

fave crafts   

How to Knit

Beginner Knitting Help and 7 Free Patterns



How to Knit: Beginner Help and 7 Free Patterns

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Letter from the Editors

Hello, Readers!

We've got a lot of great, free knitting patterns on FaveCrafts.com, which you probably already knew. But we realized that a lot of people just don't know how to knit...at least, not yet! We created this eBook as a way for crafters to teach themselves to knit quickly and easily. We put together a guide for everything you'll need to know as you learn to knit, including a comprehensive abbreviations guide, information on yarn weights, and of course some easy beginner patterns to try once you've mastered the basics. We want this eBook to serve as a reference material as you continue your knitting career.

You can find more craft projects, great activities for kids and decorating ideas at www.FaveCrafts.com.

Our eBooks, like all of our craft projects, are absolutely FREE. Please feel free to share with family and friends and ask them to sign up at our website for free newsletters from FaveCrafts.com.

We hope you enjoy reading and creating!

Sincerely,

The Editors of FaveCrafts

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How to Knit: Beginner Help and 7 Free Patterns eBook

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Getting Started

Types of Yarn for Knitting

Different fibers of yarn will result in completely different results in your piece or garment. You want to be familiar with the different kinds of yarn fiber and how they will work in a knitting or crochet project.

Synthetic Fibers

Nylon, rayon, acrylic, viscose, and polyester are all synthetic fibers that appear in yarn. 100 % acrylic yarn is a common choice as it is the most inexpensive yarn. This makes acrylic yarn a good choice for those just learning how to knit or crochet.

Blends

Many yarns blend different natural fibers, synthetic fibers or natural fibers with synthetic fibers, such as for a softer feel. If you want to felt your knitted or crochet project, you must ensure the yarn is at least 80% wool, but the other 20% can be synthetic.

Natural Fibers

Cotton- Made from cotton plants, many types of cotton yarn are treated with chemicals to make them more durable, mildew resistant, and able to accept dyes better. Some environmental concerns have been raised with traditional cotton production though.

Wool- Many different kinds of wool exist and are spun into yarns with different weights and textures. Wool accepts color very well and is very warm. Merino wool yarn is a popular choice in making garments.

Cashmere- Cashmere, from the soft undercoats of cashmere goats, is a more expensive yarn which is especially smooth while still retaining warmth.

Alpaca/Llama- South American llamas or alpacas produce very soft, warm yarn. Llama wool yarn is less soft and bulkier. Alpaca and llama wool is non-allergenic, since it does not have the lanolin found in lamb's wool. This yarn does not accept color as well as wool though.

Mohair- Mohair is a thick yarn from the Angora goat with an especially fuzzy look.

Angora- Angora is an especially soft rabbit fur yarn which has a fuzzy appearance.

Linen- Linen yarn is made from the flax plant and is a lightweight yarn perfect for summer garments.

Silk- Silk comes from silkworm larvae and is very smooth and light. Since silk does not have much stretch, silk is generally combined with other fibers for yarn, often cashmere for a truly-luxurious yarn.

Eco-Friendly Yarns

Bamboo- Bamboo yarn has the feel of silk and is very strong. Bamboo is a renewable resource because it can be harvested without killing the plant, which then regenerates the removed bamboo in a couple of months.

Hemp- Hemp is another renewable resource which can be grown without pesticides or herbicides and is the strongest natural fiber. Hemp yarn garments are softer with each machine washing and can be treated for softness as yarn.

Abbreviations Guide to Knitting

All of us can use some help with all the abbreviations we need when using a knitting pattern. I've gathered as many of the abbreviations I could find, but let us know if we left one out!

