

Knitting IS Kool!



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The 4-H Motto

“Learn to do by Doing”



The 4-H Pledge

I pledge

My HEAD to clearer thinking,
My HEART to greater loyalty,
My HANDS to larger service,
My HEALTH to better living,
For my club, my community, and my country.

The 4-H Grace

(tune of Auld Lang Syne)

We thank thee Lord, for blessings great
on this our own fair land.
Teach us to serve thee joyfully,
with head, heart, health and hand.

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Welcome to the 4-H Working with Wool Club!

Wow! Two dynamic forces coming together: 4-H and knitting. Enjoy your wild and wonderful journey with 4-H and learn lots of information on the way! The more you participate the more fun this club is going to be-so start knitting and have a blast.

Sample Meeting Agenda

1. Welcome and call to order-4-H Pledge
2. Roll Call
3. Minutes of Last Meeting
4. Any correspondence, collection of money and treasurer's report (if applicable)
5. New business
6. Announcements
7. Adjournment of business meeting
8. Club program
9. Games and/or refreshments

How to Have a Great Meeting

- ✓ Create an agenda with time limits for each activity
- ✓ Have everyone be there on time so you can start the meeting on time and end on time
- ✓ Go on adventurous tours and invite guest speakers to your meetings
- ✓ Elect a club executive



Who is the Club Executive?

President

- may help plan meetings
- gains public speaking experience when introducing guest speakers
- often a role model for other members and inspires them
- plans part of the meeting

Vice-President

- fills in for the president when they are absent
- is able to observe the president and gain tips on how to run a meeting and thank speakers
- has the opportunity to step into president's shoes and take responsibility
- often thanks guest speakers and presents them with a token of appreciation
- cares for visitors and guests at the meetings

Secretary

- keeps track of all events and writes down what happens at each meeting
- keeps attendance and handles club mail
- has the opportunity to gain observation skills and the ability to keep accurate and precise records of meetings
- assists leaders and president in preparing meeting agendas



Press-Reporter

- **key role** in informing the community about events, fundraisers or general information about 4-H
- gains experience in keeping an accurate record of each meeting and upcoming dates so that the public is aware of what is going on
- meeting reports to the newspaper office after each meeting to hand in a typed copy. Learns to concisely report on events



Treasurer

- keeps detailed records of money spent and donations received
- has the opportunity to gain accounting experience and mathematical preciseness

The election may be carried out in any form, as long as the procedure is fair, you can do this by a secret ballot, or by show of hands with the nominee in another room.



Club Membership

Club Executive:

	Name	Phone #	E-mail Address
President			
Vice-President			
Secretary			
Treasurer			
Press Reporter			

Club Members:

Member's Name	Phone #	E-mail Address
Leaders:		

Meeting One

Getting Down to The Basics

Roll Call: Have you ever knitted before, do you know someone who has?

Answer:

The History of Knitting

Who: men were the first to knit as an occupation

What: socks and stockings were the first items to be knitted

When: previous to the B.C. time period

Where: no specific geographic location is known

Why: shaped to fit the foot for warmth because woven cloth wasn't good for socks because it lost all its heat when wet

How: knitting was called Nalebinding at this time using a bone or piece of wood as a needle,

As time moved on knitting became more and more popular and soon knitting schools were set up and the whole family was able to knit.

1780-1880 the Industrial revolution: spinning wheels were invented

1939-1945 the Second World War: women knitted many items for the soldiers including balaclavas(like a ski mask) and gloves

50's & 60's: many colours and types of yarn were invented, highly fashionable and trendy to make your clothing, toys, blankets, and curtains, patterns were even put in magazines

80's: decline in knitting, no longer taught in school, seen as 'old fashioned'

2000: revival of knitting, new yarns, fashionable, celebrities like Julia Roberts and Cameron Diaz are now knitting which has made it popular, many internet blogs and knitalong sites are made by knitting enthusiasts, men and women, for example visit: http://dir.groups.yahoo.com/dir/Hobbies_Crafts/Crafts/Knitting



Knitting Abbreviations

Here is a list of some commonly used abbreviations in patterns

Term	Meaning
K	: Knitting
P	: Purl
ST(S)	: Stitch(es)
GARTER ST	: Every row knit
STOCKING ST	: 1 row knit, 1 row purl
TOG	: Together
TBL	: Through back of loops
INC	: Increase by working into front and back of stitch
DEC	: Decrease by working 2 stitches together
BEG	: Beginning
ALT	: Alternate
REP	: Repeat
CONT	: Continue
MEAS	: Measures
FOLL	: Following
REM	: Remain(ing)
RS	: Right side
WS	: Wrong side
CM	: Centimetres
IN	: Inches
MM	: Millimetres
SL1K	: Slip 1 knitways
YFWD	: Yarn forward
YRN	: Yarn round needle
PSSO	: Pass slipped stitch over
PATT	: Pattern
0	: No stitch, row or time to be worked in this size
MS	: Main shade
C	: Contrast
M1	: Make a stitch by picking up horizontal loop lying before next stitch and working into back of it.



Grandma Purl and her cat Knit comment:

- ❖ 1 out of 3 women know how to knit or crochet
- ❖ 2 out of 3 yarn consumers say they knit for relaxation purposes

What you Need to Start

















- ✓ Needles: made of steel, aluminium, plastic, wood, bamboo and/or nylon

Types of Needles

1. Single Pointed: straight, 30cm long, point at one end, cap/knob on the other end, sold in pairs
Use: knit straight, back and forth in rows
2. Double Pointed: straight, 20cm long, points at both ends, sold in sets of 4,
Use: knit in tubular fashion, round and round, for example socks and mittens
3. Circular: single pointed needle tapering to a thin cable(nylon) in middle, sold singly, 60-90cm long
Use: large tubular garments (skirts), or too many stitches to crowd onto single needles (afghans, large sweaters)
4. Cable stitch: only needle built with a bend in it to prevent stitches from falling off, variety of sizes

Sizes

Diameter of the needle in millimetres and the needle size selected depends on the pattern and the yarn being used. Use the following chart to find the equivalent needle size in English, American and metric numbering:

																	
Metric (mm)	2.00	2.25	2.75	3.00	3.25	3.75	4.00	4.50	5.00	5.50	6.00	6.50	7.00	7.50	8.00	9.00	10.00
Canadian	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	00	000
American	0	1	2	—	3	5	6	7	8	9	10	10½	—	—	11	13	15

- ✓ Needle gauge: plastic/metal ruler with holes showing American and Canadian sizing, needles fit in the holes to check sizing
- ✓ Ruler & Tape Measure: metric
- ✓ Scissors: small, need to be sharp for snipping yarn
- ✓ Tapestry Needle/Yarn Needle: large eye and blunt end, for sewing up projects and weaving in ends of project

- ✓ **Stitch or Row counter:** circular plastic gadget which keeps track of the number of rows/stitches you have knit
- ✓ **Stitch Marker:** to slip on your knitting needle between stitches, to mark the end of the row (used with circular needles), or to indicate an increase or decrease
- ✓ **Stitch Holder:** like a huge safety pin, used for holding stitches securely while off the needle
- ✓ **Point Protectors:** made of rubber, used to keep stitches from slipping off the ends of needles
- ✓ **Crochet Hook or Fine Knitting Needle:** to pick up dropped stitches
- ✓ **Cable Stitch Holder:** two sizes, to keep dropped stitches away from area where you are working
- ✓ **Knitting Gauge:** to check tension sample
- ✓ **Yarn:** wool, cotton, acrylic, nylon, polyester, Boucle, chenille, mohair, Alaska, Alpaca, Llama, satin yarn, sportweight yarn, chunky weight yarn, bulky weight yarn or a combination of these

Each single strand is called a PLY. Many plies are twisted together to make yarn. You will often see on yarn labels: 2-ply, 3-ply, and 4-ply yarns

Yarn is sold wound into balls which have a specific weight. Most yarn you buy will be in 25, 50 or 100gm balls. Knitting patterns list how many 50 or 100 gm balls are needed for a project.

If using an old pattern follow these conversions:

<u>Asks for</u>	<u>Buy</u>	
1 oz	1	50 gm ball
3 oz	2	
5 oz	3	
7 oz	4	
12 oz	7	
16 oz	9	
20 oz	12	



Casting On

Forming the first row of stitches on the knitting needle

- Cast on loosely so the work doesn't pull in at the edge
- Use smooth wool so you can see what you're doing and a set of knitting needles that matches what the label on the yarn calls for

Two Methods

1. The Thumb Method

- Make a slip knot and slide it over the pointy end of the needle
- Weave yarn through fingers of right hand and hold the needle. Loop yarn around left thumb
- Insert needle into loop on thumb
- Loop right hand yarn around point of needle
- Pull needle and yarn through loop on thumb
- Remove thumb from loop. Pull left hand yarn to tighten stitch

2. The Two Needle Method

- **This method gives a stretchier edge than the thumb method**
- Make a slip knot on one needle, as above. Leave an end to stitch up a seam if necessary. Otherwise leave 10cm
- Hold hands on top of needles (needle with loop in left hand). Keep hands close to needle points
- Insert right hand needle into front of stitch (loop). Holding yarn from the ball in right hand to control tension, wrap yarn counter clockwise around right hand needle, pull loop through, and place it on left hand needle
- Place needle in this stitch as in #3 and continue to cast on another stitch
- Repeat until required number of stitches are on needle, counting the slip knot as one

Practice both methods and then look at your stitches. Are they even? Too large or too small? Too loose or too tight?

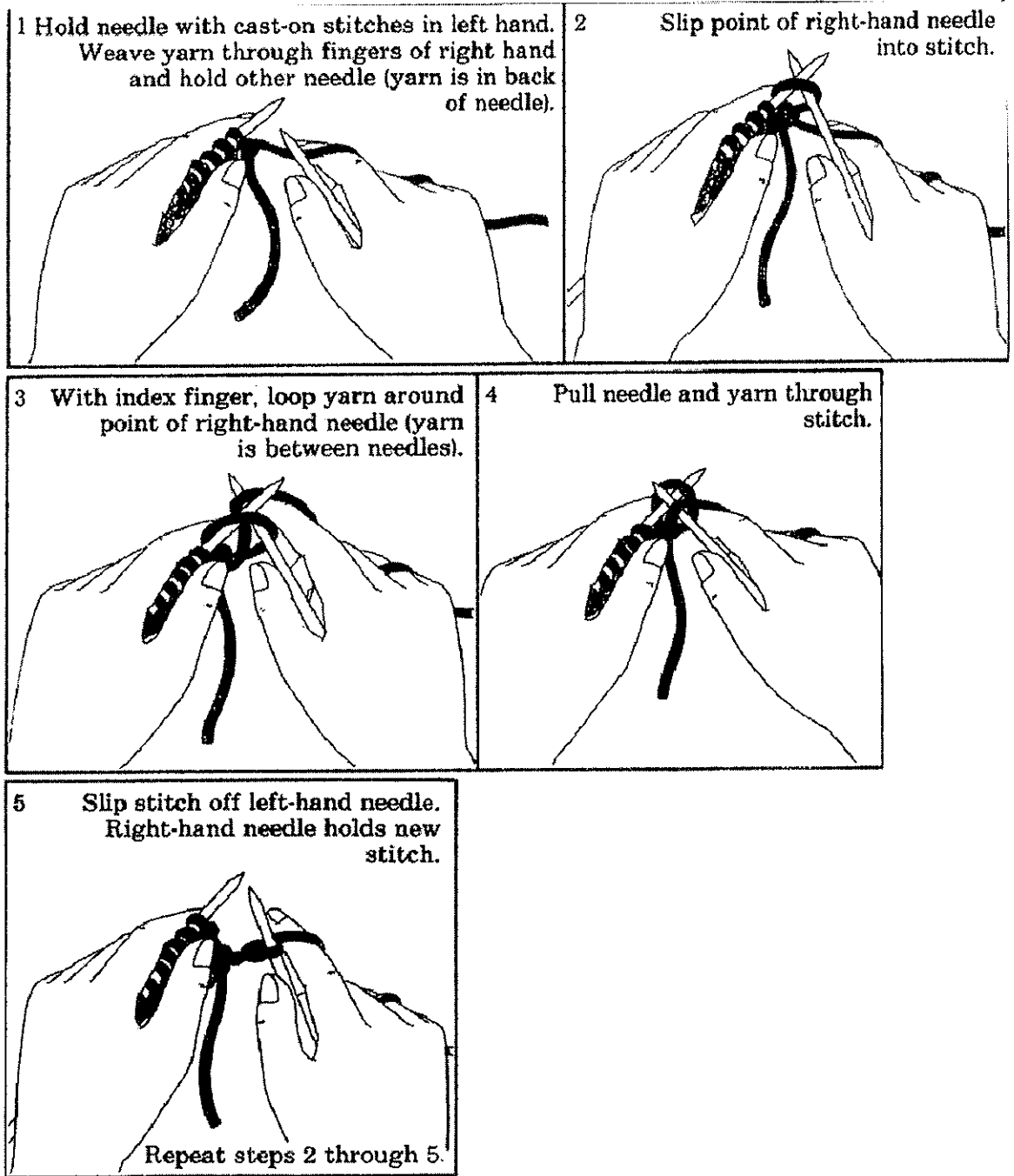
Describe	The Thumb Method	Two Needle Method
Tension(how tight or loose, large or small are stitches?) Is tension even?		
How easy was it to do?		
I prefer (check the one you like the best)		

The Knit Stitch

Knitting- a series of interconnecting loops which form a fabric from 1 strand of yarn.

Knit stitch- is made with basically the same movements used in casting on.

Using the 20 cast on stitches, begin to knit! Knit until there are no more stitches left on the left hand needle. You've now knitted one row!



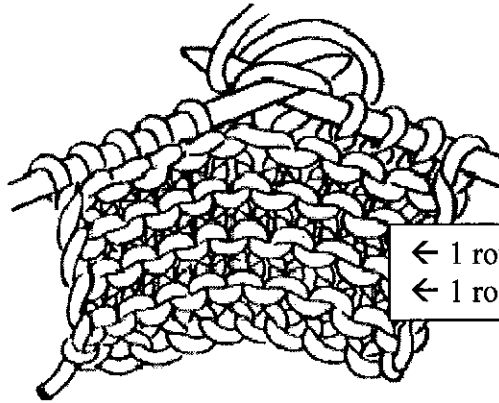
Garter Stitch

Garter Stitch-ridged texture, knitting every row using knit stitch, the front and back of your work look the same



Grandma Purl and her cat Knit comment:
Always try and complete your row before
setting down your work or you will have
uneven tension in the row

Continue to knit using the garter stitch until you have knitted 8 rows. To count the rows, count every ridge and every hollow

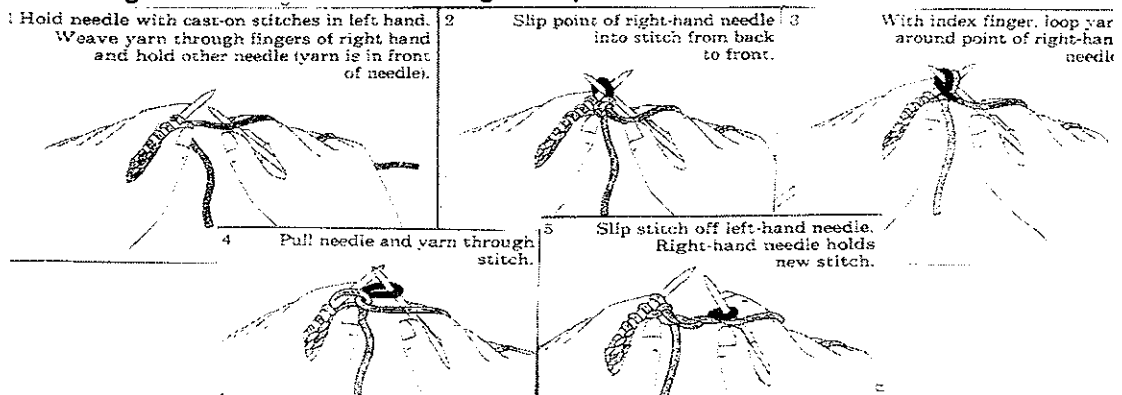


← Casting on row: do not count

Purl Stitch

Purl stitch-movement opposite to the knit stitch, often alternated with the knit stitch to create a ribbed effect

- Often knitters use a looser tension when purling than when knitting-but try to keep them the same
- Purl 7 rows-this also makes a garter stitch but with a smooth row on the wrong side where the knit changed to purl



Mistakes Happen

- Lost a stitch: if one stitch falls off, the sooner you pick it up the better! Use a fine knitting needle and be aware of which side you want the 'bump' to be on, with each row. Catch the loose stitch and work it up on the horizontal yarn of each row, until you reach the needle. If on smooth side: pull yarn to front. If on bumpy side: pull yarn through to the back
- One or Two stitches need to be corrected: knit over to a stitch that is directly above the error. Slip the stitch off the needle and let it RUN down to the error. Correct the error, then pick up the stitch all the way back to the needle
- Several stitches need correcting (one or two rows away): remove the stitches one by one, slipping the left hand needle into the loop below the first stitch on the right hand needle. Drop the first stitch off the right hand needle and pull the yarn 'unknitting'
- Several stitches need correcting (more than 1 or 2 rows away): unravel the stitches by removing the knitting from the needles. Pull the yarn slowly and gently out of the stitches until you are just past the row with the error in it 'ripping it out'. Be sure that the stitches aren't twisted when you put them back onto the needle (to prevent this: insert right hand needle from back to front, and the left hand needle from front to back through each stitch)
- Twisted Stitches: yarn may be crossed over or twisted at the base. Caused by wrapping the yarn around the needle in the wrong direction, or by inserting the needle incorrectly. Correct by using one of the methods above

Stocking Stitch

Stocking stitch: alternating knit and purl rows, as you knit, the side facing you is smooth, and as you purl, the side facing you is bumpy

- Will curl naturally, and should be finished somehow, like a hem or with ribbing
- Should be blocked(steam pressed)
- To count rows, count the bumps on the purl side and V's on the knit side
- Knit 6 rows of stocking stitch
- You have now learned the 2 basic stitches in knitting!

Meeting Two Adding onto the Basics

Roll Call: Name three different items that could be knit and sold

Answer:

Ribbing

Rib stitch- common, used when a bit of stretch is needed, for example: cuffs, hats, necklines, etc., involves alternating knit and purl stitches across the whole row

- Each time the stitch is changed, the yarn must be brought between the needles to the correct side-to the front for purling, to the back for knitting

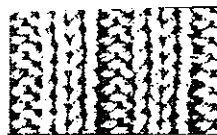
Two Simple Ribbing Stitches

1. Knit Two Purl Two or Two and Two Ribbing: very elastic like, good for turned up brim on hat, number of stitches on needle should be divisible by 4 to do this stitch in a garment

The pattern would read:

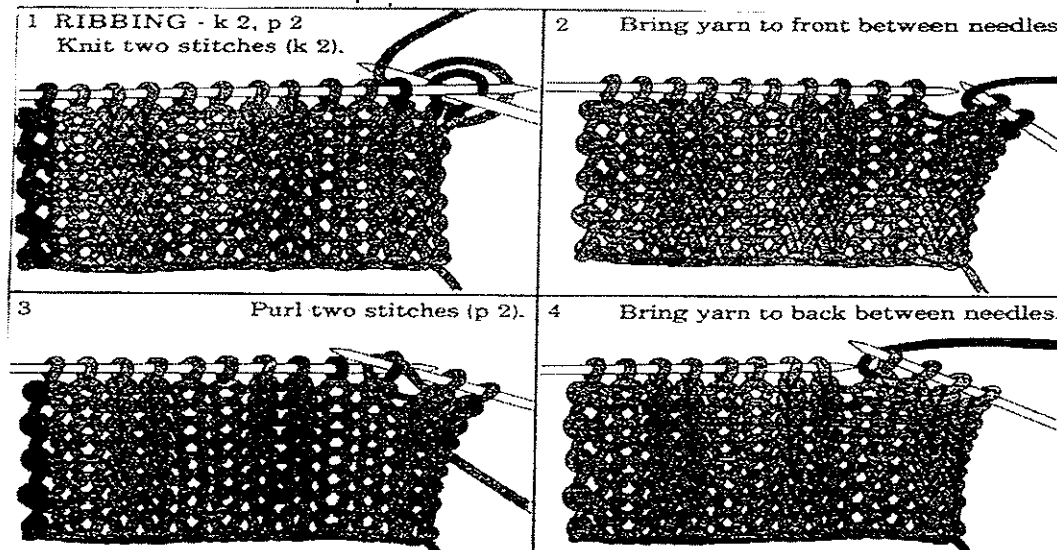
Row 1- K2, *p2, k2 Rep. from * to end of row

Row 2- P2, *k2, p2 Rep. from * to end of row



Complete six rows of the two and two rib stitch, beginning all rows with K2, P2, etc.

