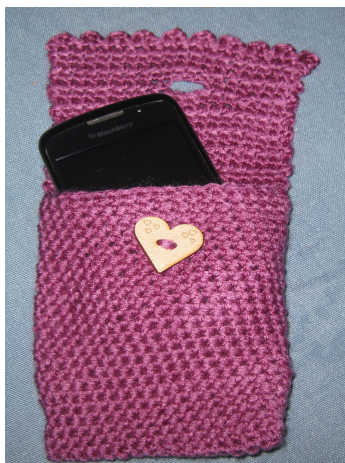


## Custom-Fit Seamless Pouch Pattern

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I first made this pouch for a friend's phone as part of a Valentine's Swap, and swiftly made a Kindle-sized, striped version for myself straight afterwards! It's a simple pattern with no sewing up (always a bonus!) and is designed to custom-fit whatever gadget you fancy. It's worked in the round up to the pouch-flap, which is then worked side-to-side to give the flap a ribbed look; the last row is a simple line of picots if you like a flouncy look or you could substitute with crab stitch for something simpler.

This pattern uses basic DK acrylic; use anything you like, really. I use a 4mm hook for this kind of yarn and I work quite tightly. PLEASE NOTE I am using UK crochet terms so American crocheters should read “sc” for “dc”.

### Custom Fitting

To get a custom-fit for your gadget, simply start chaining until the chain (unstretched) measures the same length as the bottom edge. Count the number of chains and make note as you'll need this figure later. Chain two more.

### Row 1

Double crochet (dc) into 2<sup>nd</sup> ch from hook. Dc until you get to the last chain, then dc one more stitch into the last ch. DO NOT TURN your work over, but instead follow the chain around and dc into the bottom of the chain along the whole length. When you get to the end, simply work into the first dc as though you were working in a circle. This takes care of your bottom seam. If you want to make a striped pouch, mark the stitch where you go up a level; this is where you'll change colours.

### Row 2

Continue in dc around. If you want to do a two-row stripe, switch colours at the end of this round.

### Continue...

Work as for Row 2 until you get to the desired length. Work a couple more rounds to make sure your gadget won't slip out, then site your button on the side you want to be the front (it can be better to just place a stitch marker until you're sure).

You'll notice the pouch starts to curl up around itself into a shallow pocket as you work – do check

this occasionally against your gadget to make sure it's the right fit. This should become fairly clear within four rows or so, so you can easily frog and add/subtract from the initial chain if necessary.

### **Pouch Flap**

When you finish the last round of your pouch's depth, check how many stitches you started with along your first chain. That's how many stitches will make up your pouch-flap's width. Work that number of stitches, turn, ch1, dc back. Continue in this way, checking the length of the flap with the gadget inside if possible, down to where your button is.

### **Buttonhole**

The size of buttonhole depends on the shape and width of your button. In general it's best to make it about 1-2 stitches smaller in width than the diameter of the button; if you're using an odd shape like a heart you need to make sure you can wiggle the button through without it slipping back out again. So for example, if you hold your button up to your work, and it's 5st across, your buttonhole needs to be 3-4st wide (depends on the tightness of your work and flexibility of the yarn). What you then need to do is subtract that number of stitches from your pouch-flap length and work half the remaining stitches either side, chaining across the gap..

For example:

Flap length 24st

Button diameter 5st

Work 10dc across. Chain 4st. Work 10dc across the rest of the flap to end.

Then turn, ch1, and dc back across, working into the chains just like ordinary stitches.

Work a couple more rows until you get the desired length of flap.

### **Final Row**

There are any number of finishes you could use for this – a plain row of crab stitch would look neat; I used a picot to make a frill as follows:

Slst into first dc, ch3, slst into next dc, slst into next dc, ch3, etc to end.

### **Decorate**

Decorate any way you like! You could sew on buttons, surface embroider, and so on. I used this heart pattern from Little Birdie Secrets for my Valentine's project:

<http://littlebirdiesecrets.blogspot.com/2010/01/how-to-crochet-heart.html>

I think Roman Sock's Mollie Flowers would look fantastic too.

<http://littlegreen.typepad.com/romansock/2009/04/mollie-flowers-the-tutorial.html>

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