# Mochila Cal 2020
## Oval version



Ann Holland



Angelique Jansen-Maijen

**A new cal**

I said I would never make a cal again, but it is just so much fun to participate in a cal, right? That is why I decided to make a cal again.

Making a cal and helping the people who are participating is a lot of work. When we had our first cal (in 2017-2018), the admins of the Mochila Facebook groups did not have much time to crochet for about 3 months. That is why we said we would never do it again. But, never say never.

This time I planned enough time so I would not have to stress to get everything ready. In June I started designing. I crocheted the round bottom and a small version of the oval bottom, to see how it is best to hide the jog. Then it was time to ask for help.

I asked Nelda DC Magsalansan to crochet the round version and Ann Holland to crochet the oval version of the cal.
For designing the macrame strap I asked Franz Amina Vergara and I asked Angelique Jansen-Maijen to make a tutorial for the ply split strap.
Luckily they all said yes.
When Angelique saw the pattern of the cal she couldn't wait, so she started the oval bag too.

Can you imagine how hard it is keeping it all a secret for so long?

The cal will be available on my website marionverloop.com and in 3 Facebook groups.
The cal is written in two different languages.
The English version is available at the Facebook group 'Mochila bags, crochet' and the Dutch version at 'Mochila Patronen'.
'Mochila Philippines' will have the English version, but you can ask for help in Filipino in that group.

Most of us are addicted to Mochila making and want to join as many Mochila groups as we can find. Take note that the Dutch and the Philippine group will only allow you to join when you speak the language of the group. The group 'Mochila bags, crochet' is an international group, in this group we speak English.
(Don't forget to answer the questions when you apply.)

If you haven't made a Mochila before, you can prepare yourself by reading the technique file and watch the videos in one of the Facebook groups mentioned above. You can also find the videos on my youtube channel, youtube.com/marionverloop and on my website, marionverloop.com.

<div align="center">
After reading this you probably have one big question:<br>
WHEN WILL THE CAL START?
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The **cal** will start on Friday, February 7th 2020.
The **list with materials** is released on Friday, January 3rd 2020.

**Materials**

A Mochila is made with mercerized cotton, 125 meter per 50 gram, with a 2 mm hook. Some brands are, Scheepjes Catona, Camilla Ice yarn, Schachenmayr Catania or Patons grace.
Check the file Suitable yarn for brands per country in the group Mochila bags.

Of course everybody can choose their own colors. The effect of the pattern will be best when you have 3 colors in one shade and 2 colors in another shade. For example: dark purple, medium purple, light purple, gold and beige, like Nelda's colors. Put the colors in this order. See picture of Nelda's colors.

You can also choose all colors in one shade. For example: dark red, medium red, orange, dark yellow and yellow, like Angelique's colors. Put the colors in the order from dark to light. See picture of Angelique's colors.

Nelda made the round version and she used Camilla Ice yarns.

Color A, number 23335, Purple
Color B, number 32537, Light brown
Color C, number 32536, Beige
Color D, number 53806, Dark lilac
Color E, number 23787, Lilac

Ann made the oval version and she used Scheepjes Catona and Yarn and colors Must Have. The color numbers given below are all Catona colors. Ann used 'Must Have' for color E, because she had that in her stash.

Color A, number 525, Fir
Color B, number 282, Ultra violet
Color C, number 520, Lavender
Color D, number 402, Silver green
Color E, number 172, Silver

Angelique made the oval version and she used Schachenmayr Catania.

Color A, number 192, Wine
Color B, number 208, Sun yellow
Color C, number 403, Vanilla
Color D, number 115, Red
Color E, number 189, Orange

**Number of skeins per color**

3 skeins, color A
2 skeins, color B
3 skeins, color C
2 skeins, color D
2 skeins, color E
Crochet hook 2 (or 2,5 mm)

This will be enough for the bag, cord and strap, when the strap is crocheted or woven.

If you want to make a ply split strap or macrame strap you will need more yarn. Probably about one skein extra for each color.

**Measurements**

The diameter of the round Mochila is about 21 to 22 cm / 8.3 to 8.7 inch.
The height of the round Mochila is about 25,5 to 30 cm / 10 to 11.8 inch.

The bottom of the oval Mochila is about 30 to 32 cm / 11.8 to 12,5 inch by 10 cm / 4 inch. The height of the oval Mochila will be about 22 to 24 cm / 8.6 to 9.5 inch.

The sizes given are for when you use recommended yarn and a 2 mm hook.
Because everybody crochets different, the size can be different.