Purl two rows when completed



2. Knit one Purl one or one and one Ribbing: tight rib stitch, used often for bands on sweaters, number of stitches on the needle should be uneven, to make each side equal in a pattern

The pattern would read:

Row 1- K1, p1. Rep. to end of row

Row 2- P1, k1. Rep. to end of row

Joining New Yarn

1. Join at Beginning of Row: good method, unless you are knitting something tubular

- Work until there is not enough yarn left to complete a whole row, tie this end to the new yarn, at the beginning of the row, using a loose overhand knot. Leave tails of yarn approximately 10-15cm long
- When knitting is completed, go back, untie the knot, and work in the ends
- Thread end into a blunt-end needle, for a garter stitch/stocking stitch, weave the ends horizontally into the stitches for about 5cm across the work, do this before blocking

For a rib stitch, weave the old end upward through the knitting and along the edge. The new end should wind its way downward for about 5cm.

2. Change Colours: use a different colour when attaching new yarn as above. To finish, weave ends into the part of the work that is the same colour.

Borrow a small amount of yarn from another member and attach it to the beginning of the next row and work in stocking stitch for three rows, beginning with a knit row. Attach main colour and do three more rows, starting with purl row. Weave in ends

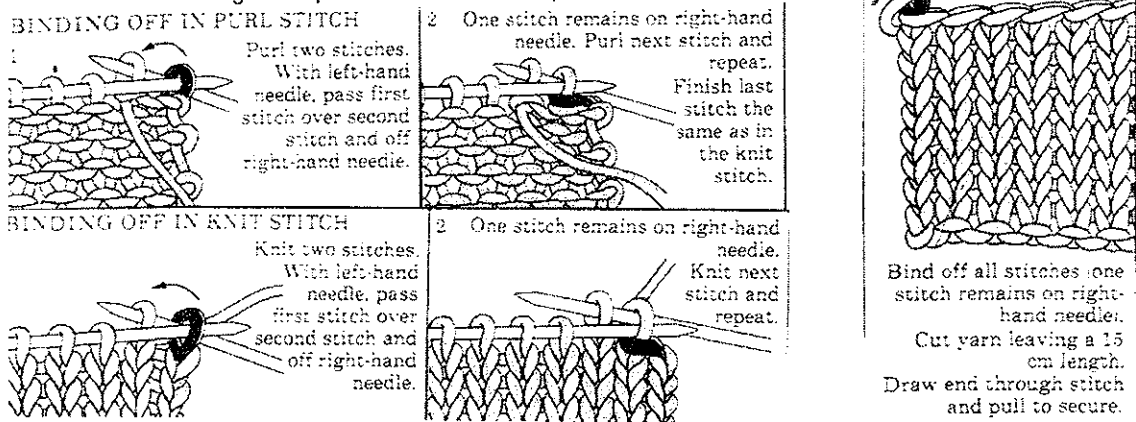
3. Joining in Middle of Row- Three ways:

1. Work until there is 10-15 cm of yarn left. Tie it to the new yarn with an overhand knot, on the back of the work. Continue working with the new yarn. When knitting is completed, untie the knot, and, threading the ends into a needle, work them as invisibly as possible into the back of the work before blocking
2. Splicing(invisible joining)-untwist each end a few centimeters. Retwist the same number of strands as the original yarn, using half from the new end and half from the old. If yarn is 4-ply, retwist 2 from each end. Trim away the extra ends. This makes the join the same thickness as the original yarn
3. Work until there is 10-15cm of yarn left. Thread new yarn into a large blunt-end needle. Weave the new yarn into the old yarn for about 5 cm. Resume knitting, making sure that the short ends stay on the wrong side of the work. After a few rows go back and trim the ends.

cm. Resume knitting, making sure that the short ends stay on the wrong side of the work. After a few rows go back and trim the ends.

Casting Off or Binding Off

Casting off-removing the stitches from the needle, giving a finished, chain-like edge. Keep tension as loose as possible



Loosely cast off all the stitches on your sampler, in a knitwise direction. The sampler should be very lightly steam pressed and put in your book. Label the different stitches

Choosing a Knitting Project

Choose a knitting project and purchase the materials needed to make the project. Keep in mind your level of expertise

Beginners

Choose something simple, like Shimmer-one ball boa, the club bag, Mohair classic throw, or a wristband.

Intermediates

If you already knew how to cast on and off, to knit and to purl before this club started you should choose one of the following projects; like Tunis pillow, socks, a java cup holder or a cellphone bag

When you've chosen your project discuss it with your leader who will help you decide if it is the correct level for you



Grandma Purl and her cat Knit say: The term sweaters began to be used for knitted pullovers formerly called ganseys or jerseys after they were used for athletic clothes. It is said they were called sweaters because that's what the athletes who wore them did -sweat!

Fishermens' Knits

Who: the wives of fishermen knit the sweaters for their husbands

What: the sweater features 4-6 texture patterns that move down the sweater in columns

Where: the Aran Islands, just off the west coast of Ireland

When: invented in early 1900's

Why: to keep fishermen dry, also had religious significance, for example the honeycomb=symbol for hard-working bee, the cable=wish for safety and good luck fishing







How: made from undyed cream-coloured bainin, yarn made from sheep's wool, originally made with unwashed wool that still contained natural sheep lanolin, making it water repellent

If a fishermen drowned at sea and his body washed ashore it was possible to tell what village he was from depending on the design on his sweater.



Yarn Standards

In 2003 the Craft Yarn Council of America came up with a Standard Yarn Weight System based on the most commonly used gauges and needle or hook sizes. These symbols can be found on almost all yarn balls. For more information or free patterns visit: www.yarnstandards.com

Yarn Weight Symbol & Category Names	 1 SUPER FINE	 2 FINE	 3 LIGHT	 4 MEDIUM	 5 BULKY	 6 SUPER BULKY
Type of Yarns in Category	Sock, Fingering, Baby	Sport, Baby	DK, Light Worsted	Worsted, Afghan, Aran	Chunky, Craft, Rug	Bulky, Roving
Knit Gauge Range* in Stockinette Stitch to 4 inches	27–32 sts	23–26 sts	21–24 st	16–20 sts	12–15 sts	6–11 sts
Recommended Needle in Metric Size Range	2.25–3.25 mm	3.25–3.75 mm	3.75–4.5 mm	4.5–5.5 mm	5.5–8 mm	8 mm and larger
Recommended Needle U.S. Size Range	1 to 3	3 to 5	5 to 7	7 to 9	9 to 11	11 and larger
Crochet Gauge* Ranges in Single Crochet to 4 inch	21–32 sts	16–20 sts	12–17 sts	11–14 sts	8–11 sts	5–9 sts
Recommended Hook in Metric Size Range	2.25–3.5 mm	3.5–4.5 mm	4.5–5.5 mm	5.5–6.5 mm	6.5–9 mm	9 mm and larger
Recommended Hook U.S. Size Range	B–1 to E–4	E–4 to 7	7 to I–9	I–9 to K–10 1/2	K–10 1/2 to M–13	M–13 and larger

Meeting Three The Deal on Fleece

Roll Call: Do you often wear fleece? Have you ever made anything using fleece?

Answer:



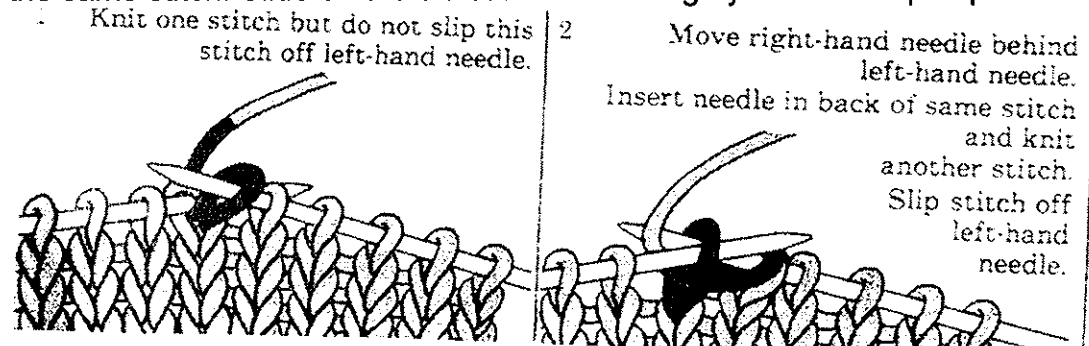
Grandma Purl and her cat Knit comment:
In early times it was the men that did the knitting while the women spun the yarn for them to use

Increasing

Two Methods can be used to add stitches to your project:

1. Knitting into the front and the back of the stitch: usually not done on the first stitch of the row, but one stitch in. Usually only at the beginning of a row rather than at the end. It makes two stitches from one

To increase while purling, purl into the front half of the stitch without sliding it off, then move the yarn to the back of the work and knit into the back half of the same stitch. Slide off the old stitch and change yarn back to purl position



2. Knitting On: hold work in left hand and knit into first stitch. Pull loop through and place it on left hand needle. This is one new stitch. Continue for as many new stitches as required. This may also be done while purling. The increase creates a right angle in the work.

Cast on 3 stitches, using the same yarn and needles as for Sampler 1.

Row 1: K1, inc.1 (method 1), k1 (4 sts.)

Row 2: (and all even rows) Purl across the row

Row 3: K1, inc. 1 into each of the next 2 stitches, using Method 1, k1 (6 sts.)

Row 5: (and all uneven rows) K2, inc. 1, k until 3 sts. Remain on needle, inc.1, k2

Continue increasing until 18 are on needle.

