

Learn to Knit: Make a Dishcloth

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Access a copy of this booklet (with live hyperlinks) at

<http://jnotar.github.io/learn-to-knit.pdf>



The Basics: How to knit!

Here are some videos demonstrating the skills covered in class:

- Knit: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=esEtUaa-Pwg>
- Purl: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bbtnjHrb_Hg
- Cast on (long tail): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SXA3gBNiSiM>
- Cast on (backward loop): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9bufF8e24JY>
- Bind off (aka cast off): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oTAO80IAQOs>
- This article has links to the basic skills covered in class plus how to read a pattern, start a project, and finish your final product:
<https://www.thesprucecrafts.com/learn-to-knit-2116465>

How to start a project:

Considerations on starting a project:

- Yarn weight:
 - list of yarn weights and matching needle sizes:
<https://www.craftyarnCouncil.com/standards/yarn-weight-system>
 - Mystery yarn?? <https://www.lovecrafts.com/en-us/c/article/how-to-figure-out-yarn-weight>
- Needle size - need to match yarn weight
 - needle sizes sometimes given as a size (e.g. 7) and sometimes as a measurement in millimeters (e.g. 4.5mm)
 - for mystery needles, you can always measure them and figure it out
 - needle size conversion chart, between US sizes (e.g. 7) and Euro (e.g. 4.5mm): <https://www.craftyarnCouncil.com/standards/hooks-and-needles>
- Pattern
 - Find a pattern!
 - Online: [Ravelry.com](https://www.ravelry.com), bloggers, craft websites (like [thesprucecrafts.com](https://www.thesprucecrafts.com)), etc.
 - Library: knitting magazines and books, both physical & e-copies
 - Craft Stores: places like Freeman's Creative, The Scrap Exchange, big chains, local yarn stores, etc.
 - gauge/make a swatch: <https://www.thesprucecrafts.com/knitting-a-gauge-swatch-2116471>

How to finish a project

- Weave in the ends: <https://www.thesprucecrafts.com/weaving-in-ends-2116473>
- How to block your knitting (optional): <https://www.thesprucecrafts.com/how-to-block-knitting-2116467>

Patterns for the class

Knitting abbreviations used below:

bo	bind off
co	cast on
k	knit
p	purl
rs	right side
sl	slip stitch
ws	wrong side
wyib	with yarn in back (as if to knit)
*	repeat the pattern after the asterisk as written

Note that most knitting books and patterns will have a list of abbreviations used in the pattern, like you see above. If not, here is an extensive list:

<https://www.craftyarnCouncil.com/standards/knitting-abbreviations>

Garter stitch

co any number of stitches
all rows: k all stitches
bo all stitches

Stockinette stitch

co any number of stitches
row 1 and all odd rows: k all stitches
row 2 and all even rows: p all stitches
bo all stitches

Moss stitch

co an even number of stitches
rows 1+2: *k1, p1. repeat from * to end
rows 3+4: *p1, k1. repeat from * to end
repeat rows 1-4 to form the pattern
bo all stitches

Seed stitch

co an *odd* number of stitches
all rows: *k1, p1. repeat from * across,
ending with k1
bo all stitches

OR

co an *even* number of stitches
row 1 and all odd rows: *k1, p1. repeat
from * to end
row 2 and all even rows: *p1, k1. repeat
from * to end
bo all stitches

Double Moss stitch

co a multiple of 4 stitches
rows 1+2: *k2, p2. repeat from * to end
rows 3+4: *p2, k2. repeat from * to end
repeat rows 1-4 to form the pattern
bo all stitches

Honeycomb stitch

co an odd number of stitches
row 1: k all stitches
row 2: k1 *sl1 wyib. k1. repeat from * to
end
row 3: k all stitches

row 4: k2 *sl1 wyib. k1. repeat from *
across, ending with k1
repeat rows 1-4 to form the pattern
bo all stitches

More resources:

How to pick up a dropped stitch:

<https://www.thesprucecrafts.com/what-do-i-do-if-i-drop-a-stitch-2117238>

[Ravelry.com](https://www.ravelry.com) - an online knitting community! Support, yarn info, discussion boards, and lots and lots of patterns

Youtube - There are how-to videos from dozens of creators on basically any knitting skill you're interested in. All you have to do is search!

Pattern inspiration for new knitters: <https://www.thesprucecrafts.com/easy-knitting-patterns-for-new-knitters-2116495>

"Knitting basics" resources from The Spruce Crafts:

<https://www.thesprucecrafts.com/knitting-basics-4162933>

<https://newstitchaday.com> - the stitch dictionary has an extensive list of stitch patterns to try out

The Ultimate All-Around Stitch Dictionary, by Wendy Bernard - an ebook with an exhaustive list of stitch patterns, helpfully organized. Previous editions by the same author are also useful and available from the Durham Library.

<https://durhamcounty.bibliocommons.com/v2/record/S981C14931671>

Access this booklet online here:

