

Gifted

lovely little things
to knit + crochet



mags kandis 





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I am grateful to all who contributed—big and small—to making *Gifted* a reality.

Our fiber-filled lives would be lacking without lovely yarns in luscious colors and thrilling textures. It was a pleasure to work with some of the best yarns from the best manufacturers. Without their collective passion for knitting and crocheting, very few of us would be inspired to create with needles and hooks.

It is only with the support, guidance, and generosity of Ann Budd, Tricia Waddell, and all involved at Interweave that my ideas have appeared on these pages as beautifully as they have.

Ultimately, I wish to thank all the people in my life who inspire me everyday to make and to share—family, co-workers, friends, neighbors, friends of friends, and even neighbors of neighbors! They are all **my** gift, and for them I am most thankful.



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i love making stuff,

AND ONE OF MY GREATEST JOYS as a knitter and crocheter is to make special stuff for friends and family. I admit to a few late nights and more than one last-minute frenzied button-attaching session over the years. But ultimately, the expression of delight on the face of the “gifted” always makes it worth the effort.

While assembling the gifts in this book, I explored fun, quick, satisfying knitted and crocheted projects as well as simple recycled sewing ideas. The sewn projects are all crafted in whole or in part with scraps of felted knitting, be it repurposed machine-made sweaters that fell victim to moths (see the felted and stitched Arm Cozies on page 27) or a felting project that did not come out as envisioned (see the Cut-and-Sew Egg Cozies on page 105). In addition, I’ve included a few of my favorite treats from the kitchen. Who wouldn’t enjoy a spicy Mexican Hot Chocolate mix (page 81) or a jar of refreshingly zippy and versatile Ginger Syrup (page 37)?

The projects in this book are organized in two groups. Gifts for the Body include wearable projects that are as easy as they are appealing. The Precious Baby Jacket (page 42), for example, is a simple first-knit for a baby embellished with cheerful appliqué and stitching. The Gilded Mesh Scarf (page 52) works up in a flash and is

better than jewelry for a scarf junkie. The Granny Bag (page 30) is my interpretation of an old favorite with a hidden word of encouragement. The projects in Gifts for the Soul include a wide range of nonwearables, from Felted Heart Milagros (page 82), which are lovely on their own, in groups, or strung in a hanging, to a one-of-a-kind Scissor Sleeve and Heart Pincushion (page 110) to a bouquet of Colorful Crochet Flowers (page 90).

Don’t be intimidated if a project calls for a technique that’s unfamiliar—everything is clearly explained in the instructions and illustrated in the Glossary. And because they are small, the projects are ideal for learning and practicing new techniques. You can learn to felt with the Felted Trivet and Coasters (page 114), gain confidence with crochet with the Crochet Flower Brooch (page 47), practice intarsia colorwork with the Heart-in-Hand Mitts (page 68), explore and expand your sense of color with a Bevy of Bangles (page 62), master short-rows with the Ruby Foo Baby Cap (page 28), and perfect your embroidery with Felted Yule Bling (page 106).

I hope the projects on these pages inspire you to grab hook, needles, or spoon and share the joy of giving . . . even if you’re giving to yourself!

* mags





gifts for the *body*

They warm hands, wrap necks,
top heads, and toast up toes.
Always a combination of function
and form with a big sprinkle of
personal style. Make someone
warmer, add colored roses to their
hair, or hug them with a scarf.





simple ribbed cap

100% alpaca guarantees two things—super softness and super warmth. Spun nice and thick, it becomes a triple threat when the project is super fast. This cap has it all—simple to make, simple to gift, and simple to wear. For a girlie gift, add a Colorful Crochet Flower (page 90), or two, to introduce color to an otherwise dreary winter day. Package the hat *au naturel*, and the guy on your list will be toasty warm.

FINISHED SIZE

About 19¾" (50 cm) circumference, slightly stretched. Will comfortably fit up to 22" (56 cm) circumference.

YARN

Chunky weight (#5 Bulky).

Shown here: Plymouth Yarn Baby Alpaca Grande (100% baby alpaca; 110 yd [100 m]/100 g): #403 gray heather, 1 skein.

NEEDLES

Size U.S. 10½ (6.5 mm): 4 or 5 double-pointed (dpm). Adjust needle size if necessary to obtain the correct gauge.

NOTIONS

Marker (m); tapestry needle.

GAUGE

13 stitches and 17 rounds = 4" (10 cm) in k3, p5 ribbing, slightly stretched.



CAP

Loosely CO 64 sts. Place marker (pm) and join for working in rnds, being careful not to twist sts. Work in k3, p5 rib until piece measures 5" (12.5 cm).

Shape Crown

RND 1 *K2, ssk, p4; rep from *—56 sts rem.

RNDS 2 AND 3 *K3, p4; rep from *.

RND 4 *K2, ssk, p3; rep from *—48 sts rem.

RNDS 5 AND 6 *K3, p3; rep from *.

RND 7 *K2, ssk, p2; rep from *—40 sts rem.

RNDS 8 AND 9 *K3, p2; rep from *.

RND 10 *K2, ssk, p1; rep from *—32 sts rem.

RNDS 11 AND 12 *K3, p1; rep from *.

RND 13 *K2, ssk; rep from *—24 sts rem.

RNDS 14 AND 15 Knit.

RND 16 *K2tog; rep from *—12 sts rem.

RND 17 Knit.

RND 18 *K2tog; rep from *—6 sts rem.

Work rem 6 sts in I-cord (see Glossary) for 3½" (9 cm). BO all sts.

FINISHING

Weave in loose ends. Tie I-cord in an overhand knot.



STITCH GUIDE

Increase Pattern

ROWS 1 AND 3 Knit to last st, k1f**2**b (see Glossary)—1 st inc'd.

ROWS 2 AND 4 Knit.

ROW 5 Knit, wrapping the yarn twice around the needle for each st—2 loops on needle for each st.

ROW 6 *Drop one of the loops of the next st off the needle and work k1 into elongated loop; rep from *.

Rep Rows 1–6 for pattern.

Decrease Pattern

ROWS 1 AND 3 Knit to last 2 sts, k2**tog**—1 st dec'd.

ROWS 2 AND 4 Knit.

ROW 5 Knit, wrapping the yarn twice around the needle for each st—2 loops on needle for each st.

ROW 6 *Drop one of the loops of the next st off the needle and work k1 into elongated loop; rep from *.

Rep Rows 1–6 for pattern.

FINISHED SIZE

About 12¼" (31 cm) wide and 56½" (143.5 cm) long.

YARN

Worsted weight (#4 Medium).

Shown here: Berroco Linen Jeans (70% rayon; 30% linen; 80 yd [74 m]/50 g): #7403 unbleached muslin, 2 skeins.

linen summer wrap

Just like summer living, the knitting should be easy. This soft linen-blend wrap is a great treat that takes just a couple of evenings to create. Grab two skeins of yarn, follow the pattern while increasing merrily away until the tail of the first ball is uncomfortably close to your needles, then add the second ball and decrease to the other end. Voilà, a quick wrap with only a few inches of leftover yarn.

WRAP

CO 2 sts.

Work increase pattern (see Stitch Guide) until there are 40 sts, ending with Row 6 of patt—piece measures about 28½" (72.5 cm) from CO. Work decrease pattern (see Stitch Guide) until 2 sts rem, ending with Row 4 of patt. Loosely BO all sts.

FINISHING

Weave in loose ends. Block lightly if desired.