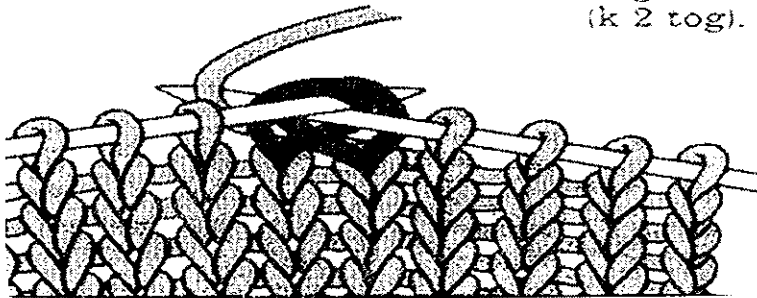
Row 16: Purl.

Decreasing

1. Knit or purl two stitches together as if they are one. When doing stocking stitch (st.st) the decreasing is usually done on the knit row. This method is usually done at the end of a row, rather than at the beginning, because the stitch slants to the right.
2. P.S.S.O. (pass slip stitch over). This method is similar to casting off. This decreased stitch slants to the left and so should be done at the beginning of a knit row

METHOD 1: k 2 tog

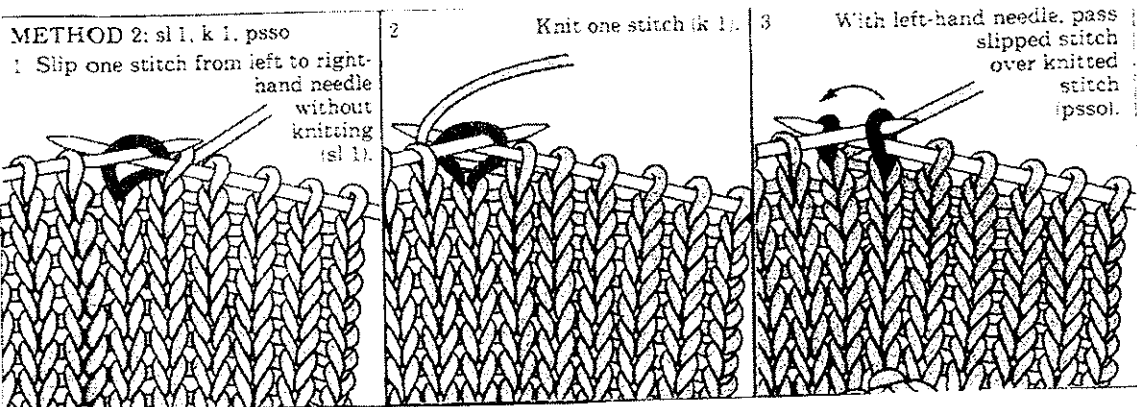
Insert needle into two stitches.
Knit two stitches together
(k 2 tog).



Row 17: k1, sl1, k1, p.s.s.o., k until 3 sts remain on needles, k2 tog, k1.

Continue with stocking stitch, decreasing every uneven or knit row in the same manner until 4 sts remain on needles. Next decrease row: k1, k2tog, k1, (3 sts).

Last Row: cast off purlwise



The Tension Swatch

Check your tension or gauge!

When you follow a knitting pattern, to get the right size, you must use the correct size of needles and type of yarn.

You must also test your tension, using the correct needles and yarn to check that your knitting is not too tight or too loose

- Make a sample of knitting. Using the stocking stitch. Cast on 20 stitches and knit for at least 10 cm. This will allow you to measure stitches and rows.
- To check tension, place a pin vertically into the knitted fabric a few stitches from the left edge

If the pattern says '10 stitches and 13 rows=5cm" measure over from the first pin 5cm and insert a second pin. Count the stitches carefully.

Number less than 10-garment too large

Number more than 10-garment too small

- Place another pin horizontally into the knitted fabric, a few rows from the bottom edge. Measure up 5cm and insert a second pin, carefully count the rows between the pins, there should be 13

Number less than 13-garment too large

Number more than 13-garment too small

- If the gauge you measure is too small you need to use a larger needle
- If the gauge you measure is too large you need to use a smaller needle

WOOL

From a Historical Perspective

- Raising of sheep and shearing has been going on almost since almost the beginning of recorded time.
- There are many references in early history and in the Bible to shepherds and flocks.
- Fabrics made from wool have been found in the ruins of villages thousands of years old. For example recently a cave was discovered eight miles north of Jerusalem that was inhabited long ago in biblical times by people that highly valued their sheep and used their wool for many purposes.
- The first sheep in America were brought by the colonists from the British Isles to Jamestown, Virginia in the early 1600's . They spun and wove their own woollen yarns and textiles at such a quality that the British government started to worry about competition. In response the British passed the Wool Act in 1699 which forbade the colonies from exporting any of their wool.

Different Sources of Wool

Llama

- used for generations in Peru
- fleece is the term used for all the fibre sheared from a single llama
- beautiful natural fibre that' lightweight, multi-coloured, durable and warm
- worldwide production is 4000 tons compared to sheep wool at 1.8 million tons/year therefore llama fibre is classified as a specialty fibre
- no lanolin or grease, anti-static
- used by space astronauts as underwear!

Angora Goat

- produces mohair which is a silk like fabric
- durable, light and warm
- good for clothing, blankets, and teddy bears

Kashmir Goat

- specialty hair fibre that is used for cashmere
- natural light weight insulation without bulk, very soft
- approximately 15 000 tons produced worldwide

Alpaca

- warmer than sheep's wool and lighter in weight, lacks the 'prickle' factor
- somewhat similar to human hair in glossiness, easily spun, very fine
- can be spun into yarn with your fingers

Angora

- there are 4 different breeds of angora
- angora rabbits have long, soft hair that comes in black, blue, chinchilla, chocolate, tortoise, chestnut or fawn colours

Quality of Wool Affected by:

- Climate: if the climate is damp-high quality wool
- Soil conditions: affect the plants that are growing and ultimately are eaten by sheep influencing the quality of the wool
- Health of animal: sick sheep=weak wool
- Breeds: finest, most valuable=Merino sheep from Australia, in Ontario Suffolk=meat, Dorset=wool, hand spinners and weavers prefer long haired breeds like Lincoln and Leicester



The Australian Merino Sheep

The Fleece

Fleece= wool shorn from any sheep or animal in the wool category

Fleece wool= clipped wool from a live animal

Pulled wool= wool taken from the pelt of a slaughtered lamb or sheep

Lamb's wool= animals less than 7 months old, finer, softer, because it is the first shearing it has only one cut end

From Sheep to Yarn

RAW WOOL → WASHING → CARDING → SPINNING → DYEING



Raw Wool

Shearing

- shorn once a year (in spring) or twice a year (before breeding and before lambing)
- hand shearing: hand clippers used, older method, time consuming, used mainly for show preparation
- power shearing: electric shears, done in less than 5 minutes by an expert, fleece comes off in one piece, doesn't harm the animal

Sorting and Hand Cleaning

The best fleece brings the best price so often the fleece is prepared for grading by:

- cleaning the fleece on the animal by running them through troughs of water before shearing
- trimming of undesirable wool from the fleece (belly, face, leg and rear area)
- removing excess foreign materials (burrs, straw, etc.)
- removing areas of off-coloured or dark fibre

Rolling and Bagging

Fleeces are laid with the cut side down, rolled up and tied with paper twine. Fibrous twine mingles with the wool and is hard to remove. The fleeces are packed in bags and stored until sold

Marketing

Canadian wool is sold in one of three ways:

1. To registered wool warehouses like the Canadian Co-Operative Wool Growers
2. To woollen mills
3. Directly to hand spinners or weavers

Most of the wool is sold to registered wool warehouses, administered by the Canadian Co-Operative Wool Growers. The Co-Op Wool Growers have a main collecting depot at the Ontario Stock Yards in Toronto and the head office in Carleton Place near Ottawa, Ontario. Each year Canada exports 90% of its wool, about 2 million pounds, because there are virtually no wool processing mills here. The wool produced is very unique because it has an elastic type quality to it.

Wool is sold by the pound(0.45 kg):

- unscoured (in the grease)
- scoured (washed)
- carded (called 'wool top')

Most of our wool is exported in the grease

Grading

Done at the warehouse and the higher the grade, the more the fleece is worth

Grading depends on:

1. cleanliness-how much dirt, chaff, seeds, burrs, etc. are in the fleece
2. length of fibre can be (2-18cm)
3. diameter of fibre, measured in microns (1 micron= 1/25 000 of an inch(.0010mm)) finer the fibre-higher the grade

Washing

The fleeces are washed gently in a series of tubs containing a soap and water solution. Then the wool is rinsed at the same temperature of water, squeezed and dried. It loses 30-70% of its weight when the dirt and lanolin are removed.

Sheared wool contains a lot of natural grease, called LANOLIN. The lanolin can be recovered from the wash process, refined and sold to the chemical industry for face creams, soaps and ointments.

Carding

Carding opens and cleans the fibres and separates them from each other so they are lying parallel in a thin, web like layer. This prepares them as textiles. A large variety of fibres can be carded, anything from dog hair, to llama, to soy silk (fibre made from soy beans). Cotton, wool and bast (from hemp) are probably the most common fibres to be carded. Not all fibres are carded. Flax for example, is threshed (beating cereal plants to get seeds) not carded.

Carding can also be used to create mixes of different fibres, or different colours. Some hand spinners have a small drum carder at home especially for the purpose of mixing together the different coloured fibre that they buy already carded. Some drum carders even come with directions on how to best card two colors at once. The two main ways to card fibres are by hand and by machine.

With machine carding in a factory or mill, a device called a drum carder is used.

- These devices vary in size from the one that easily fits on the kitchen table to the carder that takes up a full room.
- For wool and wool-like fibers (such as llama, alpaca, goat, etc.) fibres are fed onto a series of rollers.
- Depending on the size of the carder, the number of rollers differs. One roller is small and used to catch the fibers and feed them into the next roller.
- The other drum takes the fibres from the first drum and in the process of transferring them from one drum to another, the fibres are straightened out and aligned.
- When the fibre comes off the drum it is in the form of a bat or a flat orderly mass of fibres.
- A big drum carder will then take that bat and turn it into rovings by stretching it thinner and thinner, until it is the desired thickness (often rovings are the thickness of a wrist).
- Cotton fibres are fed into the machine picked up and brushed onto flats when carded.



