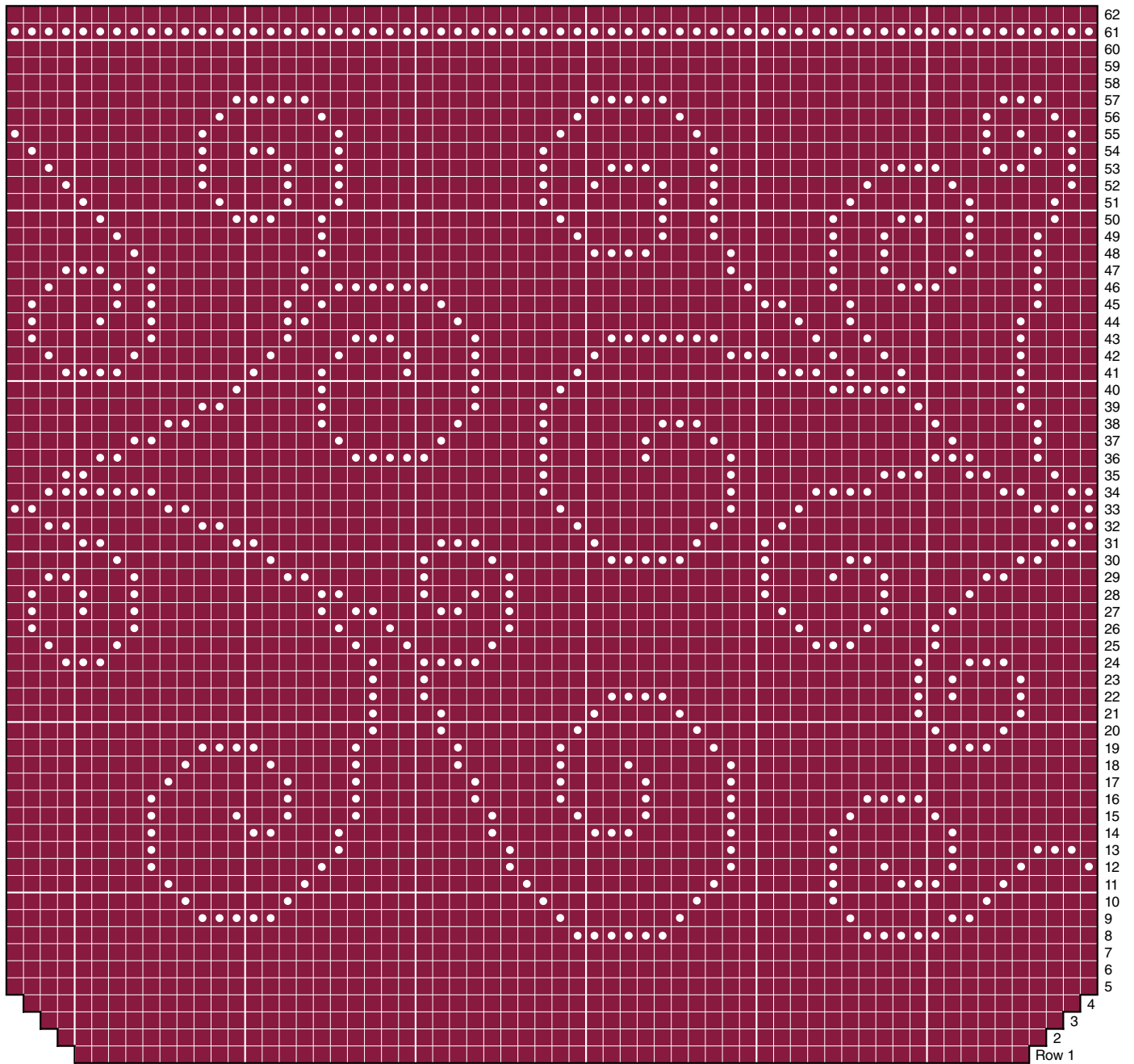


Natural Curls Tote
Back Side Surface Stitch Chart

Finishing

Using off-white and **surface st** (see *Special Stitches*), embellish Front and Back according to Surface Stitch Charts. **C!**

COLOR KEY	
■	Single crochet (sc)
◻	Surface stitch (surface st)



Natural Curls Tote
Front Side Surface Stitch Chart



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