

What is a Memory?

It is a set of encoded neural connections in the brain. It is also our ability to store, retain and subsequently recall information and past experiences. Neurons firing in our brain allow us to knit, but it's our memories of where we've been and what we've learned that make us knitters.

Join Brenda Dayne on a journey through synapses, brain wrinkles, actions, words, needles, and yarn as she explores these primal human connections in *A Memorable Yarn*. A collaborative, investigative storytelling and gallery event, *A Memorable Yarn* brings knitters, their work, and their memories into the spotlight.

Your participation is simple. Donate a few yards of a yarn that holds a certain memory - perhaps leftover from a meaningful project, a yarn personally hand-dyed or hand spun, or a souvenir yarn from a foreign adventure - and an hour or two of your time to knit a small Memory Bag as a physical recollection of that special yarn or project. Use the instructions on the following page to knit your own Memory Bag, then record your memories on the form provided.

This small but intentional act will, in turn, create a new memory for you, as the knitter, and for Brenda, as the artist who will join these invisible strands and tangible objects into a single, powerful collection of personal history. Together, the Memory Bags will form a literal representation of hundreds of hours of labor, and create memory connections between knitters, bypassing age, gender, skill level, and geography.

A Memorable Yarn can't happen without you. Bring your Memory Bag, your memories and, of course, your knitting to the Memorable Yarn event.



Making a Memory Bag

Knit in the round on double pointed needles, this small seamless bag starts with Judy's Magic Cast On, and can be knit in any yarn, using any needles you choose. Instructions are for a basic bag, but feel free to work any stitch or colorwork pattern you choose.



materials

Yarn: Use whatever you have on hand that is special or meaningful to you.

Needles: Two circular needles; one crochet hook in sizes appropriate to your chosen yarn; and a darning needle for finishing.

Embellishments: Beads, button, ribbons, or embroidery. Embellish the bag however you like, or let the yarn do the talking. It's entirely up to you.



pattern

Using Judy's Magic Cast On, and tips of two circular needles held together, cast on the suggested number of stitches given below for your yarn weight over each needle.

Fingering: 16 - 18 sts

Sock: 14 - 16 sts

Sport: 12 - 14 sts

DK: 10 - 12 sts

Worsted: 8 - 10 sts

Chunky: 6 - 8 sts

Bulky: 4 - 6 sts

Work in the round for two to three inches, until bag is approximately square. Bind off all sts, and break off yarn leaving a ten inch tail.

Insert crochet hook under final bound off stitch and pull a loop of the tail through to the outside of the bag. Chain approximately one and a half inches, pull yarn through.

Loop chain to inside of bag and use a darning needle to secure end. Weave in all ends. Or not. Embellish as desired.

Record a memory to accompany the bag on the sheet provided and bring everything with you to A Memorable Yarn event.