Grandma Purl and her cat Knit comment:
Handcrafted wool is more and more popular
these days as a hobby and as a business

Hand Carding

Uses two brushes that look like dog brushes with wire teeth called carders. The wool fibres are spread into one carder and the other one is brushed back and forth in a certain way to clean and separate them. This is often difficult to do unless some teasing is done first to remove burrs and clumps of dirt or straw. Hand carders come in a wide variety of sizes, from 1 by 1 cm to 2 by 4 cm. The small ones are called flick carders and are just used to flick the ends of a lock of hair, or to tease out some strands for spinning off of. The density of the teeth and the shape of the carders also varies. The type of fibre, its length, weight and characteristics, can also determine how many teeth are wanted per inch on the carders. Hand carders can be either flat backed or curved- this is a matter of personal preference

Woolen and Worsted

Fibres and yarns made from wool can be classed as woolen or worsted depending on the manufacturing process used. To make worsted yarns an extra step, combing, takes place after carding. Combing removes the short fibres and straightens the long ones.

Woolen Yarns	Worsted Yarns
-contain long and short fibers	-long fibers
-soft, makes good blankets	-firm, smooth, and durable, men's suits
-produce fabrics that resist wrinkling, don't hold a crease well	-produce fabrics which tailor well, take a sharp crease, become shiny with use

Meeting Four

Spinning Wool

Roll Call: Have you ever seen a sheep shorn? Where and when?

Answer:

Blocking

- Done before sewing up seams
 - Process of using moisture to shape a project ready for seaming (exception- if pieces have become dirty then do seams first, wash then block)
1. Pad a flat surface with thick towels then cover with a sheet
 2. Place project piece wrong side up on blocking surface-if you want pin the edges through the padding, so they are the proper shape and measurement given in your pattern OR use your hands to smooth out the edges
 3. *For synthetic and blends:*
 - see instructions on yarn wrapper OR
 - cover pieces with a damp clothAllow to dry before removing from padding –DO NOT PRESS SYNTHETICS with iron because it destroys the loft of the yarn
For wool:
 - cover pieces with damp cloth, then steam gently with iron at wool setting.DO NOT PRESS HARD with iron

NOTE:

1. two identical pieces (sleeves) can be layered and blocked together
2. ribbing is never blocked or stretched unless entire project is ribbed

Seams

- block sections before joining seams
- match rows and patterns
- use the same yarn you used for the project and a blunt end large eyed needle or crochet hook
- use a single yarn, about 60cm long or the end left when you ended or started your work

There are several ways to sew up knitted seams:

1. Overcast Seam: flat seam, may show up on the right side. Place two pieces of knitting right sides together matching up the stitches. Hold left forefinger between the edges.
Overcast using a needle into every stitch easing the edges over your finger.
2. Crocheted Seam: invisible seam, use the size of crochet hook appropriate for your yarn. Place two pieces of knitting right sides together matching up the stitches. Insert crochet hook through both layers, one stitch in from the end, and one stitch in from edges to be sewn. Catch yarn and draw loop through to the front. Insert hook through next stitch and draw yarn through to front and also through first loop. Repeat this to the end of the seam. This looks like a chain stitch.
3. Backstitched Seam: can be used anywhere and does not show from the front. However, it is a bulkier seam than the others and is VERY DIFFICULT TO REMOVE. Place two pieces of knitting right sides together matching up the stitches. Pin perpendicular to the edges. Using a needle, begin with a few whip stitches over the edge to anchor yarn, then backstitch through both thicknesses, as far from the edge as desired. Don't pull stitches too tight. The seam should 'give' with the knitting.
4. Mattress Seam: This stitch is a secure and nearly invisible way of joining edges, such as underarm seams on the body or sleeves of a sweater. With the right side facing, working 1 stitch in from edge, with tapestry needle and matching yarn, go under running yarn between first and second stitches on one piece. Repeat step 1 on other piece. Continue to work from side to side, pulling yarn to close seam every 4 to 6 stitches

Spinning

Spinning- the drawing out and twisting together of a number of fibres of various lengths into one strong continuous thread or yarn

How it Works

A bunch of fibers are held in one hand and the other hand draws out a few fibers. These will part company from the bunch. But, if they are twisted by the hand that draws them in one direction only, a thread or yarn is formed. The more the yarn is twisted the stronger it will be. If you let go the yarn will untwist. If it's wound on a stick it remains a thread.

A yarn can be further strengthened by twisting two or more threads together to make 2-ply, 3-ply, or 4-ply. This is done with spinning equipment.

Spinning and weaving are two of the oldest known crafts. In pioneer Ontario, settlers washed their sheep in the creek every spring, and sheared them, then carded, spun, dyed and wove the wool. In the 1800's, carding mills did the carding then returned the wool to the farmer for spinning.

In pioneer times a woman had to know how to spin before she married and went off to her own homestead in the woods. Otherwise the family would freeze because they would not have any warm woolen clothes!

The earliest spinning probably involved simply twisting the fibres in the hand. Later a stick called a spindle was used to add the twist and hold the twisted fiber. Usually a whorl or weight stabilizes the spindle. The spindle is spun and twists the fiber until it becomes yarn. The spindle may be suspended or supported. Later the spinning wheel was developed which allowed continuous and faster yarn production. Spinning wheels may be foot, hand or electrically powered.

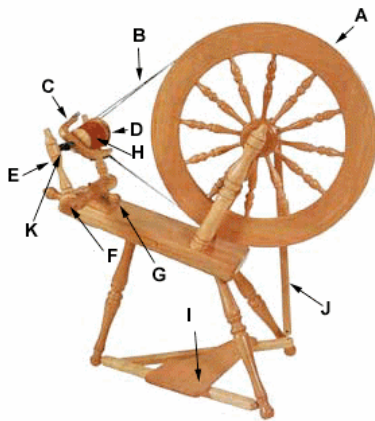
Modern powered spinning was originally done by water or steam power but is now done by electricity and is much faster than hand-spinning.

Hobby or small scale artisan spinners spin their own yarn to control specific yarn qualities and produce yarn not commercially available. They also may spin for self-sufficiency a sense of accomplishment, or a sense of connection to history and the land. And, of course, for the meditative qualities of spinning.



Grandma Purl and her cat Knit comment: The term 'spinster' actually refers to someone who spins. In old cottages where the family owned a spinning wheel there was always one member occupied with spinning.

The Spinning Wheel



A. Fly Wheel The wheel that rotates when treading and causes the other various parts to operate.

B. Drive Band A cord that goes around the fly wheel and the flyer whorl.

C. Flyer A U-shaped piece of wood with hooks lined up on one or both arms. The hooks are used to store the yarn evenly on the bobbin. The flyer is rotated by the drive band which as a result puts the twist into the fiber.

D. Flyer Whorl A pulley attached to the flyer and operated by the drive band. The different sized grooves on the flyer whorl determine how fast the wheel will spin.

E. Maidens The upright posts that hold the flyer and the bobbin.

F. Mother-Of-All The bar that mounts the maidens, flyer, bobbin, and tension knob.

G. Tension Knob Used to adjust the tension of the drive band by lowering or raising the mother-of-all.

H. Bobbin Rotates on the spindle along with the flyer and stores the yarn. It can operate with or independent of the drive band.

I. Treadle The pedal(s) that operates the wheel by using your feet.

J. Footman The bar the connects the treadle to the fly wheel and causes it to turn.

K. Orifice The opening at the end of the spindle where the yarn goes through to connect to the hooks of the flyer.

Meeting Five

Dyeing Wool

Roll Call: Have you ever seen or used a spinning wheel? Have you ever tried dying an article of clothing or wool?

Answer:

Dyeing

- Wool is the easiest fibre to dye-must be clean and free of grease
- Can be dyed in the fibre or yarn stage. At these stages the dye stays in faster and has a deeper colour
- Very old procedure of boiling the material to be dyed in natural, plant or chemical substance
- Earliest dyes=all natural, for example: vegetables, seeds, barks, roots and insects
- Most natural vegetable type dyes found in this part of the country produce 'autumn' colours-browns, rusts, beiges, greens, golds, yellows and greys from things like: goldenrod flowers, apple bark, sumac berries, onion skins, spinach, tea and coffee and will give good colours
- These natural dyestuffs don't always give the same colour each time
- Kool-aid is a popular dye today

Mordants

- set the dye
- make the dye penetrate better
- produce different colours
- 'sadden' a colour, or make it darker

Common Mordants

1. salt: used occasionally by pioneers, expensive
2. iron: 'sadden's a colour, often a rusty nail added to dyebath
3. alum" white powder from drugstore, used for pickling, brings out the yellow in dye
4. cream of tartar: used with alum to add brilliance, available to pioneers by pedlars, less expensive than salt
5. copper: add copper wire to dyebath, bring out green in a dye



The World of Felting

Felt- is a non-woven cloth that is produced by matting, condensing and pressing fibers that form the structure of the fabric. In the process of felting, wool fibers shrink and come together to form a dense mat when subjected to heat, friction and a change of alkalinity.

How to Felt

Need: 9" cake pan, liquid detergent, kitchen sink, hot & cold water, 30 minutes

1. Lay out the wool: lay out a half ounce of washed and carded wool. Divide into three portions. One layer covers bottom of pan, second layer on top of first at a 90 degree angle to layer below, third layer on top of second at a 90 degree angle to second layer

2. Wetting the wool: squirt soap over top layer of wool, add ½ cup of hot water

3. Pressing down the wool: press straight down onto the wool pile so that it's all at the bottom of the pan. Add more hot water until all wool is wet. Press down until it's all matted.

4. Working the wool: hold pan in one hand and massage soap into wool, slowly rotating pan, keeping pushing towards the center to give a smooth, finished shape. After five minutes the wool will begin to firm up, start working in a circular motion

5. Turning the felt: after ten minutes the felt will hold together well enough to turn it over. Add more soap and hot water if needed and continue working the wool as you did before

6. Rinsing: Run warm water into pan and pour off soapy water. Then run cold water over the wool and press the water out of it. It should be round, about an eighth of an inch thick. If you continue working it, it will grow thicker and smaller.

Grandma Purl and her cat Knit comment: You can buy glow in the dark knitting needles and knit any time of day!



Meeting Six **Wool is Wonderful!**

Roll Call: Name three new things you learned from this club?

Answer:

The Woolmark

Best known textile symbol in the world! Owned by International Wool Secretariat, an organization working for wool growers in many countries of the world. The symbol is recognized worldwide by 77% of consumers, which is over 2 billion people!