“..... Inch or inches

*.....Repeat instructions following the single asterisk as directed

**.....Repeat instructions between asterisks as directed

{ }.....Alternate measurements or instructions

().....Repeat directions as noted or indicated

alt.....Alternate

approx.....Approximately

beg.....Begin or beginning

bet.....Between

Bk lp.....Back loop

Blo.....Back loop only

Bp.....Back post

BO.....Bind off

C.....Cable

CA.....Color A

CB.....Color B

CC.....Contrasting color

cdd.....Centered double decrease

ch.....Chain

cl.....Cluster

cm.....Centimeter or centimeters

cn.....cable needle

CO.....Cast on

Cont.....Continue

COR.....Carriage on the right

CR.....Cross Stitches to the right

cross 2 L.....Cross 2 stitches to the left

cross 2 R.....Cross 2 stitches to the right

dc.....Double crochet

dec.....Decrease

decs.....Decreases

DK.....Double knitting weight yarn

Dp.....Double pointed needles

dpn.....Double pointed needles

ea.....Each

EON.....End of needle

EON.....Every other needle

EOR.....End of row

FC.....Front cross

Fl.....Front Loops

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fol.....	Front loop only	kfb.....	Knit 1 stitch in the front, then in the back of the same stitch
follow.....	Follow, follows, following	k2tog.....	Knit 2 stitches together
fwp.....	Forward working position	k2tog tbl.....	Knit 2 stitches together through the back loops
g.....	Gram	kl.....	Knit left loop
gr.....	Gram	kp.....	Keyplate
g st.....	Garter stitch	krl.....	Knit right loop
grp.....	Group	LC.....	Left cross
grps.....	Groups	LH.....	Left hand
hdc.....	Half double crochet	Lp.....	Loop
hk.....	Hook	lps.....	Loops
hp.....	Holding position	LT.....	Left twist
in.....	Inch	M.....	Marker
ins.....	Inches	Ms.....	Markers
inc.....	Increase	m.....	Meter
incs.....	Increases	M1.....	Make 1
incl.....	Including	M1A.....	Make 1 away
k.....	Knit stitch	M1F.....	Make 1 front left
k tbl.....	Knit stitch through the back loop	M1L.....	Make 1 front left
K1 tbl.....	Knit stitch through the back loop	M1B.....	Make 1 back right
K1b.....	Knit stitch through the back loop	M1R.....	Make 1 back right
k-b.....	Knit stitch in the row below	M1T.....	Make 1 towards
k-wise.....	knitwise	MB.....	Make bobble
k1 f&b.....	Knit 1 stitch in the front, then in the back of the same stitch		

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mc.....	Main Color	prev.....	Previous
mm.....	millimeters	psso.....	Pass the slipped stitch over
no.....	Number	pu.....	Pick up stitches
NWP.....	Non-working position	RC.....	Right Cross
Oz.....	Ounce or ounces	rem.....	Remaining
p.....	Purl stitch	rep.....	Repeat
p tble.....	Purl stitch through the back loop	reps.....	Repeats
P1b.....	Purl stitch through the back loop	Rev ST st.....	Reverse stockinette or stocking stitch
P1 tble.....	Purl stitch through the back loop	RH.....	Right hand
p-b.....	Purl stitch in the row below	Rib.....	Ribbing
p-wise.....	Purl wise	rnd.....	Round
pfb.....	Purl the front of the stitch, then purl the back of the same stitch	rnds.....	Rounds
p1 f&b.....	Purl the front of the stitch, then purl the back of the same stitch	RS.....	Right side
p2tog.....	Purl 2 together	RT.....	Right twist
p2tog tble.....	Purl 2 together through the back loops	Sc.....	Single crochet
pat.....	Pattern	sk.....	Skip
patt.....	Pattern	sk2p.....	Slip 1 Knit 2 tog or pass slipped stitch over
pats.....	Patterns	SKP.....	Slip, knit, pass
patts.....	Patterns	Skpo.....	Slip, knit, pass
pm.....	Place marker	s.....	Slip a stitch
pnso.....	Pass next stitch over	sl.....	Slip a stitch
pop.....	Popcorn stitch	sl st.....	Slip stitch or Slip stitches