Try to keep your stitches as low as possible. Check this video to know how to do that. youtu.be/R1eyiGfqRvs

**Abbreviations**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| A | = | color A |
| B | = | color B |
| C | = | color C |
| D | = | color D |
| E | = | color E |
| 2A | = | crochet 2 stitches with color a |
| inc | = | increase (2 single crochet in the next single crochet) |
| inc A | = | increase with color A |
| inc BA | = | make a two color increase, one stitch with color B and one with color A |
| * * | = | repeat what is between * * |
| [ ] | = | the number of times you have to repeat what is between * * |
| ( ) | = | the number of stitches at the end of the round |

| | |
|---|---|
| Invisible decrease, back loop | There is a decreases in this pattern. The decrease is not done in the traditional way. Insert the hook in the back loop of the second stitch from the hook and then in the stitch to the right of that stitch. Yarn over and pull through two loops on your hook. Yarn over again and pull through two loops. In this video you can see how to make the invisible decrease. youtu.be/yKsQWavsiSw |

A few important things to remember

- Please pay attention to the order of the colors.
  The order should be A, D, E, B, C
  A, D, E for the three colors in one shade. So A is dark, D is medium and E is light.
  B, C for the two colors in another shade. So B is dark and C is light.

- A Mochila is crocheted through back loop only.

- You do not close the round with a slip stitch.

- The first pull through should always be yarn over.

- When you change color, the second pull through of the single crochet should be with the new color.

- Put a stitch marker in the first stitch of the round.

- The stitches have to be tight. You need to have 7 to 8 stitches in 2 cm / 9 to 10 in 1 inch. And 2 rounds should be about 0.9 cm high.
  When 2 rounds are only 1 mm higher, then the side of the bag will be 3 cm higher.
  When 2 rounds are 2 mm higher, then the side of the bag will be 6 cm higher.

- With an oval bottom, the chain stitches need to be tight.

- For this pattern you sometimes have to make an increase with 2 colors. In this video you can see how to make a 2 color increase. youtu.be/6HK0kgj4HPs

- In this video you can see the basics of the Mochila technique. youtu.be/BS2t9IE57ZM

- You read the graphs from right to left (anti clock wise).
  If you would read them from left to right the jog will not look good!

**Week 1**

We will start with crocheting 6 rounds of the bottom.

For the oval version there is one increase options, 12 increases.

I want to thank my oldest son for making the graph of the bottom.

**Part 1 of the oval bottom**

It is important that your Mochila has a flat bottom. When your oval bottom is not flat, it will not hold its shape. With an oval bottom it is very important to start with tight chain stitches. You need to have 7 to 8 stitches in 2 cm / 9 to 10 in 1 inch.

I advise to start with a long tail cast on, instead of normal chain stitches. With this cast on, you will also have to make sure that the stitches are tight. youtu.be/IdvrzT6V6Ug When you use the long tail methode, the tail should be about 100 cm / 40 inch.
Make sure your stitches are tight, when your stitches are not tight enough you will see the yarns you carry and the middle part will look wavy.
Also make sure you pull the yarns just enough in the corners, so the work will be flat.

Here you can see a video of the first rounds of an oval bottom. youtu.be/CeM6jtx_oeM

On page 9 you will find a graph for the first part of the oval bottom.

**Written instructions**

Chain 73 with color A

Add color B and C.

1. 3 single crochet (sc) around the yarns you carry with color A, (place a stitch marker in the first of these 3 stitches), 73A, 3 sc around the yarns you carry with color A (place a stitch marker in the first of these 3 stitches), 73A (on the other side of the chain) (152)

Add color D and E. Color E won't be used for the oval bottom, but you do crochet over it. Carrying all the yarns makes the bag firm.

From now on all the stitches will be made in the back loop.

At the end of round 2 and 3 we make an extra increase. This is to make the jog less noticeable.

2. * inc A * [3x], 11A, 3C, 21A, 3C, 21A, 3C, 11A, * inc A * [3x], 11A, 3C, 21A, 3C, 21A, 3C, 9A, 1C, inc C (159)

In round 3, pay attention to the following:
Make sure that the 4 stitches in color A in the corners are centred as much as possible. Massage these stitches so they are in the middle of the corners. When these 4 stitches are not centred, the pattern in the corner will slant.

