

# Janet Clare

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## Fern Diamonds Evening Clutch Bag

A beautiful knitted lace pattern  
Finished bag measures 21 x 17 cm



### Materials List

50 grams 4 ply yarn  
Needles – 3 ¼ mm or size 10  
Pins  
Steam iron  
Lining fabric measuring: 23 x 46cm  
Sewing thread and needle  
Brooch to fasten

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## Fern Diamonds Evening Clutch Bag Pattern

### Knitting abbreviations used:

k5	knit 5 – knit the next 5 stitches.
k2tog	knit 2 together - Knit in the usual way but put your needle through the next two stitches instead of only one. This decreases the number of stitches on your needles.
yf	yarn forward – Take the yarn from the back of your right hand needle and leave it just lying on the top of the right hand needle, continue with the next instruction. This is a way of increasing the stitches on your needle.
sl 1	slip 1 – This means that you slip the next stitch onto the right hand needle, but without actually knitting it. So you really just move it from one needle to the other.
psso	pass slipped stitch over – You lift the slipped stitch (using the point of your left hand needle) over the last stitch on the right hand needle – as if you were casting off. This decreases the number of stitches on your needles.
RS	right side – This is the front of your work, generally the knit rows.
WS	wrong side – This is the back of your work, generally the purl rows.
rep	repeat – Repeat the instructions between * and *
(k1, yf) twice	Repeat the instructions in the brackets as many times as you are told. So here you will k1, yf, k1, yf and then follow the next instruction.

1. Cast on. Cast on 61 stitches onto 3 ¼ mm/ size 10 needles

2. Begin lace pattern. The lace pattern is worked over 16 rows, which are repeated in order until your knitting is the required size.

1<sup>st</sup> row: (RS) k3, \*k2tog, yf, k1, yf, sl 1, k1, psso, k5; rep from\* to last 8 sts, k2tog, yf, k1, yf, sl 1, k1, psso, k3

2<sup>nd</sup> and every alternate row: Purl

3<sup>rd</sup> row: k2, \*k2tog, (k1, yf) twice, k1, sl 1, k1, psso, k3; rep from \* to last 9 sts, k2tog, (k1, yf) twice, k1, sl 1, k1, psso, k2

5<sup>th</sup> row: k1, \*k2tog, k2, yf, k1, yf, k2, sl 1, k1, psso, k1; rep from \* to end.

7<sup>th</sup> row: k2tog, \*k3, yf, k1, yf, k3, sl 1, k2tog, psso; rep from \* to last 9 sts, k3, yf, k1, yf, k3, sl 1, k1, psso

9<sup>th</sup> row: k1, \*yf, sl 1, k1, psso, k5, k2tog, yf, k1; rep from\* to end

11<sup>th</sup> row: k1, \*yf, k1, sl 1, k1, psso, k3, k2tog, k1, yf, k1; rep from\* to end

13<sup>th</sup> row: k1, \*yf, k2, sl 1, k1, psso, k1, k2tog, k2, yf, k1; rep from\* to end

15<sup>th</sup> row: k1, \*yf, k3, sl 1, k2tog, psso, k3, yf, k1; rep from\* to end

16<sup>th</sup> row: Purl

3. Knit 9 lace pattern repeats. Measure your knitting it needs to be 39 cm/ 15 ½ inches. If it is too short knit another pattern repeat.

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4. Cast off. Cast off quite loosely.

5. Block and steam. Your knitted rectangle is probably curling up on itself and you can hardly make out all those carefully knitted lace diamonds!

On an ironing board or towels pin out your rectangle so it is flat, straight and the right size.

Put your steam iron on its' hottest setting and then holding the iron just above the knitting press the 'extra steam' button. The iron should not touch the knitting.

If your iron does not have this setting you will need to spray the knitting with water, cover the knitting with a bath towel and very lightly press.

Leave you knitting overnight or until it is really dry.

6. Cut the lining fabric. Cut a rectangle measuring 23 x 46cm, 9 x 18 inches or the size of your knitting plus ½" seam allowances.

7. Tack the lining. As knitting is stretchy and cotton is not, you will need to tack the lining onto your knitting.

8. Sew in the lining. Hand sew the lining fabric onto the back of the knitted rectangle.

9. Make the bag. Now fold your lined rectangle so that you have a 6cm/ 2 ½ inch overlapping edge at the top. Sew neatly along the seams.

10. Fasten your bag. I used an old thrifted brooch to fasten my clutch bag.

11. Book a babysitter! You and your evening clutch bag deserve a night out.

The instructions for the 'Fern Diamond' stitch were taken from 'The Harmony Guide to Knitting Stitches', Volume One. ISBN: 0-7111-0013-6

You can find free patterns, sewing tips, my blog and shop at my website  
[www.janetclare.co.uk](http://www.janetclare.co.uk)

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