

For new [Continental] Knitters

Welcome to the world of knitting. This page is intended as a follow up for KnitKnight members who are either new to knitting, or who have come back after an extended hiatus. I hope you will find it helpful.

Annie Modesitt, an inspirational designer and teacher. She, like me, is basically self-taught and we share the same knitting method. She calls it "[Combination Knitting](#)". She holds her yarn in a very unique way and doesn't actually tension her yarn with her fingers. She drops the yarn and picks it up with every stitch. Still, she is an extremely fast knitter. Here is her [comprehensive intro](#). She will repeat herself often in the videos that follow so don't worry too much if you don't grasp everything at first.

This video (series) happens to show [exactly the way I knit](#). Notice that she slips the first stitch of every row whereas Annie Modesitt does not. I learned to slip the first stitch from the book that first hooked me on knitting: [Knitting Without Tears](#). It is also available from her family business, [Schoolhouse Press](#).

My [Beginning to Purl](#) sheet addresses both purl wrap methods. I purl the way Annie & Larisa do. Many people label it wrong. Not true. Rather it is less common here in the US. It isn't wrong provided your stitches are not inadvertently twisted. Remember: there is no wrong way to knit. Here is Annie in Part 3: [learning to purl](#). I appreciate Annie's clarity in explaining the twisted and untwisted stitches.

Digression: Twisted stitches form a warmer fabric, essential in the coldest parts of the world! The [history of knitting](#) is fascinating. The little paperback reference book I carry is [Mary Thomas's Knitting Book](#). Incomparable.

This is Annie showing [two cast on methods](#). This video shows the "[knit cast on](#)" which is illustrated in my [Beginning to knit](#) lesson. Have you noticed you have already viewed THREE cast ons and TWO different ways to knit?

In this video Annie delves into the [knit and purl stitch](#).

Back to Larisa, my Russian twin, [showing purling](#). Traditionally many Russians earned their living as production knitters and so it was imperative to knit & purl as efficiently possible.

Here Larisa and her husband show how to [knit in the back loop](#), on the row after purling. Annie & I have had discussions about the efficiency of knitting this way. After purling our way, the next row presents with the leg of the loops in the back. Since we knit with the yarn in the back it's logical to grab the loops from the back as well. Annie says, "let the stitches tell you how they want to be knit."

Do take your time in viewing these lessons. Just learning the knit-jargon is a challenge. You'll absorb a lot of it by watching these videos. Return to them occasionally. I do. And I learn something new with each viewing.

Nothing beats learning from others! We hope you will enjoy networking with us on Monday nights. We all have tips and tricks up our sleeves (which aren't necessarily on the internet). And we're always happy to share!

After viewing a video, clicking the author's name will bring you to their "channel" where, after clicking the "browse video" tab, you can see a list of their videos. When you sign-in to YouTube you can set up your own playlists for future reference. I routinely "subscribe" to the teachers I'd like to follow. I can always unsubscribe if my interest wanes. What a Wonderful World!