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sl1, k1, pss0.....Slip 1, knit 1, pass the slipped stitch over

sl1k.....Slip a stitch knit-wise

sl 1 k-wise.....Slip a stitch knit-wise

sl1p.....Slip a stitch purl-wise

1sl 1 p-wise.....Slip a stitch purl-wise

sp.....Space

sps.....Spaces

ssk.....Slip, slip, knit slipped stitches tog

ssp.....Slip, slip, purl

sssk.....Slip, slip, slip, knit 3 slipped stitches together

st.....Stitch

sts.....Stitches

St st.....Stockinette or stocking stitch

tbl.....Through the back loop

tog.....Together

won.....Wool over needle

wp.....Working position

wrn.....Wool round needle

WS.....Wrong side

wy.....Waste yarn

wyib.....With yarn in back

wyif.....With yarn in front

yb.....Yarn to the back

ybk.....Yarn to the back

yd.....Yard

yds.....Yards

yfon.....Yarn forward and over needle

yfrn.....Yarn forward and round needle

yf.....Yarn forward

yfwd.....Yarn forward

yo.....Yarn over needle

yo2.....Yarn over twice

yon.....Yarn over needle

yrn.....Yarn over needle

Easy Guide to Yarn Weight

Yarn is divided by weight, or how many stitches in a gauge of 4 inches. The thinner the yarn, the more stitches in the gauge. The thicker the yarn, the less stitches in the gauge.

(6) **Super Bulky/Super Chunky** (4-11 stitches for 4 inches)- These yarns yield the fastest projects with the fewest number of stitches.

(5) **Bulky/Chunky** (12-15 stitches for 4 inches)- These yarns are used for scarves, afghans, and other projects.

(4) **Medium Weight/Worsted Weight and Aran** (16-20 stitches to 4 inches)- These are the most popular weight yarns for a variety of projects.

(3) **Light/DK** (21-24 stitches to 4 inches)- These yarns are often used for lighter, summer-weight garments and many baby items.

(2) **Fine** (23-26 stitches to 4 inches)- These yarns are used for more intricate patterns and for projects such as socks.

(1) **Super Fine** (27-32 stitches to 4 inches)- These light yarns are used for baby items.

(0) **Lace** (33-40 stitches to 4 inches)- 10-count crochet thread used for lace projects.

How to Wind a Center Pull Ball of Yarn

You cannot knit or crochet from an unwound pile of yarn. To easily make a center-pull ball of yarn without a ball winder or any special equipment, follow these instructions. Your hand is all you need.

1. If you have a mess of tangled yarn or want to re-wind a skein into a center-pull ball, first unwind the skein in a big loop or place the yarn over the back of a chair or a friend's spaced-out hands.
2. Hold the yarn between your thumb and forefinger with the tail of the yarn draped over the top of your hand.
3. Wind the yarn clockwise over your thumb and forefinger around 10 times.
4. Remove your forefinger from the inside so that the yarn is sitting loosely on your thumb. Stick your thumb up in an "OK" sign.
5. Begin winding around the thumb. After winding a few more times around the center of the thumb, begin changing the angle and direction in how you wind the yarn.
6. Carefully slide the ball of yarn to the end of your thumb.
7. Wind four or five times in one spot, move the ball slightly, and wind in another spot. Continue to move all over the ball as you wind, including the bottom of the ball near the base of your thumb. Don't wind around the center-pull tail.
8. Once all the yarn is wound around your thumb, tuck the trailing end into the outside. Slide the ball off your thumb.

You're all done!

Guest Tutorial: Casting On

By: Judy Graham of Knitting Tips by Judy

Judy Graham, Hollywood knitter to the stars, shares a tutorial for how to cast on for knitting. Her technique uses two needles to cast on with ease. With over fifty years of hand-knitting experience, you can trust her!

Casting on is the first step in knitting. Casting on means putting stitches on to the needle. There are many different ways to Cast on, but this is how I learned and to me it seems the easiest. Here is how to do my 2 NEEDLE CAST ON:

1. Make a loop over the needle and tie it. This will be your first stitch.
2. Hold the needle in your LEFT hand pointing to the RIGHT.
3. Place your left thumb on top of the needle and your left index finger below the needle. (Your thumb should be closer to you and the index finger away from you.) Hold the dangling yarn taut over your right index and below your right ring finger.
4. With your right hand guide the right needle up through the loop on the left needle.
5. With your right hand put the yarn over the right needle, pull that needle downward while pulling the yarn with it under, pull it forward, twist it up onto left needle. You should now have 2 stitches on left needle.
6. Continue to cast on till you have 20 stitches (or more) to practice on.

How to Finger Knit

Finger knitting is done without needles and is a great way to introduce children to knitting. With their new skill, kids can make scarves, headbands, and toys. The basic concept of knitting is grasped before kids even pick up a knitting needle!

Materials:

- Ball or Skein of Yarn (Any yarn will do, but I recommend chunky, colorful yarn for children.)
- Both Hands
- Plastic Large-Eye Sewing Needle- To finish up headbands, scarves and other projects, this not-sharp needle is perfect for kids.

Instructions:

1. If you are right-handed, use your left hand to hold the yarn. Lay the yarn across your upturned palm with the tail of the yarn (the end) held between your thumb and forefinger.
2. With the yarn end attached to the ball or skein, weave the yarn through your fingers. Wrap the yarn under your pinky finger, over your ring finger, under your middle finger and over the forefinger.
3. Weave in the opposite direction. Wrap the yarn under your forefinger, over your middle finger, under your ring finger, and over your pinky.
4. Wrap the yarn under all the fingers towards your thumb and over the top back towards the pinky. This should be the top yarn.
5. Starting with the pinky finger, take the bottom woven yarn and pull it over the top (wrapped) yarn.
6. Repeat with remaining three fingers.
7. Repeat steps 4 through 6 until you have the desired length.
8. Pull on the tail of the yarn to tighten the knitting periodically.
9. To finish, cut the yarn, leaving several inches of extra yarn. Take the loops of your fingers. Pull the remaining yarn through the loops and make a knot.

Organizational Tips for Knitters

By: Kelsey Innis, San Francisco, CA

When knitting or crocheting, if you need to put down your work and you don't have a point protector handy, try using one of those erasers that fits over the end of your pencil. It's soft, so even if your needle doesn't fit snugly into the opening, you can jam it in. This is also useful when you are crocheting, especially with slippery yarn.

To use up yarn scraps, start a yarn ball! Just tie the scraps together. As long as it doesn't get too big, you can stash it in your bag. Just make sure you don't start using it for a project!

When knitting or crocheting, to help keep yarn tension even, wear a smooth gold ring on your ring finger and thread the yarn through it. This is especially helpful to those with arthritis or carpal tunnel syndrome.

To remove wrinkles from yarn that has been ripped out, wind the yarn around a large box, like a suit box. Tie it in four places with contrasting color yarn and remove the hank from the box. In the microwave, boil a bowl of water, turn off the microwave, and put the hank beside the bowl. Leave it in the microwave for about 20 minutes. Then lie the hank flat on a towel and let it dry completely. Wind it loosely into a ball.

When knitting or crocheting, try putting your ball of yarn into a Ziplock bag, almost completely closed except for where the yarn comes out. This prevents tangles and knots.

The Beginner's Guide to Knitting

Basic Materials

Needles- Straight needles are the most common, while double-pointed knitting needles are used for circular knitting (creating a seamless tube rather than a flat sheet). Metal is the preferred material for stitches which move freely. Bamboo is also popular for its warmer feel. Circular needles are another option and are shorter and joined by a cord. The thickness of the needle determines the tightness of the stitch.

Yarn- Though acrylic yarn is often harder than natural fibers, acrylic is less expensive. Use smoother and thicker (at least double knitting or Aran weight) yarn at first so that you can see your stitches. Cotton is also a good material for beginners.

Gauge- Most knitting patterns will have a gauge notation. Gauge is the number of stitches or rows per inch. Gauge is determined by the weight of yarn, the width of the needles, and the tautness of the yarn while knitting. Larger needles will produce a looser knit and fewer stitches. Smaller stitches will produce a tighter knit with more stitches.

Basic Stitches

Slipknot- You can tie a slipknot with your hands. Let the "tail" of the yarn, the loose end, hang in front of your palm. You want a fairly long tail for the best results. Loop the yarn around your first two fingers and pull the yarn closest to the ball underneath the loop. Then, pull this yarn through the loop around your fingers. Hold the tail and newly made loop and tighten to create the slipknot. Here's a great video on making a slipknot.

