

Beginning to Knit — The Knit Stitch

Skills:

Slip knot
Knit Cast on
Knit – Garter Stitch Fabric
Bind off
Seams
Measuring gauge

Projects & Ideas:

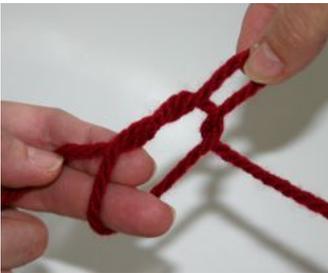
Soft Ball
Bracelet, necklace
Belt
Scarves, wrap
Poncho
Bag
Fingerless Gloves
Hats

Resources:

Videos & patterns: www.Knittinghelp.com
Combined Knitting: anniemodesitt.com
Magazine: knitty.com
Craft Yarn Council Info: yarnstandards.com
Kids Knitting by Melanie Falick
Knit Knights: tinyurl.com/knotch

Slipknot

*Around two fingers,
Cross over the yarn.
Push a loop through,
Jump out of the barn.*



Cast On — This method is known as the “Knit Cast On”.



*In through the front door,
Dance around the back.
Peek through the window
And on jumps jack.*

Knit Stitch

*Under the fence
Catch the sheep,
Back we come
Off we leap.*



Bind Off

*Knit yourself over,
Invite a friend too.
Leapfrog over
Lie down Sue.*



Seams

Overcast seams are fine for these projects. The pictures show sewing along top and bottom (cast on & cast off) edges and side edges. When you are ready, check the resources above for “Mattress Stitch” seams.

Projects using Garter Stitch (all rows are knit)



GAUGE, the critical first step for every successful project. Cast on about 20 stitches and knit a for several inches. Remove the stitches from the needle (no need to cast off). Feel & Observe: Do you like the thickness/softness/sturdiness of your fabric? Change the needle size and reknit to produce desired result. Finally, measure your piece. Determine how many stitches equal 1”. Now you are ready to proceed to your pattern and knit your project.

Soft Balls



1. Cast on 16 stitches — using a tight gauge so that stuffing will be hidden.
2. Knit for at 60 rows (30 ridges)
3. Bind off. Cut yarn with a tail (about 14”) to sew seams.
4. Bring the cast on and bind off edges together, and join.
5. Run your needle in and out of the bumps along one side edge. Carefully pull the yarn to gather the edge into a circle. Overcast to close hole and knot securely, but leave the yarn hanging uncut.
6. Now decide which will be the right side and stuff the ball firmly. Gather the other edge to match the first.
7. Push the yarn needle one last time through the ball to bury the yarn tail.

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Bracelet — Necklace, Headband, Scarf



CO 25sts. (necklace or headband, CO 30-40). Start a new color *before*

beginning first row: Cut yarn leaving ~6” tail. Tie the new yarn w/tail onto first color, and then knit across.

Repeat rows of color until reaching desired width.

BO all stitches with final color.

Braid the fringe to use as a tie.



This scarf was made exactly like the bracelet, using #15 needles and odd balls of different

yarns. Cast on about 150 stitches for a 6’ length.

Add rows to attain desired width.



Belt

cast on about 6 sts and knit until it is long enough – as pictured.

Shawls, Wraps, Afgans & Throws



Mopsie’s **poncho** was made by changing colors after knitting TWO rows. The cut/fringe edge falls on one side only. Knit two rectangles and join the end of one to the side of the other. Hint: Cut and tape two lengths of paper together to figure out how this works. For a full sized poncho, pin towels

together to fit over intended recipient.

This **bag** is simply one long rectangle, folded and sewn over a purchased handle.



Fingerless Gloves

Calculate your gauge and cast on enough stitches for the glove length. Knit rectangles to stretch around each hand comfortably. Bind off. Join the cast on and bind off edges, remembering to leave openings for each thumb.



Hats

The average hat depth is about 9” from brim to top.

Add 1-2” for fold over.

Gauge & Calculate: e.g. at 4sts to 1” Cast on [9” x 4] 36 stitches. Knit until the

rectangle stretches comfortably around your head.

Bind off and join beginning to end. Close the top with one of the following methods:

Jester Style—Lay the folded circle flat and sew straight across. Add tassels to corners.



Ski Style — Seam top as above then fold and sew corner points together. Wear points either inside or outside.

Watch Cap Style—Run yarn in and out of the top edge, gather tightly and secure.

Mopsie’s Convertible Collar & Hat —

Run a long chain or twisty cord in and out of ridges

at 1” intervals around, and about

1” from the top edge. Gather and tie for hat. Untie, stretch and fold to wear as a collar.



“As much as we pick up from other sources — mentors and resource books — it is what we teach ourselves that we learn best.” Sally Melville, knitwear designer, author and teacher.