NEEDLES

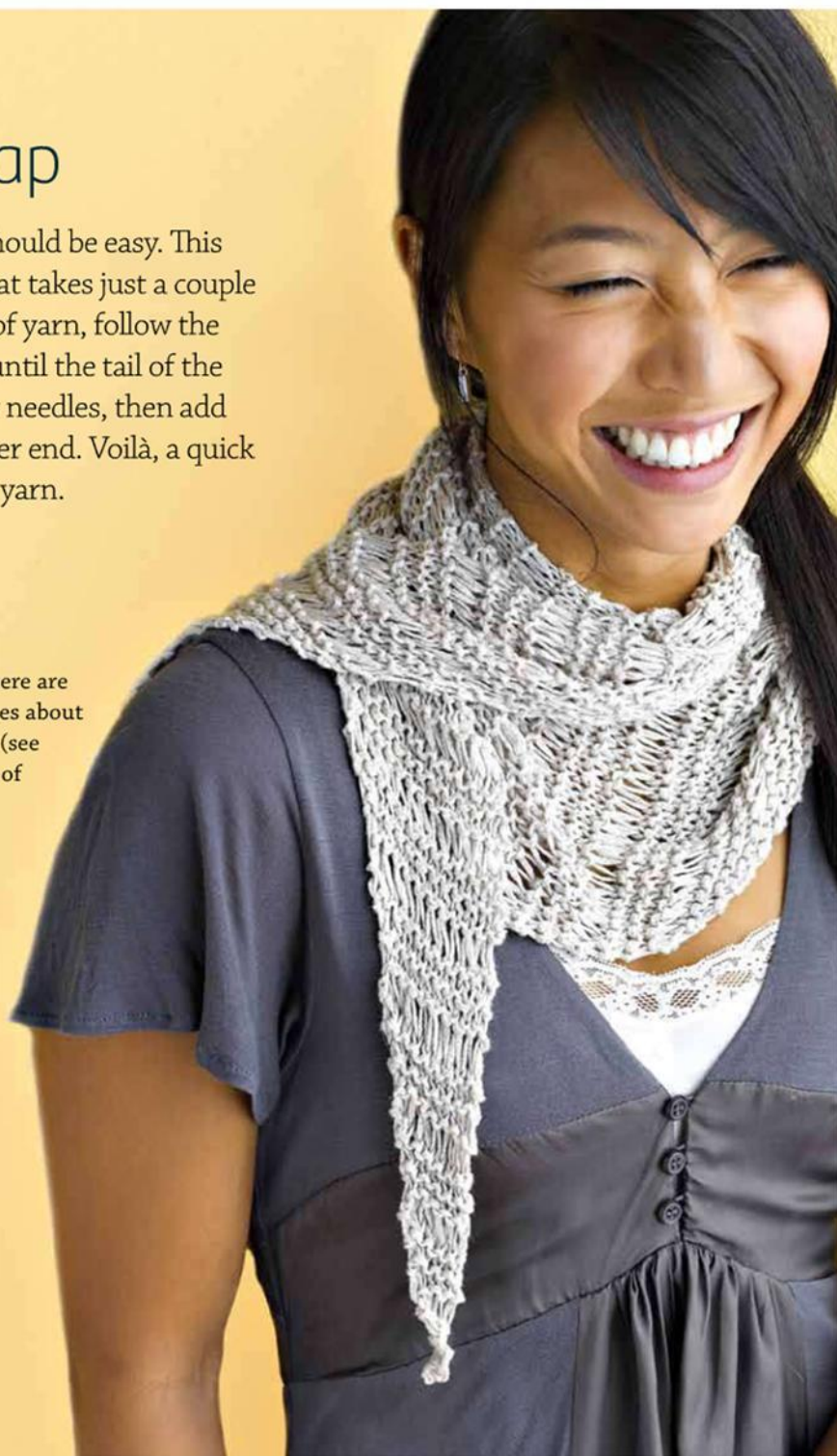
Size U.S. 10½ (6.5 mm): straight. Adjust needle size if necessary to obtain the correct gauge.

NOTIONS

Tapestry needle.

GAUGE

13 stitches and 16 rows = 4" (10 cm)
in pattern stitch.







cabled boot toppers

I have always found it a shame that once boot weather starts, pretty handknit socks are sadly hidden until the next sock-showing season. Boot toppers are my answer to this problem. Let the boots hide the store-bought socks and allow the lushness of cables and frilly edges peek out where they can be enjoyed. Wrists a tad chilly? These can also be slipped over the hands to peek out from under coat sleeves. Add a Felted Leaf Brooch (page 23) for added flair.

FINISHED SIZE

About 8" (20.5 cm) circumference, slightly stretched, and 8" (20.5 cm) long.

YARN

Sportweight (#2 Fine).

Shown here: Berroco Ultra Alpaca Light (50% alpaca, 50% wool; 144 yd [133 m]/50 g); #4294 turquoise heather, 2 skeins.

NEEDLES

Size U.S. 5 (3.75 mm): set of 5 double-pointed (dpn). Adjust needle size if necessary to obtain the correct gauge.

NOTIONS

Marker (m); cable needle (cn); tapestry needle.

GAUGE

32 stitches and 30 rows = 4" (10 cm) in k2, p2 rib, worked in rounds, slightly stretched.

STITCH GUIDE

RT Knit the second stitch on the left-hand needle, then knit the first stitch, then slip both sts off the needle.

T6R Slip next 4 sts (2 knit sts and 2 purl sts) onto cn and hold in back of work, k2, sl the 2 purl sts from cn onto left-hand needle and purl these 2 sts, k2 from cn.

T6L Slip next 4 sts (2 knit sts and 2 purl sts) onto cn and hold in front of work, k2, sl the 2 purl sts from cn onto left-hand needle and purl these 2 sts, k2 from cn.

BOOT TOPPER

Loosely CO 64 sts. Arrange sts evenly on 4 dpn, place marker (pm), and join for working in rnds, being careful not to twist sts. Work in k2, p2 rib until piece measures 4" (10 cm) from CO. Work cable as foll:

RNDS 1, 5, 7, AND 11 *RT (see Stitch Guide), p2, [k2, p2] 3 times; rep from *.

RND 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, AND 12 *K2, p2; rep from *.

RND 3 *RT, p2, T6R (see Stitch Guide), p2, k2, p2; rep from *.

RND 9 *RT, p2, k2, p2, T6L (see Stitch Guide), p2; rep from *.

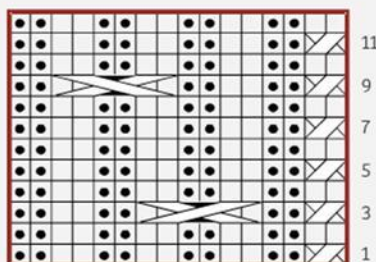
Rep Rnds 1–12 for a total of 30 rnds (ending with Rnd 6)—piece measures about 8" (20.5 cm) from CO. BO in fringe as foll: BO 2 sts, *sl st from right-hand needle onto left-hand needle, use the cable method (see Glossary) to CO 3 sts, BO 5 sts; rep from *.

FINISHING

Weave in loose ends. Lightly steam.



CABLED BOOT TOPPERS CHART



- knit
- purl
- RT: see Stitch Guide
- T6R: see Stitch Guide
- T6L: see Stitch Guide
- pattern repeat

SEE PAGE 23 FOR
THE FELTED LEAF
BROOCH.







hazy frills neck wrap

FINISHED SIZE

About 6¼" (16 cm) wide
and 36" (91.5 cm) long.

YARN

Worsted weight (#4 Medium).

Shown here: Rowan Kidsilk Haze (70% super kid mohair; 30% silk; 229 yd [210 m]/25 g): #595 liqueur (dark red) and #627 blood (medium red), 1 ball each. *Note:* This is enough yarn to make two neck wraps.

NEEDLES

Size U.S. 7 (4.5 mm): straight. Adjust needle size if necessary to obtain the correct gauge.

NOTIONS

Tapestry needle.