3.  inc C, inc C, inc A, inc A, inc C, inc C, * 3C, 3B, 3D, 3A, 1C, 3A, 3D, 3B, 2C * [3x], 1C, inc C, inc C, inc A, inc A, inc C, inc C, * 3C, 3B, 3D, 3A, 1C, 3A, 3D, 3B, 2C * [3x], 1C, inc A (172)
4.  1A, inc B, inc B, 1C, inc C, 2A, inc C, 1C, inc B, inc B, 1A, * 2A, 3C, 3B, 3D, 3A, 3D, 3B, 3C, 1A * [3x], 2A, inc B, inc B, 1C, inc C, 2A, inc C, 1C, inc B, inc B, 1A, * 2A, 3C, 3B, 3D, 3A, 3D, 3B, 3C, 1A * [3x], 2A, 1D (184)
5.  1A, inc A, 1D, inc D, 1B, inc B, 6C, inc B, 1B, inc D, 1D, inc A, 1A, * 1D, 3A, 3C, 3B, 5D, 3B, 3C, 3A * [3x], 1D, 1A, inc A, 1D, inc D, 1B, inc B, 6C, inc B, 1B, inc D, 1D, inc A, 1A, * 1D, 3A, 3C, 3B, 5D, 3B, 3C, 3A * [3x], 3D (196)
6.  2D, inc A, 1A, inc A, 3D, inc B, 1B, 4C, 1B, inc B, 3D, inc A, 1A, inc A, 2D, * 3D, 3A, 3C, 3B, 1D, 3B, 3C, 3A, 2D * [3x], 3D, inc A, 1A, inc A, 3D, inc B, 1B, 4C, 1B, inc B, 3D, inc A, 1A, inc A, 2D, * 3D, 3A, 3C, 3B, 1D, 3B, 3C, 3A, 2D * [3x], 1D, 2B (208)

**Working with the graph**

On page 9 you see the graph of the first 6 rounds.

You read the graph anti clockwise, so from right to left.
When you are left handed, please also read the graph from right to left. If you would read the graph from left to right the jog will not look good.

The black line marks the beginning of the round.
The red lines mark where you have to make the increases.
The white stitches in the middle of the pattern are the 73 chain stitches.

When you start the first round, add color B and C.
When you start the second round add color D and E. You won't use color E for the oval bottom, but you do crochet over it. Carrying all the yarns makes the bag firm.
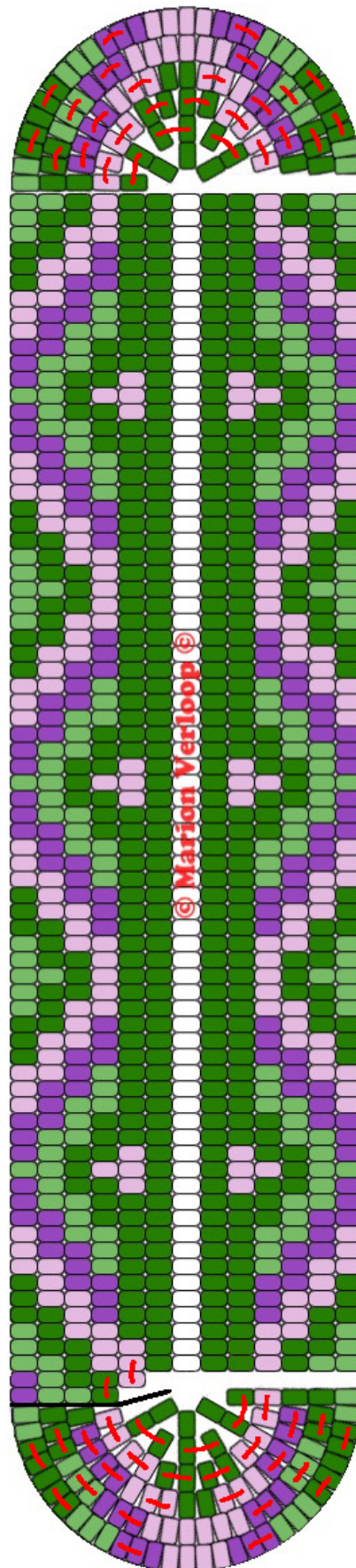
From round 2 all the stitches will be made in the back loop.

At the end of round 2 and 3 we make an extra increase. This is to make the jog less noticeable.

In round 3, pay attention to the following:
Make sure that the 4 stitches in color A in the corners are centred as much as possible. Massage these stitches so they are in the middle of the corners. When these 4 stitches are not centred, the pattern in the corner will slant.

Please read the instructions on page 8, before you start.

The first 6 rounds of the oval bottom will look like this.





The size of the oval bottom is now about, 26,5 to 28 cm / 10.5 to 11 inch by 5,5 cm / 2.25 inch.
Sizes can be different for each person. Everybody crochets differently.