Only 100% virgin wool items produced by licensed manufacturers can qualify for the Woolmark Label. The label identifies products that have passed rigid quality control tests for:

- fibre content
- abrasion resistance
- resistance to pilling
- fabric strength
- colour fastness



Anything bearing the Woolmark symbol is 100% pure new wool and has been approved and endorsed by International Wool Services to meet specific quality specifications and offer Pure Natural comfort.



Look for the Woolmark Blend for innovative products with Natural Comfort hi-performance containing a minimum of 50% new wool.



Products bearing the Wool Blend are high tech new wool mixes of 30% - 49% new wool that maintain the natural qualities of wool in innovative fabrics and styles offering comfort and performance.

The Wool Products Labelling Act

An act administered by the Federal Trade Commission that requires labels be affixed to products containing wool showing the percentages of new wool, reused or reprocessed wool, and other fibres or fillers that are used

Textile Labelling Act of 1972

The fibre content of all consumer textile products sold in Canada must be identified. The Act also requires that the words

- “reclaimed”
- “reprocessed”
- “reused”

Immediately precede the name of the fibre if the material has been produced from a reclaimed fibre. Reclaimed fibres are weaker and less resilient than virgin or new wool

The Structure of Wool

Scales

Under a microscope a wool fibre looks like a small tree with overlapping, irregular shaped scales like bark. There are more scales on fine wool than on coarse wool.

Crimp

Wool has a natural crimp. It has more than 10 bends/cm. They go from side to side and up and down. All these crimps cause air to be trapped in the tiny spaces between the coils. Wool is also elastic. All the crimps and bends can be stretched out as much as 30% and they will return to their original position, like little coiled springs.

Colour

The natural colour of wool can be grayish white, yellowish cream, brown, black, white and all the shades in between. All of them except black can be bleached.

Protein

Wool is a protein fiber and is bio-degradable (capable of being decomposed by bacteria) therefore leaving no harmful residue

Luster

Some natural luster high quality wools have less luster than low quality ones

Absorbency

Tiny pores in the fiber absorb moisture like a sponge and wool can absorb up to 30% of its own weight without ever feeling damp,

All these qualities of wool's structure give it many unique features among fibers.

1. The overlapping scales covering the wool fibre are responsible for the shrinking and felting of wool. When agitated with moisture and heat (during washing) the scales become interlocked and form a solid mass. This is called felting. Because the fibers can no longer move they have lost their elasticity and cannot be stretched.

The higher the temperature, the greater the agitation. The longer the wool is wet the more felting, shrinking and matting there will be.

2. The natural crimp and springiness of wool means that:
 - a) wool sheds wrinkles easily. Because the fiber is elastic it will return to its original shape if hung overnight
 - b) wool is a good insulator. It traps air in its tiny spaces and insulates the body against cold and heat,
 - c) wool is tough. It can be stretched when dry without damaging the fibre.

However, wool is weak when wet and must be handled carefully.

3. Because wool is absorbent it:
 - a) is comfortable. It absorbs body moisture, leaving a dry layer next to the skin in winter: retains body heat making it warm
In summer: wool absorbs perspiration reducing skin temperature
 - b) absorbs dye easily: right into the centre of the fibre, with endless possibilities for colours
 - c) absorbs odors easily. This is not always desirable as cooking odors like onions or garlic tend to linger
 - d) resists static electricity. Because wool never dries out, so there is no static buildup
 - e) resists burning
4. Pilling occurs when fibres break or work loose from a yarn and collect into tight balls. Long, strong synthetic filaments hold pills but because wool fibres are fairly short (2-20cm) and uneven, a wool fabric or yarn tends to shed pills, or they can be easily brushed off

Wool reacts well to the following modern finishes and treatments:

- permanent pleating
- moth proofing
- soil and stain resistant finishes
- shrinkage prevention (which produces a MACHINE washable and dryable wool)
- garments or yarn treated this way are identified as SUPERWASH WOOL

Care of your Wool Garment

It is better to hand wash your woolen products. Shampoos can be used to wash such garments. Use a good shampoo not one containing "crème rinse", if shampoo can clean your hair without leaving residues, it can clean your woolen products too. Be careful of what softener you use because softeners may add products to your wool. Some types of softeners may leave a coating on the fibre making it feel softer and smoother but at the same time causing your wool to lose its absorbency.

Removing Stains from Wool Fabric

Try to treat stains immediately to prevent them from setting into the fabric.

With a clean white cloth, blot to remove as much of the stain as possible. Do NOT rub.

Take garments with stubborn stains to the dry cleaner as soon as possible. This includes stains caused by paint, dyes, nail polish, etc.

Have a bottle of stain or spot removal solution on hand for oil based stains such as oil, make-up or chocolate. Make sure that the product you use is safe for wool fabric. Test the solution on an inconspicuous area before using on the stain.

Be sure to remove stains before pressing. Heat can cause stains to set in wool fabric.

Hand Washing Wool Fabric

Clean wool fabric using a mild detergent in lukewarm water. Never use hot water! Do NOT use bleach. Bleach dissolves wool fabric.

Completely cover the garment in water and soak for 3 to 5 minutes. Gently squeeze to allow water to penetrate the fabric. Do NOT wring the garment.

Rinse thoroughly with cool water to remove all traces of soap.
Squeeze gently to remove excess water. Do NOT wring the garment.

To dry, lay the garment on a flat surface, reshaping if necessary and allow to dry away from direct sunlight and heat. Do NOT hang to dry. This will cause the wool fabric to stretch from the weight of the water that has soaked into the fibres.

Never put wool clothing in the dryer! The combination of heat, friction and pressure will cause shrinkage.

Pressing Wool Fabric

Set iron for WOOL setting.

Add water to the iron. Always use steam heat when pressing. Never iron wool fabric dry.

Squeeze gently to remove excess water. Do NOT wring the garment.

Press garment on the inside of the garment to avoid surface shine.

Use a pressing cloth when top pressing. A clean white handkerchief or cotton cloth may also be used.

When pressing napped fabrics, place a piece of the same fabric or a thick terry cloth towel on the ironing board to prevent crushing.

If napped wool fabric is slightly scorched when pressing, rub lightly with an emery board. A diluted solution of hydrogen peroxide may be used for a more severe scorch. Be sure to test on a hidden area first.

Shine created by pressing may be reduced by sponging white vinegar on surface of wool garment. Rinse thoroughly.

Some ideas for someone with a lot of wool to press are to use a steam iron, a tailor's ham for pressing curved areas such as collars and lapels, a seam roll for pressing seams open without making a visible seam edge, a point presser for hard-to-reach places, and a press cloth.

Wool Fabric, Clothing, and Blanket Storage

To prevent the invasion of the clothes moth, brush wool with a fabric brush before storing.

Clean the garment or blanket. Food stains and body oils attract moths. Dry cleaning or laundering kills moth eggs and larvae.

Store cleaned wool fabric in airtight bags or containers with tight-fitting lids. When folding, add white tissue paper between folds to prevent wrinkling.

Add mothballs to the container. Do NOT put them directly on the fabric. Hang them in small loosely woven cloth bags near the fabric. Clothing will need to be aired out after removing from storage to remove the mothball odor.

Stain Removal Guide!

Removing protein type stains : Scrape surface of excess material. Rinse in cold water and soak for 30 minutes in cool water with one-half teaspoon liquid hand washing detergent and one tablespoon ammonia. Rub gently and rinse. For stubborn stain soak in an enzyme product for at least 30 minutes or longer. Launder. If stain remains launder with bleach, chlorine or oxygen, depending on fabric.

Removing beverage, fruit, personal care products and perfume, mud, syrups : Soak for at least 15 minutes in lukewarm water, one-half teaspoon dishwashing detergent and one tablespoon white vinegar. Rinse. For stubborn stains continue by sponging with alcohol, starting from the edge to center. If needed soak for another 30 minutes in one quart warm water and one tablespoon enzyme presoak. If color remains, launder in bleach safe for fabric.

Removing greasy stains including adhesive tape and gum : Scrape area and if needed use ice to solidify excess material. Saturate area with pretreatment laundry stain remover. Aerosol works better on greasy stains. Wait for product to penetrate and rub with heavy liquid detergent if needed. Launder immediately. For stubborn stains launder in chlorine bleach if safe or oxygen bleach. Continue for heavy stains by applying dry cleaning solvent to back of stain over paper towels. Let dry, rinse and launder.

Removing problem stains like dyes, ink and foods : Follow each step until stain comes out. Pretreat stain with liquid pretreating product or heavy liquid detergent. Soak in solution of all-fabric bleach. If chlorine bleach is not safe for fabric, use a color remover according to package directions yet be cautioned that all color may be removed. Do not use water hotter than 160 degrees on synthetics.

Removing ballpoint ink stains : Sponge stain with rubbing alcohol, or spray with pretreatment product or hair spray until wet looking. Rinse thoroughly. Then pretreat stain and launder in hottest water safe for fabric.

Removing fabric softener stains : Leaves splotches which can be removed by rubbing stained area with bar soap and launder as usual. To prevent stains, dilute softener or tear dryer sheets in half.

Removing grass, foliage, flowers, mildew and scorch stains : Apply liquid detergent and rub into fibers (for grass and foliage use Naptha soap and/or sponge with alcohol). Launder in hot water using chlorine bleach (1/4 cup to 1 gallon water) or Oxygen bleach depending on fabric tolerance. If stain remains, depending on fabric, bleach with hydrogen peroxide. If fibers are destroyed with scorch or mildew they cannot be restored.



Grandma Purl and her cat Knit
comment: Knitting is known for its
therapeutic use

Removing perspiration stains : Pretreat with enzyme product. If fabric has discolored, treat fresh stains with ammonia, old stains with white vinegar.

Removing rust stains : Never use chlorine bleach on rust stain or in water with large amounts of iron. Use a nonprecipitating water softener in wash and rinse water. Small stains may be removed by using commercial rust remover or repeated applications of lemon juice and salt. Do not let it dry between applications. Rinse thoroughly and launder with laundry detergent and oxygen bleach. If fabric can tolerate boiling, boil with four teaspoons of cream of tartar per pint of water. Rinse. Never use rust remover containing hydrofluoric acid near or in the washer as it will damage porcelain enamel.

Removing yellowing, dinginess, and hard water stains: Pretreat any discolored areas. Fill washer with hottest water fabric can tolerate. Add four times the normal amount of laundry detergent and one cup of nonprecipitating water conditioner. Agitate to wet clothes and soak overnight. Drain and spin. Launder, using regular cycle, no detergent and one cup of nonprecipitating water conditioner. Repeat until no suds appear in rinse. To remove dinginess launder with water conditioner and bleach that is safe for fabric. May use color remover on white items except for silk, wool or spandex.

Removing unknown stains : Continue each step until the stain is removed. Soak in cold water for 30 minutes. Work liquid laundry detergent into the area and allow to stand 30 minutes. Rinse. Don't use bleach if you suspect rust, otherwise bleach according to type of fabric. Launder using regular cycle with hot or warm water. Soak stain overnight in enzyme presoak and launder. Sponge stain with dry cleaning fluid. Let stand 20 minutes. Rub with detergent, rinse, and launder. If fabric can be bleached, mix equal parts chlorine bleach and water and apply with eye dropper. On wool, silk or spandex sprinkle with oxygen bleach, dip quickly in hot water, do not agitate and launder.



Reminder of Abbreviations

Alt=alternate	Opp=opposite
Approx=approximately	Oz=ounce
Beg=beginning	P=purl
Bet=between	P2tog=purl two together
BO=bind off(cast off)	Patt=pattern
CC=contrasting colour	PM=place marker
Circ=circular needle	Psso=pass slipped stitch over
CO=cast on	Rem=remaining
Cont=continue	Rep=repeating
Dec=decreasing	Rev St st=reverse stockinette stitch
Div=divide	RH=right hand
DPN=double pointed needles	RS=right side
Est=established	Rnd=round
Foll=following	Sc=single crochet
G=grams	Skp=slip, knit, psso
Inc=increasing	Ssk=slip, slip, knit
Incl=include	St=stitches
Inst=instructions	Sl st=slip stitch
K=knit	Tbl=through back of loops
Kfb=knit into front and back of stitch	Tog=together
K2tog=knit two together	WYIB=with yarn in back
LH=left hand	WYIF=with yarn in front
M=meter	Ws=wrong side
MC=main colour	Yd=yard
M1=make one stitch	YO=yarn over
Mm=millimetre(s)	** repeat directions between ** as
Mult=multiple	indicated

Working with Wool Pattern Book

Beginner's Patterns

Shimmer – One Ball Boa (beginner)

Found at: www.estelledesigns.ca



Materials:

Estelle Shimmer, 1 ball
10 mm knitting needles

Gauge:

not critical for this project.

Pattern:

Loosely cast on 10 sts.
Row 1: Knit

Repeat row 1 until desired length is achieved.
Loosely cast off. Weave in ends.

The Club Bag (beginner)

Designed by Barbara Breiter



Gauge:

18 sts=4" over garter stitch

Materials:

size 9 (US) straight needles

size 9 (US) double point needles for handle

Large eye blunt tapestry needle

Sticky Velcro

Yarn:

1 ball **Deco-Ribbon** from Crystal Palace Yarns

70% acrylic, 30% nylon

50 g/80 yards

Color #122 (teal with kiwi stripes)

1 ball **Fizz** from Crystal Palace Yarns

100% polyester

50 g/120 yards

Color #7321 (black)

Size:

Approximately 4.5" x 6"

Pattern:

Entire bag is knit in garter stitch (knit every row). Knit 4 rows of Deco-Ribbon followed by 2 rows of Fizz throughout pattern.

First Rectangle (4.5" x 6")

With Deco-Ribbon, CO 3 sts.

Row 1: Knit

Row 2: K1, k into front and back of

the next st, k1 (4 sts)

Row 3: K1, k into front and back of the next st, k to the end of the row Repeat Row 3 until you have 30 sts. Knit one row without increasing.

Row 5 (WS): K1, k2tog, k to the end of the row.

Row 6 (RS): Rep row 3 above.

Rep Rows 5 and 6 twice more, then rep Row 5. You should have 29 sts.

Rep Row 5 until you have 1 st left.

BO.

Second Rectangle (6" x 8")

With Deco-Ribbon, CO 3 sts.

Row 1: Knit

Row 2: K1, k into front and back of the next st, k1 (4 sts)

Row 3: K1, k into front and back of the next st, k to the end of the row Repeat Row 3 until you have 35 sts. Knit one row without increasing.

Row 5 (RS): K1, k2tog, k to the end of the row.

Row 6 (WS): Rep row 3 above.

Rep Rows 5 and 6 twice more. You should have 35 sts.

Rep Row 5 until you have 1 st left.

BO.

Handle

With one strand of Deco-Ribbon and one strand of Fizz held together, CO 1 st. Work **I-Cord** for 14". BO.

Finishing

Line up the 6" sides of the rectangles and sew together with whip stitch, using two strands of Fizz and omitting flap. Sew on handles. Place sticky Velcro on inside of flap to hold down.

Mohair Classic Throw (beginner)

found at: www.berroco.com

Materials:

Berroco Mohair Classic (43 grs), 14 balls #A6404.

29" length circular knitting needle,
size 9 or size to obtain

Gauge:

Crochet hook, size 4.50 mm (G).

Gauge:

4 sts = 1" in Rib Pat.

TO SAVE TIME, TAKE TIME TO
CHECK GAUGE.

Rib Pattern:

Row 1 (RS): K 1, * p 1, k 1, rep from
* across.

Row 2: Purl.

Rep these 2 rows for Rib Pat.

Throw:

With size 9 needles, cast on 169 sts.
K 6 rows. Keeping 4 sts at each side
in Garter St, work even in Rib Pat
until piece measures 55" from beg,
end on WS. K 6 rows. Bind off all sts.

Fringe:

Cut 2 18" long strands of yarn. Put
strands tog and fold in half. With
crochet hook, draw center of strands
through first st of cast-on edge of
throw, forming a lp. Pull ends of
fringe through this lp. In this manner,
make fringe in each st across entire
cast-on and bound-off edges of
throw. Trim fringe to even off, if
necessary. Steam throw lightly (See
instructions on page 1).



Wristband (beginner)

from www.canadianliving.com



Materials:

- 4 3.75mm double-pointed needles
- a small amount of sport weight yarn in 2 colours

Sizes:

Small (Medium, Large)

The entire project isn't much bigger than a gauge swatch, so if it doesn't work out, just make another.

Directions:

With colour A, cast on 32 (34, 36) stitches evenly distributed over 3 needles. Join in the round and work 3 rows of k2p2 (k1p1, k2p2) ribbing. Knit 2 more rows in colour A.

Tie on colour B and knit 3 rows, leaving the end of colour A hanging. Pick up colour A again and knit 3 rows.

Pick up colour B and knit 3 rows, then break the end and tie off.

Pick up colour A, knit 3 rows, then work 2 rows of ribbing as before.

Bind off loosely* in the rib pattern. Work the ends in, and you're done.

* If you don't bind off loosely, you'll have trouble getting it over your hand.

Variations:

- Use fingering weight yarn with 2 strands held together. Try using 2 slightly different colours held together, like olive green and lime green for a camouflage effect.
- You can also use worsted weight

yarn, but switch to 4mm needles and make a size smaller.

- If you're not comfortable knitting in the round on double-pointed needles, knit it flat on straight needles and sew up the side with a tapestry needle when you're done.

Intermediate Patterns

Tunis Pillow (intermediate)



Size

To fit a 14" / 35cm square cushion pad

Materials

100% mercerized cotton, sport weight , 125 yds / 115m per 50g skein; 1 skein each blue (A), green (B), yellow (C), orange (D), pink (E)

US 2 or 3 / 3mm needles

US 2 / 2.75mm needles

Jaeger double-knitting beads, large blue; 2 packs (500 beads per pack)

5 buttons (green ceramic buttons shown are available from www.dahandknits.demon.co.uk)

Gauge

25 sts and 38 rows = 4in / 10cm measured over beaded pattern using US 2-3 (3mm) needles

Abbreviations

PB--place bead: bring yarn forward between the needles, slide a bead up the yarn so that it is sitting close to the needle, slip one stitch purlwise, take yarn back between the needles.

Front Panel

Thread beads onto yarn as follows:

180 beads onto yarn A

150 beads onto yarn B

180 beads onto yarn C

150 beads onto yarn D

90 beads onto yarn E

Cast on 83 sts with larger needles and yarn A.

Row 1 (RS): Knit.

Row 2 and all even rows (WS): Purl.

Row 3: Knit.

Row 5: K3, ([pb, k1] 3 times, pb, k7)

5 times, (pb, k1) 3 times, pb, k3.

Row 7: K3, (pb, k5, pb, k7) 5 times, pb, k5, pb, k3.

Row 9: K3, (pb, k2, pb, k2, pb, k7) 5 times, pb, k2, pb, k2, pb, k3.

Row 11: As row 7.

Row 13: As row 5.

Row 14 (WS): Change to yarn B. Purl.

Row 15: Knit.

Row 17: K10, ([pb, k1] 3 times, pb, k7) 5 times, k3.

Row 19: K10, (pb, k5, pb, k7) 5 times, k3.

Row 21: As row 19.

Row 25: As row 17.

Rep rows 2-13 using yarn C.

Rep rows 14-25 using yarn D.

Rep rows 2-13 using yarn E.

Rep rows 14-25 using yarn D.

Rep rows 2-13 using yarn C.

Rep rows 14-25 using yarn B.

Rep rows 2-13 using yarn A.

Next row (WS): Purl.

Cast off all sts knitwise.

Upper Back Panel (with buttonholes)

With RS facing and using smaller needles and yarn E, pick up and knit 83 sts along the cast off edge of the front panel.

*Change to larger needles. Working in plain stockinette stitch and beginning with a RS row, work in stripe pattern as follows:

Yarn E, 3 rows
Yarn D, 3 rows
Yarn C, 3 rows.
Yarn B, 3 rows.
Yarn A, 3 rows.
Yarn B, 3 rows.
Yarn C, 3 rows.
Yarn D, 3 rows.

Repeat these 24 rows once more.*

Change to smaller needles and yarn E. Knit 6 rows in garter stitch. Next row (RS): K4 (cast off next 3 sts, k14) 4 times, cast off next 3 sts, k4.

Next row (WS): K4, (turn work so that RS is facing, cast on 3 sts, turn work again so that WS is facing, k15) 4 times, turn work so that RS is facing, cast on 3 sts, turn work again so that WS is facing, k4.

Knit a further 4 rows in garter stitch. With RS facing, cast off all sts knitwise.