GAUGE

19 stitches and 22 rows = 4" (10 cm)
in garter stitch.

NOTE

✧ Use the garter ridges as a guide when picking up for frills.

It's the light loftiness of this yarn that creates all the allure—it's not known as Kid Silk *crack* for nothing. A few ruffles at each end is all that's needed to tart up a simple garter-stitch oblong. Even better, this project has twice the "gifting" in it! The two balls of yarn called for are enough to create *two* scarves—swap the base and ruffle yarns and a companion piece can be made for another deserving person. Maybe you?



SCARF

With medium red, loosely CO 30 sts. Work even in garter st until piece measures about 36" (91.5 cm) from CO. Loosely BO all sts.

Frills

With dark red, RS facing, and using the garter ridges as a guide, pick up and knit 29 sts along the second garter ridge from the CO edge.

ROW 1 (WS) *K1f&b (see Glossary); rep from *—58 sts.

ROW 2 Knit.

ROW 3 Rep Row 1—116 sts.

ROW 4 Knit.

Loosely BO all sts.

******Skip 3 garter ridges and rep frill. Skip 2 garter ridges and rep frill. Rep from ****** until a total of 7 frills have been completed. Rep on BO edge, but work only 3 frills.

FINISHING

Weave in loose ends. Block lightly if desired.



felted leaf brooch

Nothing says autumn like falling leaves. Quickly knit with scraps of stash yarn, these leaves can be anything you wish them to be. Here, a pair is turned into a simple brooch (attach one to the Cabled Boot Toppers on page 16). But imagine one attached to a braided or crocheted cord wrapped around a jar of homemade jam or a whole bushel grouped together as a seasonal wreath.

FINISHED SIZE

About 3" (7.5 cm) long and 1½" (3.8 cm) wide, after felting.

YARN

Sportweight (#2 Fine).

Shown here: Berroco Ultra Alpaca Light (50% super fine alpaca, 50% Peruvian wool; 144 yd [131 m]/50 g): #4294 turquoise heather, less than 10 yd (9.5 m).

NEEDLES

Size U.S. 6 (4 mm): straight.

NOTIONS

Tapestry needle; embroidery needle, brooch back or safety pin.

GAUGE

About 20 stitches and 34 rows = 4" (10 cm) in garter stitch, before felting. Exact gauge is not crucial for this project.



LEAF

Loosely CO 3 sts.

ROWS 1, 2, AND 3 Knit.

ROW 4 K1f&b (see Glossary), k1, k1f&b—5 sts.

ROW 5 Knit.

ROW 6 K2, yo, k1, yo, k2—7 sts.

ROW 7 AND 8 Knit.

ROW 9 K3, yo, k1, yo, k3—9 sts.

ROW 10 AND 11 Knit.

ROW 12 K4, yo, k1, yo, k4—11 sts.

ROW 13, 14, 15, AND 16 Knit.

ROW 17 Ssk, k7, k2tog—9 sts rem.

ROW 18 AND 19 Knit.

ROW 20 Ssk, k5, k2tog—7 sts rem.

ROW 21 AND 22 Knit.

ROW 23 Ssk, k3, k2tog—5 sts rem.

ROW 24 AND 25 Knit.

ROW 26 Ssk, k1, k2tog—3 sts rem.

ROW 27 AND 28 Knit.

ROW 29 Sl 1, k2tog, psso—1 st rem. Fasten off.

FINISHING

Weave in loose ends. Felt as described on page 118. With yarn threaded on embroidery needle, use backstitches (see Glossary) to add veins as shown in photo. Sew leaves firmly onto brooch back or safety pin.





shoulder cozy

FINISHED SIZE

About 35¼" (89.5 cm) wide at bottom edge and 11" (28 cm) deep.

YARN

Bulky weight (#5 Bulky).

Shown here: Brown Sheep Bully Spun (100% wool; 132 yd [121 m]/226 g): #BS03 gray heather, 1 skein.

NEEDLES

Size U.S. 15 (10 mm): straight. Adjust needle size if necessary to obtain the correct gauge.

NOTIONS

Tapestry needle with eye large enough to accommodate thick yarn.

GAUGE

8½ stitches and 10 rows = 4" (10 cm) in stitch pattern, slightly stretched.

NOTE

☆There were only about 8 yards (7.3 m) of yarn left when the cozy was completed. Because of this, I have opted to start with the tie. Your shoulders will still be warm if you work 1 row more or less of the collar but without the tie . . . oh my!

Sometimes a scarf is just not enough. And sometimes jostling with the tails of a wrap is nothing more than a nuisance. Shoulders will keep warm and—well—cozy under a little capelet created in a big yarn on big needles. This quick project is a perfect whip-it-up-at-the-last-minute gift for any gal-on-the-go. Slip it over a jean jacket or sweater for a trip to the market or over pj's at home on a cool evening. For added "good thoughts," pin on a Felted Heart Milagros (page 82).

TIE

Using the backward-loop method (see Glossary), loosely CO 94 sts. Loosely BO all sts.

SHOULDER COZY

Using the long-tail method (see Glossary), loosely CO 75 sts.

SET-UP ROW (WS) K3, *p3, k3; rep from *.

ROW 1 (RS) K2, p1, sl 1, k2, psso, *p3, sl 1, k2, psso; rep from * to last 3 sts, p1, k2—62 sts rem.

ROW 2 K3, *p1, yo, p1, k3; rep from *—75 sts.

ROW 3 K2, p1, k3, *p3, k3; rep from * to last 3 sts, p1, k2.

ROW 4 K3, *p3, k3; rep from *.

ROWS 5–16 Rep Rows 1–4 three times.

ROW 17 (RS; dec row) K2, p1, sl 1, k2, psso, *p2tog, p1, sl 1, k2, psso; rep from * to last 3 sts, p1, k2—52 sts rem.

ROW 18 (WS; eyelet row) K3, yo, p2tog, *k2, yo, p2tog; rep from * to last 3 sts, k3.

ROW 19 K2, p1, k2, *p2, k2; rep from * to last 3 sts, p1, k2.

ROW 20 K3, *p3, k3; rep from *.

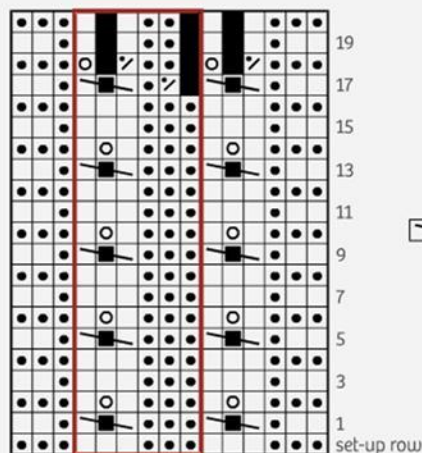
Rep the last 2 rows until piece measures 11" (28 cm) from CO edge, ending with a WS row.

Loosely BO all sts in patt.

FINISHING

Weave in loose ends. Block lightly if desired. With RS facing and beg and end with the first and last eyelet, weave tie through eyelets.

SHOULDER COZY CHART



- ☐ knit on RS, purl on WS
- ☒ purl on RS, knit on WS
- sl 1, k2, psso
- yo
- no stitch
- p2tog
- pattern repeat





arm cozies

One autumn I pulled a favorite store-bought sweater from my closet only to discover moths had “re-styled” it during the summer months. It was pure wool, extremely light, loosely knit, and a very sad loss. However, I stopped and mused, “Pure wool, eh? . . . Felt it!” Once dry, all it took was a sharp pair of scissors and some tone-on-tone stitching to turn it into cozy arm warmers.

FINISHED SIZE

About 8" (20.5 cm) wrist circumference, 10" (25.5 cm) upper arm circumference, and 13½" (34.5 cm) long. *Note:* Actual measurements depend on shrinkage of sweater.

FABRIC

A recycled lightweight sweater that has been fully felted (see page 119).

NOTIONS

Sharp scissors; embroidery needle; coordinating embroidery cotton or fine yarn.

NOTES

- ✧ Look for a 100% wool sweater that is very lightweight for this project. If the original sweater is too heavy, the arm cozies will look like very lovely wooly casts.
- ✧ To prevent the cut edges from fraying, be sure to felt the fabric until the individual knit stitches are no longer visible.

ARM COZIES

Fully felt the sweater until the individual stitches are no longer visible. When completely dry, cut off the sleeves near the shoulders (save the body for other projects). Neatly cut off the cuff from each sleeve. Measure 13½" (34.5 cm) up from cuff edge, or desired total length, then cut off the upper portion of the sleeve (make sure your cuts are straight; use a ruler if necessary, so that the edges look neat). Trim edges as necessary.

FINISHING

With embroidery cotton or fine yarn threaded on an embroidery needle, use running stitches (see Glossary for embroidery instructions) as desired to create radiating star/flower shapes and work French knots at the ends of the radiating lines.





FINISHED SIZE

About 13½ (15¾)" (34.5 [40] cm) circumference; to fit ages 0–12 (12–24) months.

YARN

Worsted weight (#4 Medium).

Shown here: Louisa Harding Grace (50% wool and 50% silk; 110 yd [100 m]/50 g): #06 ruby, 1 ball.

NEEDLES

Size U.S. 6 (4 mm): straight *plus* one extra needle for three-needle bind-off. Adjust needle size if necessary to obtain the correct gauge.

NOTIONS

Tapestry needle with an eye big enough to thread yarn through yet small enough to pass through button's holes; seven ½" (1.3 cm) mother-of-pearl star-shaped buttons.

GAUGE

20 stitches and 28 rows = 4" (10 cm) in reverse stockinette stitch.

ruby foo baby cap

I have made variations of this cap in different yarns and gauges for years. The soft hand of this yarn will not bother baby's gentle brow in any way. Don't fret if you cannot find buttons just like the ones shown here. Most any small button will look lovely punctuating the dangly ends of the tassel. Just make certain to firmly attach whatever buttons you choose.

CAP

Using the crochet method (see Glossary), provisionally CO 46 sts.

Knit 1 row. Work short-rows (see Glossary) as foll:

SHORT-ROW 1 (RS) P42, wrap next st, turn.

SHORT-ROWS 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, AND 14 Knit.

SHORT-ROW 3 P38, wrap next st, turn.

SHORT-ROW 5 P34, wrap next st, turn.

SHORT-ROW 7 P30, wrap next st, turn.

SHORT-ROW 9 P26, wrap next st, turn.

SHORT-ROW 11 P22, wrap next st, turn.

SHORT-ROW 13 P18, wrap next st, turn.

SHORT-ROWS 15 AND 16 Knit.

Rep Short-rows 1–16 four (five) more times, then rep Short-rows 1–14 once more—piece measures about

13½ (15¾)" (34.5 [40] cm) from CO, measured along long edge. With WS facing and using the three-needle method (see Glossary), BO all sts.

FINISHING

Tassel

Using the backward-loop method (see Glossary) CO 18 sts. *BO all sts until 1 st rem. Using the backward-loop method, CO 17 sts—18 sts total. Rep from * 5 more times, then BO all sts. Knot tail ends of yarn to form tassels.

With yarn threaded onto tapestry needle, sew top of cap closed. Sew star buttons firmly to the end of each tassel length. Firmly attach tassel to top of cap.

Lightly steam if needed, allowing opening to curl naturally.





FINISHED SIZE

About 13" (33 cm) wide and 14½" (37 cm) long, after felting and excluding handles.

YARN

Sportweight (#2 Fine).

Shown here: Brown Sheep Nature Spun Sport Weight (100% wool; 184 yd [168 m]/50 g): #225S brick road (A), #107S silver sage (B), #N17S French clay (C), #N80S mountain purple (D), #117S winter blue (E), #104S Grecian olive (F), #308S sunburst gold (G), #880S charcoal (H), #209 wood moss (I), #146S pomegranate (J), and #N18 plum line (K), 1 ball each.

HOOK

Size U.S. G/6 (4 mm). Adjust hook size if necessary to obtain the correct gauge.

NOTIONS

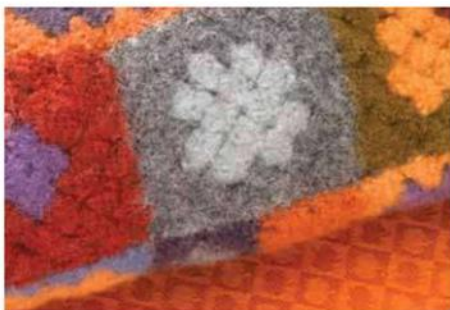
Tapestry needle; set of two rattan handles measuring 6" (15 cm) high and 7½" (19 cm) wide (handles shown here are style hr1 from tallpoppycraft.com); straight pins; about ½ yard (45 cm) lining fabric; matching thread. MAKINGS FOR PATCH (OPTIONAL): small scrap of fabric; iron-on adhesive; contrast thread; fabric ink pad in black; alphabet stamps.

GAUGE

Large square measures 5½" (14 cm) square before felting and 4" (10 cm) square after felting.

granny bag

Granny Squares have been in my life for as long as I can remember. They were probably the first thing I mastered as a fledging crafty-gal. I believe that a granny square throw is the ultimate gift, but a project of that size may be too much of a commitment. This bag condenses all the joy of a crazy patchwork throw into one compact, heartfelt package. When lining this type of bag, I like to add a little patch with a word of inspiration—"smile" in this case.



STITCH GUIDE

Large Square

Ch 5, sl st in first ch to form ring.

RND 1 Ch 2 (counts as 1 dc), 2dc in ring, ch 2, [3dc in ring, ch 2] 3 times, sl st in second ch of beg ch-2 to join—four ch-2 spaces.

RND 2 Ch 4 (counts as dc and ch 2), *(3dc, ch 2, 3dc) in next ch-2 sp, ch 2;

rep from * 2 more times, 3dc, 2 ch, 2dc into last ch-2 sp, sl st in second ch of beg ch-4 to join—8 ch-2 sps.

RND 3 Ch 2 (counts as 1dc), 2dc in same ch-2 sp, ch 2, (3dc, ch 2, 3dc) in next ch-2 sp, ch 2, *(3dc in next ch-2 sp, ch 2, (3dc, 2 ch, 3dc) in the next ch-2 sp, ch 2; rep from * 2 more times, sl st in second ch of beg ch-2 to join—12 ch-2 sps.

RND 4 Ch 4 (counts as dc and ch 2), 3dc in next ch-2 sp, ch 2, (3dc, ch 2, 3dc) in next ch-2 sp, ch 2, *(3dc in next ch-2 sp, ch 2] 2 times, (3dc, ch 2, 3dc) in next ch-2 sp, ch 2; rep from * 2 more times, 2dc into the last ch-2 sp, sl st in second ch of beg ch-4 to join—16 ch-2 sps.

RND 5 Ch 2 (counts as 1 dc), 2 dc in same ch-2 sp, ch 2, 3 dc in next ch-2 sp, ch 2, (3 dc, 2 ch, 3dc) in next ch-2 sp, ch 2, *(3 dc in next ch-2 sp, ch 2] 3 times, (3 dc, ch 2, 3dc) in next ch-2 sp, ch 2; rep from * 2 more times, 3 dc into the last ch-2 sp, ch 2, sl st in second ch of beg ch-2 to join—20 ch-2 sps.

RND 6 Ch 4 (counts as dc and ch 2), [3dc in next ch-2 sp, ch 2] 2 times, (3dc, ch 2, 3dc) in next ch-2 sp, ch 2, *(3dc in next ch-2 sp, ch 2] 4 times, (3dc, ch 2, 3dc) in next ch-2 sp, ch 2; rep from * 2 more times, 3dc in next ch-2 sp, ch 2, 2dc into the last ch-2 sp, sl st in second ch of beg ch-4 to join.

Fasten off and secure.

Medium Square

Work Rnds 1–4 of large square. Fasten off and secure.

Small Square

Work Rnds 1 and 2 of Large Square. Fasten off and secure.

BAG

Following the list of color sequences at right, make 2 of each square (1 each for bag front and back).

FINISHING

Using a whipstitch (see Glossary), sew squares tog as shown at right for the bag front and back. Use a whipstitch to sew the front and back tog along the sides and bottom.

Edging

With A and RS facing, work a row of sc around bag opening, working 1 sc into each dc and 2 sc into each ch-2 sp. Fasten off and secure.

Gusset

Turn bag inside out and flatten base so that the fold is at the center of the base. With A threaded on a tapestry needle, sew a seam across each corner to form “ears” the depth of the small square as shown in photo at left. Fold “ears” toward center of bag base and lightly stitch in place.

Handle Tabs (make 4)

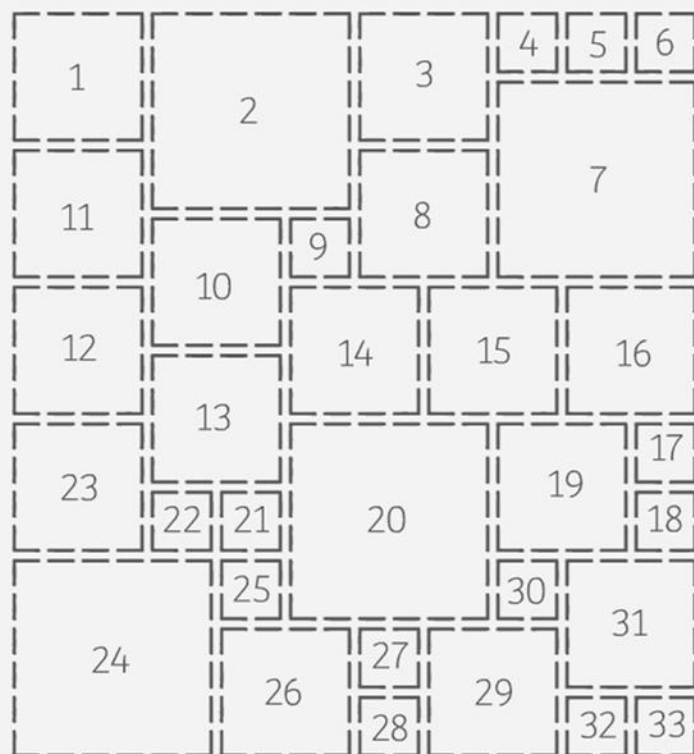
With A, ch 33.

ROW 1 Skip 3 ch, dc in next and all foll ch to end—31 dc.

ROW 2 Ch 3 (counts as 1 dc), dc in first and all foll dc to end.

Fasten off and secure.

ASSEMBLY DIAGRAM FOR FRONT AND BACK



COLOR SEQUENCE FOR SQUARES

SQUARE	RND1	RND2	RND3	RND4	RND5	RND6
1	C	C	B	B		
2	G	F	F	F	L	L
3	D	D	C	C		
4	J	J				
5	B	L				
6	H	H				
7	L	J	J	J	F	F
8	I	I	I	G		
9	A	A				
10	B	E	E	E		
11	A	I	I	H		
12	D	J	J	J		
13	L	L	L	C		
14	I	I	D	D		
15	E	H	H	J		
16	A	G	G	E		
17	H	L				
18	C	C				
19	L	F	F	F		
20	A	A	I	I	B	B
21	E	E				
22	G	J				
23	B	B	H	H		
24	A	G	G	G	I	I
25	G	G				
26	E	D	D	J		
27	A	A				
28	F	L				
29	G	G	H	H		
30	H	J				
31	D	D	D	G		
32	C	C				
33	B	A				

Felting

Felt bag and tabs as described on page 118. Pin tabs to a firm surface so that they dry flat and straight.

Attach Handles

Pin handle tabs as desired at top edge of bag and insert handles. With A threaded on a needle, sew handle tabs securely to bag.

Lining

Measure bag for lining and add 1" (2.5 cm) to width measurement and 1½" (3.8 cm) to length measurement. Cut two pieces of lining fabric to these measurements. Iron optional patch fabric onto fusible adhesive following manufacturer's directions. Trim to size. Apply message using ink pad and alphabet stamps. Iron patch onto RS of lining fabric in desired location. With contrasting

thread and using the buttonhole setting on a sewing machine, topstitch patch in place. With RS facing tog and using a ½" (1.3 cm) seam allowance, sew lining front and back tog along sides and bottom. Press seams. Make gussets as for bag. Fold opened end of lining down 1" (2.5 cm) to WS and press. Pin lining to bag with WS facing and sew in place by hand.







FINISHED SIZES

Small rose measures about 2" (5 cm) across; large rose measures about 3" (7.5 cm) across.

YARN

Habu Textiles Shosenshi Paper item
#A-60 (100% linen; 280 yd [250 m]/28 g);
#113 red, 1 skein.

NEEDLES

SMALL ROSE: Size U.S. 6 (4 mm): straight.
LARGE ROSE: Size U.S. 10 (6 mm):
straight. Adjust needle size if necessary
to obtain the correct gauge. Gauge is not
crucial for this project.

NOTIONS

Tapestry needle; brooch back or safety
pin; hair or bobby pins; matching thread,
embroidery cotton, or strong fine yarn to
attach.

GAUGE

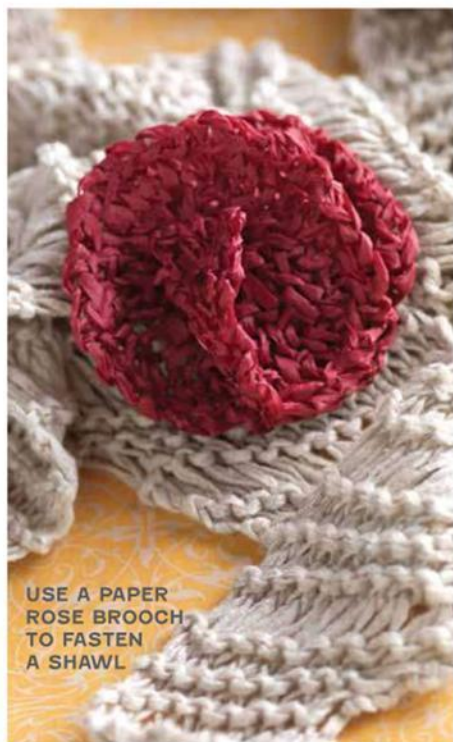
20 stitches and 28 rows = 4" (10 cm) in
stockinette stitch with smaller needles
and yarn used single; 15 stitches and 20
rows = 4" (10 cm) in stockinette stitch
with larger needles and yarn used
double.

NOTES

- *Yarn is used single for small rose and
double for large rose.
- *Small roses weigh about 1.5 grams
each; large rose weighs about 3 grams.

paper roses

"... paper roses ... oh, how real those roses
seem to be ..." I can't help but hear Marie
Osmond crooning as I whip up these lovelies.
I first started making and sharing these
when my desperate search for a bow came
up short. It did not take long for me to think
of roses made from papery Habu yarn. One
skein of the yarn will make countless buds
for wrapping, pinning, hair clipping, and
napkin ringing.



ROSE

Loosely CO 10 sts.

ROW 1 Knit.

ROW 2, 4, AND 6 Purl.

ROW 3 *K1f&b (see Glossary); rep from *—20 sts.

ROW 5 *K1f&b; rep from *—40 sts.

ROW 7 *K1f&b; rep from *—80 sts.

ROW 8 Purl.

Loosely BO all sts. Cut yarn, leaving a 15" (38 cm) tail for seaming.



FINISHING

Twist piece on itself into a spiral.

With the tail threaded on a tapestry needle, sew the spiral tog. Weave in loose ends.

NAPKIN RING

With smaller needles and single strand of yarn, CO 22 sts. Knit 4 rows. BO all sts. Cut yarn, leaving a 15" (38 cm) tail for seaming.

Thread tail on a tapestry needle and sew selvedge edges tog, overlapping them slightly, to form a ring. Thread tails of rose on a tapestry needle and sew to ring join. Weave in loose ends.

HAIRPINS

Attach to hair or bobby pin.

BROOCH

With matching thread, embroidery cotton, or strong fine yarn, attach rose firmly to brooch back or safety pin.

ginger syrup

** Makes about 1½ cups*

Ginger syrup adds a fresh taste to tea. Package it in a pretty bottle tucked inside a Felted Tea Cozy (page 74) or decorated with some Paper Roses (page 34) for anyone on your gift list.

WHAT TO GATHER

3 cups water
2 cups sugar
6 ounces fresh chopped
gingerroot, unpeeled

WHAT TO DO

Combine all ingredients in a saucepan and bring to a boil stirring occasionally.

Simmer about 20 to 30 minutes until reduced by about half.

Remove from heat and let cool.

Strain into a pretty bottle and refrigerate until ready to give.

Include a note or label that says:

~ Add 1–2 tsp of ginger syrup in hot or cold tea

or

~ Add 1 tbsp of ginger syrup to a tall glass filled with ice, then add club soda to make real ginger ale.

~ Keep refrigerated, please.







petaled slouch cap

FINISHED SIZE

About 18¾" (47.5 cm) brim circumference.

YARN

Aran weight (#4 Medium).

Shown here: Elsebeth Lavold Silky Flamme (50% Peruvian wool, 30% alpaca, 20% silk; 82 yd [75 m]/50 g): #9 oliver, 2 balls.

NEEDLES

Size U.S. 7 (4.5 mm): 16" (40 cm) circular (cir). Size U.S. 10½ (6.5 mm): 16" (40 cm) cir and set of 4 double-pointed (dnp). Adjust needle size if necessary to obtain the correct gauge.

NOTIONS

Marker (m); tapestry needle.

GAUGE

14 stitches and 20 rounds = 4" (10 cm) in stockinette stitch worked in the round with larger needle; 16 stitches = 4" (10 cm) in brim pattern with smaller needle.

A little bit cloche and a little bit beret equals a whole bunch of lovely for the committed hat wearer on your gift list. With the pumped up yarn, this pattern quickly appears on the needles. The unconventional construction—worked from top knot down—contributes to the fun lessons this gift can teach. Learn a bit of lace and shaping while working in the round, all in one very satisfying project. Top it off with a Crochet Flower Brooch (page 47).



CAP

With dpn, CO on 5 sts. Work 5-st I-cord (see Glossary) until piece measures 3" (7.5 cm) from CO.

INC ROW *K1f&b; rep from *—10 sts.

Divide sts onto 3 dpn, place marker (pm), and join for working in rnds, being careful not to twist sts. Cont as foll, changing to cir needle when there are too many sts to fit comfortably on dpn:

RND 1 *K1, k1f&b (see Glossary); rep from * to end of rnd—15 sts.

RND 2 *P1, k1, p1; rep from * to end of rnd.

RND 3 *P1, yo, k1, yo, p1; rep from * to end of rnd—25 sts.

RND 4 *P1, k3, p1; rep from * to end of rnd.

RND 5 *P1, [k1, yo] 2 times, k1, p1; rep from * to end of rnd—35 sts.

RND 6 *P1, k5, p1; rep from * to end of rnd.

RND 7 *P1, k2, yo, k1, yo, k2, p1; rep from * to end of rnd—45 sts.



RND 8 *P1, k7, p1; rep from * to end of rnd.

RND 9 *P1, k3, yo, k1, yo, k3, p1; rep from * to end of rnd—55 sts.

RND 10 *P1, k9, p1; rep from * to end of rnd.

RND 11 *P1, k4, yo, k1, yo, k4, p1; rep from * to end of rnd—65 sts.

RND 12 *P1, k11, p1; rep from * to end of rnd.

RND 13 *P1, k5, yo, k1, yo, k5, p1; rep from * to end of rnd—75 sts.

RNDS 14–16 *P1, k13, p1; rep from * to end of rnd.

RND 17 *P1, yo, ssk, k9, k2tog, yo, p1; rep from * to end of rnd.

RND 18 *P2, k11, p2; rep from * to end of rnd.

RND 19 *P2, yo, ssk, k7, k2tog, yo, p2; rep from * to end of rnd.

RND 20 *P3, k9, p3; rep from * to end of rnd.

RND 21 *P3, yo, ssk, k5, k2tog, yo, p3; rep from * to end of rnd.

RND 22 *P4, k7, p4; rep from * to end of rnd.

RND 23 *P4, yo, ssk, k3, k2tog, yo, p4; rep from * to end of rnd.

RND 24 *P5, k5, p5; rep from *
to end of rnd.

RND 25 *P5, yo, ssk, k1, k2tog, yo, p5;
rep from * to end of rnd.

RND 26 *P6, k3, p6; rep from *
to end of rnd.

RND 27 *P6, yo, sl 1, k2tog, pssso, yo,
p6; rep from * to end of rnd.

RND 28 *P7, k1 through back loop (tbl),
p7; rep from * to end of rnd.

RND 29 *P6, p1f&b, k1tbl, p1f&b, p6;
rep from * to end of rnd—85 sts.

RND 30 *P8, k1tbl, p8; rep from *
to end of rnd.

RND 31 *P7, p1f&b, k1tbl, p1f&b, p7;
rep from * to end of rnd—95 sts.

RNDS 32–36 *P9, k1tbl, p9; rep from *
to end of rnd.

RND 37 *P7, p2tog, k1tbl, p2tog, p7;
rep from * to end of rnd—85 sts rem.

RNDS 38–42 *P8, k1tbl, p8; rep from *
to end of rnd.

RND 43 *P6, p2tog, k1tbl, p2tog, p6;
rep from * to end of rnd—75 sts rem.

Brim

Change to smaller cir needle.

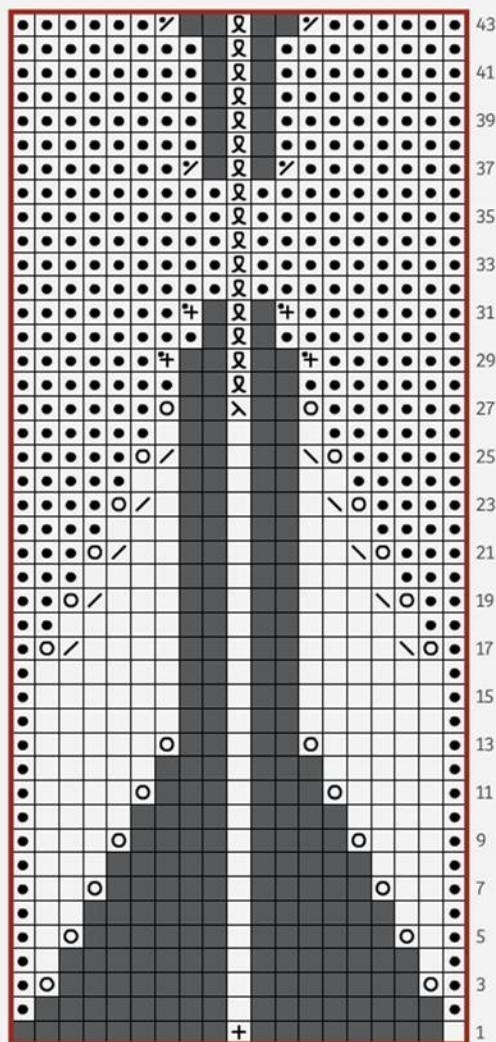
RNDS 44–58 *P7, k1tbl, p7; rep from *
to end of rnd.