Casting on- After you make a slipknot, you need to cast on, which is the method by which your foundations stitches are made that you then knit or purl (see definitions below). This is also sometimes referred to as binding on. There are many different ways to cast on including:

1. **Double Cast-on or Long-Tail Cast-on-** This method creates an already knitted row which is NOT counted in the pattern. Each loop is knitted onto the needle and creates a firmer edge for knitting
2. **Single Cast-on or Back-loop Cast-on-** This is the easiest method to learn but is harder to knit from since it creates quite flimsy start.

The back loop method is good for beginners because it only requires the use of one needle and your fingers, but it does create large gaps between stitches. Hold the needle with the newly made slipknot in your right hand and the tail end of the yarn in your left (wrapping around your pinkie finger to hold it taut). Make a loop around your thumb or index finger, leaving a long tail in the yarn. Insert the needle into the loop and bring the right yarn, connected to the ball, around the needle point. Holding tension in the yarn, bring the wrapped yarn through the loop on your thumb or index finger. Pull the ends to tighten around the needle. If you had trouble visualizing this (as I certainly did), here is a video on basic casting on. The pattern instructions should tell you how many stitches you need to cast on.

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Knitting- When knitting, you insert the right needle into the cast on stitches on the left needle from front to back. In other words, the right needle will be behind the left needle after inserting into the first stitch. Once inserted, wrap the yarn around the right needle to form a loop and slowly pull this loop through the cast on stitch on the left needle. With your first knit stitch on the right needle, slip the “old” stitch off the left needle. The stitch should have a V shape with a smooth front.

Purling- You can think of purling as the opposite of knitting because the yarn is kept in the front and stitch is worked from back to front, instead of front to back as in knitting. You insert the right needle into the stitch on the left needle from back to front so that the right needle is in front of the left needle. The yarn, which is in front, is brought in a loop around the top of the right needle. You then bring the right needle under the left needle and pull the loop through the stitch as in knitting. Slip the old purl stitch off the tip of the left needle. The purl stitch makes a bumpy stitch.

Stockinette Stitch- Although it sounds difficult, this stitch simply means to alternate rows of knitting and purling. Here are some great pictures of each side of a stockinette stitch.

Beginner Knitting Patterns

Easy Knit Dishcloths

By: Bernat

Create washable knit dishcloths in a variety of seasonal colors with this free dishcloth knitting pattern. These easy dishcloths are the perfect knitting pattern for beginners. Try in one of the cotton yarns shown or pick your own favorite.



Materials:

- Yarn: Bernat Handicrafter Cotton (Solids: 400 g/14 oz or 50 g/1.75 oz) or (Ombres: 340 g/12 oz or 42.5 g/1.5 oz).
- Requires: 40 g/1.5 oz
 - of #33718 (Lazy Daisy)
 - or #27620 (Hot Yellow)
 - or #33742 (Blue Grass)
 - or #27742 (Tropic)
 - or #33745 (Summerset)
- Size 6 mm (U.S. 10) knitting needles or size needed to obtain gauge.

Gauge:

15 sts and 28 rows = 4" [10 cm] in garter st.

Measurements:

Approx 10" [25.5 cm] square.

Pattern:

Cast on 4 sts.

1st row: (RS). Knit.

2nd row: K1. Inc 1 st in next st. Knit to end of row.

Rep last row to 49 sts.

Next row: K2. K2tog. Knit to end of row.

Rep last row to 4 sts. Cast off.

Amazing Felted Knit Coffee Cozies

By: Bernat

Bring your own knit coffee cozy to the coffee shop and help save trees. These great free knitting patterns creates cute cozies for the cup and carafe. Felting melts away any imperfections making it perfect for beginner knitters. This project walks you through how to felt using yarn made especially for the purpose. You'll love the soft blended colors created through felting the yarn.



Materials:

- Yarn: Bernat Felting Wool (75 g/2.6 oz)
MC: 1 ball of #94131 (New Iris), A: 1 ball of #94605 (Fresh Poppy)
- Knitting Needles: Size 6.5 mm (U.S. 10½) or size needed to obtain gauge. Snap fastener.

Gauge: 13 sts and 18 rows = 4" [10 cm] in stocking st.

Measurements:

Cup Holder: To fit average take-out cup.

Coffee Press Cozy: To fit carafe up to 4 1/2" [11.5 cm] in diameter.

