

vamos a la playa!

easy cotton blanket/beach towel straps

finished size:

buckled straps are 1.75" wide and 22" long; shoulder strap is 40" long.
you can make it to any specification, and it can hold pretty much any size towel or blanket. the cotton will stretch but still remain taut enough to hold it securely.

materials:

- Lily Sugar'n Cream Solid in Ecrú, 1 'Super Size' ball (150yds), or any other worsted-weight 100% cotton yarn
- Set of US #7 needles
- Two 1-5/8" (4mm) buckles

gauge:

5 st/inch in moss stitch

pattern notes:

moss stitch: [k1, p1] to last stitch, k1

eyelet row: k1, p1, k1, p1, yo, p2tog, k1, p1, k1

buckled straps (make 2):

CO 9 st.

Knit 10 rows in moss stitch.

Next row: make an eyelet row. (The eyelets aren't actually necessary for the buckle to work, but they look nice. You can leave them out if you want.)

Knit 9 rows in moss stitch

Next row: eyelet row

Continue in this manner until you have 10 eyelet rows completed, and the piece is approximately 20" long. You can adjust this length depending on the item you wish to carry. Remember that the cotton will stretch a few inches as well.

Knit 15 rows in moss stitch.

BO in pattern. Leave a long tail for sewing.

To attach the buckle, fold about 3/4" of the end of the strip over the center piece of the buckle and stick the prong through the center of it. You want the folded-over end to be on the underside of the buckle. Use the tail of the yarn to sew the buckle firmly into place.



shoulder strap:

CO 9 st, leaving a long tail for sewing.

Knit in moss stitch until piece measures approximately 40", or however long you want. Remember that it will stretch a few inches when you're carrying it. You can also make it much shorter, if you just want a carrying handle.

BO in pattern. Leave a long tail for sewing.

Attach the shoulder strap approximately 6" above the buckles, with the loose ends of the straps hanging downward from the buckle, as in the photos (it's easiest to determine the placement of the shoulder strap if you buckle the pieces around a blanket or towel, then figure out where you want to attach it). Wrap the end of the shoulder strap around the buckle strap, so you end up with three layers, and sew it firmly into place.

Now get yourself to a beach!

Please send questions or errors to jenni.ripley@gmail.com.