Lower Back Panel

With RS facing and using US 2 (2.75mm/no.12) needles and yarn E, pick up and knit 83 sts along the cast on edge of the front panel.

Repeat instructions as for upper back panel from * to *.

Working in plain stockinette (stocking) stitch, and beg with a RS row, continue to work in stripe pattern as follows:

Yarn E, 3 rows
Yarn D, 3 rows
Yarn C, 3 rows.
Yarn B, 3 rows.
Yarn A, 3 rows.
Yarn B, 3 rows.
Yarn C, 3 rows.

With WS facing, cast off all sts purlwise.

Finishing

Darn in ends on the WS of the work. With WS facing and using a damp pressing cloth and a moderate iron lightly press the cushion cover. Mark the centre point along each side (selvedge) edge of the front panel with a coloured thread or pin. Sew side seams of upper back panel to front panel, ensuring that buttonholes are in line with the marked centre point. Sew side seams of lower back panel to front panel, inserting the last 21 rows of the stripe pattern under the finished edge of the upper back panel, and sew down into place. Turn cover inside out and press seams. Sew buttons onto lower back panel to correspond with buttonholes.

Socks (intermediate)

Found at www.canadianliving.com



Finished Foot Length:

Small 23 cm (9 ins)

Medium 24 cm (9-1/2 ins)

Large 26.5 cm (10-1/2 ins)

Extra Large 28 cm (11 ins)

All measurements are approximate.

Materials:

- 1(1,2,2) balls (100 g) Patons Classic Wool
- Set of four 4 mm double-pointed needles OR whichever needles you require to produce the tension given below
- Stitch holder
- Scrap of contrasting colour yarn
- Tapestry needle

Gauge:

20 sts and 28 rows = 10 cm/4 ins in stocking stitch using 4 mm needles. Work to exact tension with specified yarn to obtain satisfactory results.

TO SAVE TIME, TAKE TIME TO CHECK TENSION.

Pattern

To Work Cuff:

*Loosely cast on 40(40,44,44)sts. Divide so 12(12,14,14)sts are on each of first 2 needles and 16 sts are on third needle. Being careful not to

twist sts, join in rnd, pulling yarn firmly to prevent a gap.

Rnd 1 (right side): [K1,p1] to end of rnd. Mark end of rnd by threading short length of contrasting colour yarn through work between first and last st.

Rnds 2 to 6: Continue in [k1,p1] ribbing.

Next: Knit in rnds until work from end of ribbing measures 15(15,18,18) cm/6(6,7,7) ins, ending at marker. Break yarn.

To Begin Heel:

Slip last 10(10,11,11)sts from 3rd needle, then first 10(10,11,11)sts from first needle onto single needle (for heel), thus having marker at centre. Slip rem 20(20,22,22)sts onto st holder (for instep). 20(20,22,22)sts now on needle.

With wrong side of heel sts facing, join yarn and work back and forth as follows:

Row 1 (wrong side): Sl1, purl to end of row.

Row 2: [Sl1,k1] to end of row.

Rep last 2 rows until heel measures 5(5,5.5,6) cm/2(2,2-1/4,2-1/2) ins, ending with wrong side facing for next row.

To Shape Heel:

Row 1: P13 (13,14,14), p2tog, p1. Turn.

Row 2: Sl1, k7, sl1, k1, pssso, k1. Turn.

Row 3: Sl1, p8, p2tog, p1. Turn.

Row 4: Sl1, k9, sl1, k1, pssso, k1. Turn.

Row 5: Sl1, p10, p2 tog, p1. Turn.

Row 6 (right side): Sl1, k11, Sl1,

k1, pssso, k1. 14(14,16,16)sts now on needle(s).

Large and extra-large size only:

Turn.

Row 7: Sl1, p12, p2tog. Turn.

Row 8 (right side): Sl1,k12, sl1, k1, pssso. 14 sts now on needle.

All sizes: With right side of work facing, pick up and knit 10(10,11,12)sts up left side of heel. With 2nd needle, knit across 20(20,22,22)sts on st holder (instep). With 3rd needle, pick up and knit 10(10,11,12)sts down right side of heel. Knit first 7 sts of heel onto end of 3rd needle. Slip rem 7 sts of heel onto beg of first needle.

54(54,58,60)sts now on needles. 17(17,18,19)sts are on first needle, 20(20,22,22)sts are on 2nd needle and 17(17,18,19)sts are on 3rd needle.

Continue, working rnds as follows:

Rnd 1: First needle: Knit to last 3 sts, k2tog, k1. **2nd needle:** Knit to end of needle. **3rd needle:** K1, sl1, k1, pssso, knit to end of needle.

Rnd 2: Knit.

Rep last 2 rnds 6(6,6,7) times more. 10(10,11,11)sts now on first needle, 20(20,22,22)sts now on 2nd needle and 10(10,11,11)sts now on 3rd needle, for a total of 40(40,44,44)sts.

Knit even in rnds until foot from picked-up sts at heel measures 16(17,18,19) cm/6-1/4(6-3/4,7,7-1/2) ins, ending with completion of 3rd needle.

To Shape Toe:

Rnd 1: First needle: Knit to last 3 sts, k2tog, k1. **2nd needle:** K1, sl1,

k1, pssso, knit to last 3 sts, k2tog, k1. **3rd needle:** K1, sl1, k1, pssso, knit to end of needle. Knit.

Rnd 2: Rep last 2 rnds 4(4,5,5) times more. 5 sts now on first needle, 10 sts now on 2nd needle, 5 sts now on 3rd needle. Knit sts from first needle onto 3rd needle. Break yarn approx 30 cm/11-3/4 ins from last st.

With tapestry needle and yarn end, graft rem 2 sets of 10 sts tog, to close toe. Remove marker.*

Rep from * to * for second sock.

Java Cup Holder (intermediate)



Size:

One size

Materials:

Needles

1 set 3 mm / US 2 double pointed needles

Tapestry needle

Crochet hook in corresponding size (optional)

Yarn

Pink on pink version

[MC] Dale of Norway Daletta (100% wool); color: Magenta # 4536, 1 ball

[A] Friends Mustachio [100 percent acrylic]; color: Pink, 1 ball

Gauge:

24 sts/30 rows = 10 cm Stockinette Stitch

Pattern:

Double Increase (Inc 2 sts in one st):
K into st below, k st, then k into st below. Do not remove sts from left needle until all 3 sts are formed.

Moss / Seed Stitch

Row 1: k1, p1 to end

Row 2: p1, k1 to end

Stockinette Stitch

Knit all rounds

Crochet Bind Off

This method provides a more elastic edge.

Pink on Pink Version:

With MC, CO 50 sts. Divide sts among needles. Pl marker at beg of rnd and join. Be careful not to twist work.

Work 25 sts and pm. Finish rnd.

Work 5 more rnds.

On next rnd (7th rnd from beg), sl marker and work double inc. Cont working rnd until next marker. Sl marker, work double inc and finish rnd.

Work 6 more rnds. On next rnd (14th rnd from beg), sl marker, k1 and work double inc. Cont working until next marker. Sl marker, k1, work double inc, finish rnd.

Work 7 more rnds. [21 rnds total]

BO using single crochet bind-off.

Work Edging: With A and crochet hook, work single crochet for one rnd at both bot and top of sleeve. Adding the eyelash yarn will help prevent rolling; however, if the sleeve continues to roll, lightly steam block.

Note: Eyelash yarns pop out more on the underside, so work crochet from inside (p side).

Felted Cell Phone Bag (intermediate)

Found at: www.about.com



Size:

Prefelted: 3.5" wide x 7" high x 2" deep

Felted: Approximately 3" wide x 6" high x 1.5" deep

Gauge:

Over stockinette, with Labrador and Fizz held together 9.25 sts and 12.75 rows=4"

Materials:

Size 15 (US) (10 mm) straight needles or size needed to obtain gauge

Size 10 (US) (6 mm) double pointed needles

Tapestry needle

Large Button

Yarn:

1 skein **Labrador** by Crystal Palace Yarns (bulky type wool)

100% Australian soft wool

82 meters/90 yards

100 grams/3.5 ounces

Color #3433A-Bark

1 skein **Fizz** by Crystal Palace Yarns

100% polyester eyelash yarn

110 meters/120 yards

50 grams/1.75 ounces

Color #7115-Desert

Pattern:

Note: Entire pattern is worked with one strand of both yarns held together.

CO 9 sts.

Work in st st for 16".

Begin dec for flap closure.

Row 1 (RS): k1, SSK, k3, k2tog, k1

Row 2: P

Row 3: K

Row 4: P

Row 5: k1, SSK, k1, k2tog, k1

Buttonhole:

Row 6: p3, BO next st, p1

Row 7: k2, yo, k2

Row 8: P

Row 9: K

Row 10: P

Row 11: SSK, k1, k2tog

Row 12: P

BO.

Side Panels:

Measure middle 2" between the the cast on edge and the point you began dec and mark. Pick up 4 sts. Work in st st for 7". BO.

Repeat for other side.

Finishing:

Sew side panels to body, half st in.

Handle:

On double pointed needles with Fizz only, CO 4 sts. Work **I-Cord** for 36" or desired length.

Sew on handle to inside middle of side panels near the top.

Weave in ends on WS.

Felt:

To felt, throw it in the washing machine with a pair of jeans or old canvas tennis shoes. Do not use towels as the lint can embed in the project. If you have a zippered lingere bag, place it in the bag. Use hot water and a small amount of detergent. Check after 3 minutes and continue the wash cycle if needed, checking every 2 minutes. If buttonhole begins to felt together, pull apart. You can also cut a buttonhole after it's felted (it won't unravel at that point). When felted, rinse in cool water, shape, and dry flat. Sew on button.

Credits Page

This book has been updated from the original “working with wool” project

- About Information www.about.com
- Berroco Wools www.berroco.com
- Canadian Living www.canadianliving.com
- Coats Knitting
<http://www.coatscrafts.co.uk/Crafts/Knitting/Howtos/knitting+abbreviations.htm>
- Denver Fabrics <http://www.denverfabrics.com/pages/static/wool/wool-fabric-care.htm>
- Estelle Designs www.estelledesigns.com
- Online Encyclopedia <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Knitting>
- The Woolmark Label
http://www.wool.com/living_know.php?PHPSESSID=33cb02652bffa0bbdec74b6e9d099855
- Wool Product Labelling Act <http://www.ftc.gov/os/statutes/textile/woolact.htm>