Things to Know Before Felting:

Record all the measurements and changes before and after felting. You will be able to adjust the method to produce proper results. Always test a sample. Different colored yarns may felt differently.

Colorfastness can be affected by very hot water.

Any knit fabric that has been properly felted becomes very dense and matted.

How to Felt:

Using low water level, run a Hot/Cold cycle for 5 to 15 min. Add a pair of old jeans for agitation.

Add 2 tablespoons of baking soda for a small load. After one cycle, check for size. Repeat if necessary.

Run through the rinse and dry spin cycle.

Do not use a clothes dryer.

Lay felted piece onto a dry towel, away from direct heat or sunlight.

Shape piece to correct measurements.

If an edge ripples, baste a thread through the edge and gather in. Remove the thread after the felting is dry.

Pattern:

Cup Holder:

With MC, cast on 32 sts.

Proceed in stocking st for 2 ins 5 cm, ending with a purl row.

Next row: (Inc 1 st in next st. K7) 4 times. 36 sts.

Cont even for 4 ins 10 cm total length. Cast off.

Using a flat seam, sew side seam.

Coffee Press Cozy:

With MC, cast on 65 sts.

Proceed in stocking st for 4 1/2" [11.5 cm], ending with a purl row. Break MC.

With A, cont in stocking st for 11 1/2" [29 cm] total length, ending with a purl row. Cast off.

Finishing:

Felt pieces following "How to Felt" instructions. Shape pieces to measurements and let dry.

Tip:

Shape felted Cup Holder on an empty take-out cup.

Trim Cozy to measure circumference of Coffee Press plus 3" [7.5 cm] wide by height of Coffee Press to spout. Sew snap to center of side edges. Fasten around Coffee Press as shown in picture.

Fun Knitted Belt

By: Authentic Knitting Board

This knitted belt, made quickly on a knitting board, is a great way to perk up an outfit



Made with Stockinette Stitch

Measures 1-1/2" wide X 40" long to be worn at hipline. Knitted in four sections. Belt may be adjusted to any length by adjusting the amount of needles used.

Each section knit at full width on mini board = 10" of length. 30" belt will require only 3 sections at full width of mini board. For smaller belts reduce the amount of cast-on stitches for each section.

Materials:

- 10" mini board
- knit hook
- crochet hook
- Lion Brand Jiffy Yarn El Paso #325, 115 yds or (1) skein of yarn.

Instructions:

1. For Belt 40" between the Ties, Cast On 22 stitches. Lay anchor yarn.
2. Knit in Stockinette for (5) rows.
3. Bind Off of board. Bind Off the cast on stitches at anchor yarn.
4. Make (4) of this piece.

Finishing:

There are variations to completing the belt. Sew with large eyed needle with your matching yarn. You can join the pieces by simply whipping the side edges together with matching yarn and the seams will be invisible as we have done. You can also join them with an 'X' by sewing the corners of each side seam with large diagonal stitches. This will result in a longer belt due to the added spacing between the sections. They could also be sewn with a piece of leather joining them together. To complete the belt, crochet a chain for each end with your yarn. Make (2) of these chains to be 22" in length each. Slip the crochet hook thru end of belt and pull the chain thru all the end stitches so that the (2) ends of chain are even. Tie the chain firmly. Tie knots in the ends of the chain to create balls. These chains can also be created by using purchased leather rope for the chains. Again, the finishing can create many delightful effects to your knitted belts. This will make great gifts for any season.

How to Bind Off:

Taking your knitting off the knitting board is Binding Off. You can use your knit hook, however, a crochet hook is easier. Start at end of board opposite the yarn attached. Cut yarn to 2-3” tail. Slip the hook into the first 3 loops, first stitch front and back, next stitch, front. With 3 loops on hook, pull loop closest to hook thru the other 2 loops. Next pick up the next 2 loops, back loop and next front loop. Pull loop closest to hook thru the other 2 loops. Continue this across the board until the knitting is free of the board. If you end with just one loop, that is fine. With your last loop on the hook, pull yarn tail thru the loop for a finished knot. You can pull the tail into the knitting with crochet hook. The same process applies to the cast-on stitches on the anchor yarn. Pick up 3 loops, pull one thru the other 2. Pick up next 2 loops (do not be concerned if it’s the back or front loop). Pull the loop closest to hook thru the other 2. Continue this across the anchor yarn, knot with yarn tail, and remove the anchor yarn.

Simple Chunky Blanket

By: Bernat

This knit afghan pattern is great to use for you or afriend. It's an easy pattern that you'll love knitting. Wrap yourself up with this comfy afghan.



Materials:

- Bernat® Chunky
- (Solids: 400 g / 14 oz; 587 m/ 642 yds)
- 1640 m/1750 yds
- OR
- Bernat® Softee Chunky
- (100 g/3.5 oz; 164 m/180 yds)
- 1640 m/1750 yds

Size 6 mm (U.S. 10) circular knitting needle
36 ins [90 cm] long or size needed to obtain gauge.

Gauge: 15 sts and 20 rows = 4 ins [10 cm] in stocking st.

Instructions:

Cast on 176 sts. Do not join. Working back and forth across needle, proceed as follows:

Knit 7 rows (garter st), noting 1st row is WS and inc 10 sts evenly across last row. 186 sts.

1st row: (RS). K5. *K5. P11. Rep from * to last 5 sts. K5.

2nd row: K5. *K11. P5. Rep from * to last 5 sts. K5.

3rd row: As 1st row.

4th row: K5. Purl to last 5 sts. K5.

5th row: Knit.

6th row: As 4th row.

7th row: K5. P4. *K5. P11. Rep from * to last 17 sts. K5. P7. K5.

8th row: K12. *P5. K11. Rep from * to last 14 sts. P5. K9.

9th row: As 7th row.

10th row: As 4th row.

11th row: Knit.

12th row: As 4th row.

13th row: K5. P8. *K5. P11. Rep from * to last 13 sts. K5. P3. K5.

14th row: K8. *P5. K11. Rep from * to last 18 sts. P5. K13.

15th row: As 13th row.

16th row: As 4th row.

17th row: Knit.

18th row: As 4th row.

19th row: K6. P11. *K5. P11. Rep from * to last 9 sts. K9.

20th row: K5. P4. *K11. P5. Rep from * to last 17 sts. K11. P1. K5.

21st row: As 19th row.

22nd row: As 4th row.

23rd row: Knit.

24th row: As 4th row.

Rep last 24 rows for Stairs pat until work from beg measures approx 52 ins [132 cm], dec 10 sts evenly across last row and ending with WS facing for next row. 176 sts.

Knit 6 rows. Cast off.

Two Hour Potholders

By: Faith Ann Schmidt for Authentic Knitting Board

It seems that we have a fabric eating monster in our home. Socks, dishcloths, hand towels, and potholders seem to disappear with alarming regularity. Or maybe it's just my 2 and 4 year old throwing things away when I'm not looking! It finally got so bad, I could hardly find a potholder to get things out of the oven. Well, with plenty of cotton yarn in my stash, I thought that, surely, I could knit up a much needed potholder without running to the store. The key was to get it thick enough. I've found that using two strands of cotton yarn and the double stitch works very well. These are so much nicer and thicker than the potholders you can buy in the store, and now you can make them to match your kitchen décor. Plus, they are easy to knit and work up quickly. So, save yourself a trip to the store and knit a few today.



Finished size is approx. 7 ¼" x 7 ½"

Materials:

- Knitting Loom: Regular gauge (pegs ½" from center to center) double sided
- knitting board with at least 16 pegs. The 28" Regular Gauge Authentic Knitting Board (standard (1/2") spacer setting) was used in the sample.
- Yarn: 75 yards each of two different colors of 100% cotton worsted weight yarn. Peaches & Crème yarn and the twisted stockinette stitch was used in the sample.
- Notions:
 - Tapestry Needle
 - Knitting tool
 - Size H crochet hook

Gauge: Not important

Abbreviations: Cast on—CO, Bind off—BO

Pattern Notes:

Two strands of yarn, held together, are used throughout the pattern. The double stitch (1 over 2) is used throughout the pattern. This potholder can be knit in either plain stockinette stitch or, what I call, twisted stockinette. To wrap in twisted stockinette, wrap the board as usual for the stockinette stitch, but go to the far side of each needle and wrap around the needle. This is like the figure 8 wrap. Wrap the end needles, on the opposite end from where you start, in the normal manner, do not wrap around them as you did the others. The picture shows how the board will look when properly wrapped for the twisted stockinette stitch. Experiment with other stitch patterns to make one-of-a-kind potholders. Just make sure to use stitches that create a dense fabric. Make sure to only use yarns that are made of natural fibers. Acrylic and other synthetic yarns can melt if they come into contact with high temperatures.

Instructions:

1. CO 16 pegs with the stockinette cast on. When casting on, wrap the board once, lay the anchor yarn, and then wrap the board two more times. If you are using the twisted stockinette stitch, begin wrapping in that pattern on the third pass. There will now be 3 sets of loops on each peg. This will be the only time that the board is wrapped three times. Hook the bottom set of loops over the top two sets of loops. After hooking over, there should be two sets of loops on each peg.
2. Knit 36 rows or until the piece measures 7 1/2", always hooking one set of loops over two sets of loops, except on row 36. On row 36, lift the bottom two sets of loops over the top set. There will only be one set of loops on all the pegs.
3. BO both ends. You will have more loops than usual because of using the double stitch. Treat each pair of loops as one loop and BO as usual. Weave in loose ends.

Knit Two Hours or Less Scarf

By: Lion Brand Yarn Company

With this scarf knitting pattern for beginner, create a lovely scarf in two hours or less. The chunky yarn from Lion Brand Yarn will keep you warm and stylish through the winter. The fringe, created after knitting the scarf, is a nice touch and very easy to do.



Instructions:

Gauge:

8 stitches = 4" (10 cm) in Garter stitch (knit every stitch on every row) with 3 strands (1 strand each of A, B, and C) held together.

Scarf:

With 1 strand of A, B and C held together, cast on 16 stitches. Work in Garter stitch (knit every stitch on every row) until piece measures about 45" (114.5 cm) from beginning. Bind off.

Finishing:

Weave in ends.

Fringe:

For each Fringe cut 2 lengths of each color, 22" (56 cm) long. Fold strands in half, pull fold through end of Scarf. Pull strands through fold and tighten. Make 8 Fringe along each end of Scarf.

Materials:

- Lion Brand VANNA'S CHOICE (Art. #860)
 - #143 Antique Rose 1 ball (A)
 - #140 Dusty Rose 1 ball (B)
 - #125 Taupe 1 ball (C)
 - or colors of your choice
- Knitting needles size 19 (15 mm)
- large-eyed blunt needle

Super Easy Boa Scarf

By: Bernat

Learn how to knit with this super-easy scarf knitting pattern for beginner. Wrap yourself up in a warm, homemade scarf this winter, which disguises any imperfections with a richly textured yarn. You need 2 balls of yarn and size 9 (5.5 mm) needles.



Materials:

- Yarn: 2 balls of Bernat Boa (50 g / 1.75 oz)
- Knitting Needles: Size 5½ mm (U.S. 9) knitting needles or size needed to obtain gauge.

Gauge:

14 sts and 17 rows = 4" [10 cm] in stocking st.

Measurement:

Approx. 6 x 49" [15 x 124.5 cm]

Pattern:

Cast on 23 sts.

Knit 4 rows.

Next row: (WS) K3. Purl to last 3 sts. K3.

Next row: Knit.

Rep last 2 rows until work from beg measures 48" [122 cm], ending with WS facing for next row.

Knit 4 rows. Cast off knitways.

18 Homemade Christmas Decorations: How to Make Christmas Decorations



In this eBook, you can enjoy a collection of beginner knitting patterns as well as a beginner’s guide to knitting. If you’ve never so much as picked up a pair of knitting needles before, you’ll be able to knit the patterns in the eBook in time; all you have to do is read the “getting started” section to learn all the knitting basics you need to know. Knitting is such a rewarding and useful hobby, so check out this eBook to teach yourself how to knit the quick and easy way.

Included in this eBook:

- Abbreviations Guide
- How to Finger Knit
- Casting On
- Easy Knit Dishcloths
- Simple Chunky Blanket