Loosely BO all sts knitwise.

FINISHING

Weave in loose ends. Lightly steam if
needed. Tie I-cord into an overhand knot.

* PETALED SLOUCH CAP CHART



- knit
- purl
- k2tog
- ssk
- k1f&b
- yo
- sl1, k2tog, pssso
- k1tbl
- p1f&b
- p2tog
- pattern repeat





FINISHED SIZE

About 23½ (25½, 27½)" (59.5 [65, 70] cm) chest circumference, tied with a 1" (2.5 cm) overlap. To fit ages 12 (18, 24) months. Jacket shown measures 25½" (65 cm).

YARN

Worsted weight (#4 Medium).

Shown here: Blue Sky Alpacas Dyed Cotton (100% cotton; 150 yd [137 m]/100 g); #629 azul (MC), 2 (3, 3) skeins.

Blue Sky Alpacas Melange (100% baby alpaca; 110 yd [100 m]/50 g): #800 cornflower (CC) 1 skein.

NEEDLES

Size U.S. 8 (5 mm): straight and set of 4 or 5 double-pointed needles (dpn). Adjust needle size if necessary to obtain the correct gauge.

NOTIONS

Markers (m); waste yarn; tapestry needle; embroidery needle; straight or T-pins; one 8 yd (8 m) skein each of DMC 25 Embroidery Cotton in #780 (copper), #3835 (mauve), and #833 (gold).

GAUGE

16 stitches and 28 rows = 4" (10 cm) in seed stitch.

NOTES

- ✧ The jacket is worked from top down.
- ✧ For a tidy edge, join new balls of yarn at least 5 sts in from edges.
- ✧ Because the felt piece is cut and appliquéd, it is important to felt until no stitches are visible to ensure that the piece won't fray.
- ✧ Use straight or T-pins to attach felt circles to sweater while deciding on placement.

precious baby jacket

There is no denying it—baby's first sweater has to be special! Knits for a baby compel us to embrace words such as "handmade" and "heirloom." This jacket is a quick-knit top-down raglan in seed stitch (no need to worry about unfinished edges curling). The addition of tone-on-tone felted appliqué and colorful stitching defines what a modern hand-crafted heirloom is all about—simple, practical, and special.

STITCH GUIDE

Seed Stitch

(multiple of 2 sts + 1)

ROW/RND 1 K1, *p1, k1; rep from *.

ROW/RND 2 Work the sts opposite of how they appear (purl the knits and knit the purls).

Rep these 2 rows/rounds for pattern.

JACKET

With MC and straight needles, CO 58 sts.
Knit 1 WS row.

SET-UP ROW (RS) K8, place marker (pm),
k4, pm, k22, pm, k4, pm, k20.

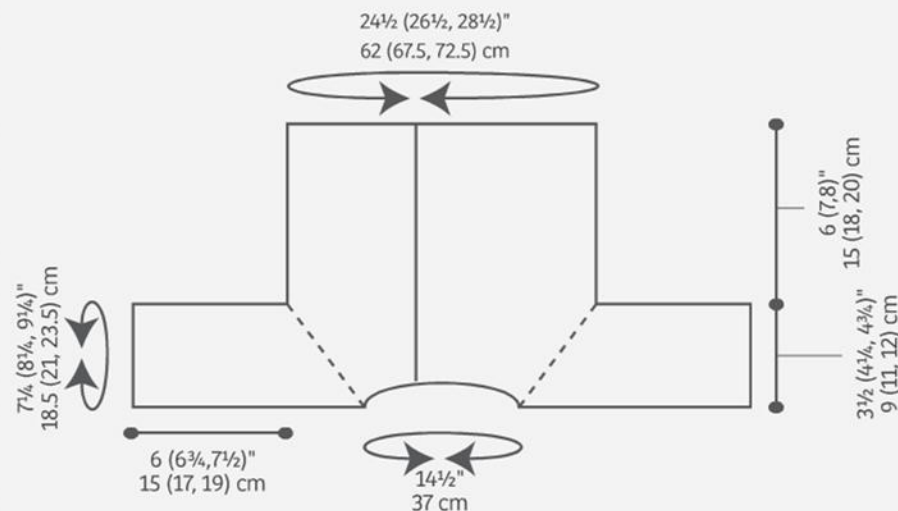
Work 1 (WS) row in seed st (see Stitch Guide), slipping markers as you come to them.

INC ROW (RS) *Work in seed st to 1 st before m, (k1, p1) in next st, sl m, (k1, p1) in next st; rep from *—8 sts inc'd.
Rep the last 2 rows 11 (13, 15) times, ending with a WS row—154 (170, 186) sts.

Divide for Fronts and Back

(RS) Work 20 (22, 24) sts in seed st for left front, remove m, place next 28 (32, 36) sts onto waste yarn for left sleeve, remove m, work 46 (50, 54) sts in seed st for back, remove m, place next 28 (32, 36) sts onto waste yarn for right sleeve, remove m, work rem 32 (34, 36) sts in seed st for right front—98 (106, 114) sts rem.

* BABY JACKET SCHEMATIC



Lower Body

Cont even in seed st until piece measures about 6 (7, 8)" (15 [18, 20] cm) from armhole, or desired length. BO all sts in patt.

SLEEVES

Place 28 (32, 36) held sleeve sts onto dpn. With MC and RS facing, pick up and knit 1 st at base of armhole, work 28 (32, 36) sts in seed st as established—29 (33, 37) sts total. Pm and join for working in rnds. Work even in patt until piece measures 6 (6¾, 7½)" (15 [17, 19] cm) from pick-up rnd, or desired total length. BO all sts in patt.

FINISHING

Weave in loose ends. Block lightly or steam-block to measurements.

Felt Appliqué

With CC and straight needles, CO 36 sts. Work even in St st (knit RS rows; purl WS rows) until piece measures about 10" (25.5 cm) from CO. BO all sts. Felt the piece as described on page 118. Cut six circles varying in size from 1½" (3.8 cm) to 2" (5 cm). With embroidery cotton threaded on embroidery needle, use stem stitches (see Glossary) to embroider simple star shapes on the felt circles, working 2 circles each with copper, mauve, and gold. With CC threaded on embroidery needle, whipstitch (see Glossary) each circle firmly to jacket fronts as desired.





Braided Ties

Mark for first tie at top edge of right front. Cut 3 lengths of CC, each about 30" (76 cm) long. Thread all three lengths on a tapestry needle and make a single stitch at the marked position. Center the lengths to make 6 equal ends. Divide ends into

three groups of 2 strands each and work a three-strand braid for about 11" (28 cm). Tie the end in an overhand knot to secure. Trim ends. Make another braided tie to correspond opposite the first tie, about 1" (2.5 cm) in from the left front edge.



FINISHED SIZE

About 3" (7.5 cm) wide and 5" (12.5 cm) tall.

YARN

Sportweight (#2 Fine).

Shown here: Elsebeth Lavold Silky Wool (45% wool, 35% silk, 20% nylon; 192 yd [175 m]/50 g): #51 eggshell, 1 skein.

HOOK

Size U.S. F/5 (3.75 mm).

NOTIONS

Tapestry needle; brooch back or safety pin; needle with an eye large enough to thread yarn and small enough to pass through beads; 43 size 6 silver-lined clear seed beads.

GAUGE

Each petal measures about 2" (5 cm) long and 1¼" (3.2 cm) wide. Exact gauge is not crucial for this project.

crochet flower brooch

Using a magical combination of white bread, glitter, and glue, my niece crafted a flower-shaped brooch for me. Her joy in the making and giving was inspiring. This crochet variation, worked in a crisp wool/silk yarn is a tad more practical with just the right amount of sparkle in the beads. Pin the flower to the Petaled Slouch Cap on page 38. Make three or four for a lapel and call it a bouquet.

FLOWER PETAL (MAKE 6)

Ch 12 to form spine of petal.

ROW 1 Sl st into second ch from hook, *sc into next ch, dc into next 2 ch, trc into next 3 ch, dc into next 2 ch, sc into next ch, sl st into last ch.

ROW 2 Working along the opposite side of the same ch base, sl st into first ch, rep from * of Row 1.

Fasten off and secure.

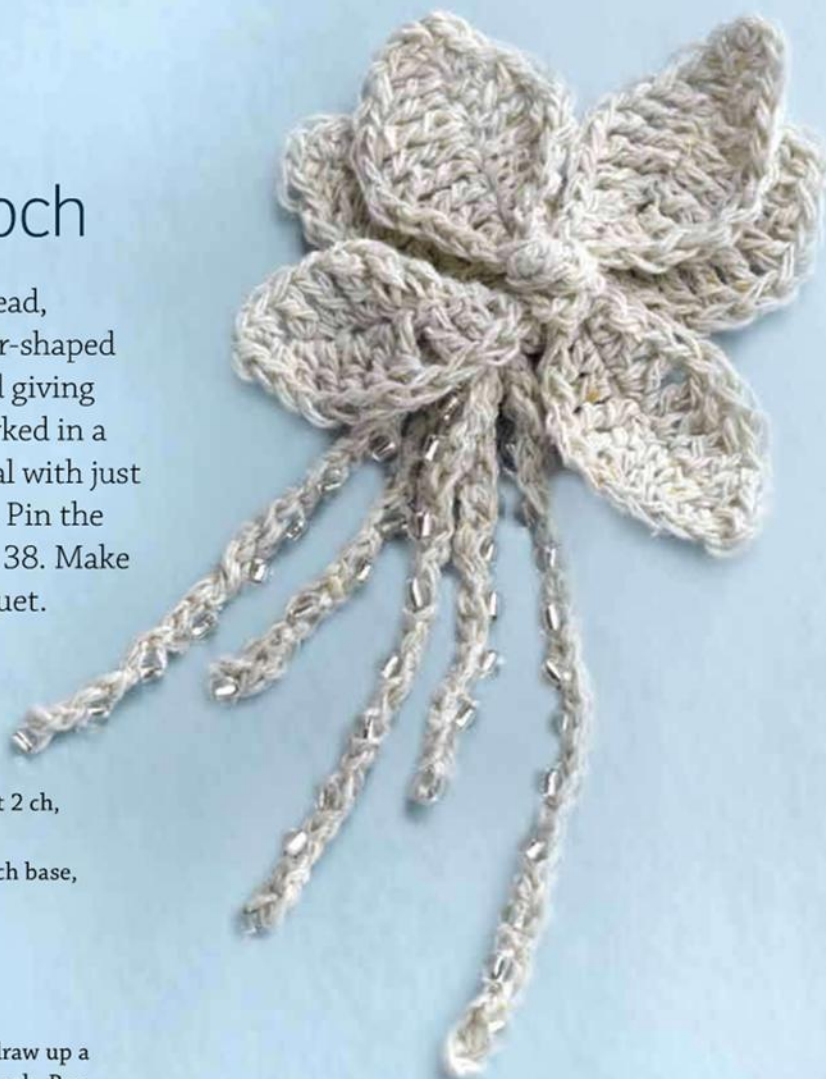
FLOWER CENTER BOBBLE

Ch 4. *Insert hook into back loop of next ch, yo and draw up a loop, yo, draw through 1 loop on hook—2 loops on hook. Rep from * to * 3 more times—5 loops on hook. Yo and draw through all 5 loops on hook. Fasten off.

Knot together tails of yarn to create a bobble.

FLOWER FRINGE

Ch 30. Skip first ch, sl st in each ch to end. [Ch 20, turn, skip first ch, sl st in each ch to end] 2 times. [Ch 25, turn, skip first ch, sl st in each ch to end] 2 times—5 fringes total. Fasten off.



FINISHING

Weave in loose ends. Arrange petals in a flower shaping, overlapping, and stitch them firmly into place at the center. Position flower center bobble and use tail ends to attach to joined petals. Thread yarn on needle and attach 11 beads on ch-30 fringe, 9 beads on each ch-25 fringe, and 7 beads on each ch-20 fringe. Position fringe at back of flower and firmly stitch into place. Attach firmly to brooch back or safety pin.





cheerful earmuffs

Those who live in cold climates know that combating chilly ears in a stylish way can take a lot of imagination—especially when avoiding “hat head.” Ears will stay toasty and passersby will smile when these quirky muffs appear. I reclaimed the frame from fake fur muffs that had knocked around my closet for far too long. If you don’t have your own old frame, take a trip to a local rummage shop. Who knows what else you can find there that will inspire you for other projects?

FINISHED SIZE

Inside frame measures 3" (7.5 cm) in diameter at the ears.

YARN

DK weight (#3 Fine).

Shown here: Classic Elite Miracle (50% alpaca, 50% Tencel; 108 yd [99 m]/50 g): #3318 olive, 1 skein. This yarn has been discontinued; substitute the DK weight yarn of your choice.

HOOK

Size U.S. G/6 (4 mm). Adjust hook size if necessary to obtain the correct gauge.

NOTIONS

Earmuffs frame (reclaimed, if possible); tapestry needle; small amount of polyester or bamboo fiber filling.

GAUGE

18 dc and 4 rows = 4" (10 cm).



MUFF INSIDE PIECE (make 2)

RND 1 Ch 2, 6 sc in second ch from hook, sl st in first ch to join—6 sc.

RND 2 Ch 1 (counts as 1 sc), sc in same ch, [2 sc in next sc] 5 times, sl st in top of ch-1 to join—12 sc.

RNDS 3, 5, 7, AND 9 Ch 1, sc into each sc, sl st in top of ch-1 to join.

RND 4 Ch 1, sc in same ch, [2 sc in next sc] 11 times, sl st in top of ch-1 to join—24 sc.

RND 6 Ch 1, 1 sc into same ch, sc into next sc; *2 sc into next sc, sc into next sc; rep from * to end, sl st in top of ch-1 to join—36 sc.

RND 8 Ch 1, 1 sc into same ch, sc into the next 2 sc, *2 sc into next sc, sc into next 2 sc; rep from * to end, sl st in top of ch-1 to join—48 sc.

Fasten off and secure.

MUFF OUTSIDE PIECE (make 2)

RNDS 1–8 Work as for inside piece.

RND 9 Ch 5, sl st in same ch-1 as join of previous rnd, *ch 5, sl st in next sc; rep from * to end.

Fasten off and secure.

BAND COVER

Ch 12, turn.

ROW 1 Skip 3 ch, dc in each ch to end, turn—10 dc.

ROW 2 Ch 2 (counts as dc), dc in each dc to end, turn.

Rep Row 2 until piece measures about 12½" (31.5 cm) from beg or long enough to cover band of earmuff frame.

Fasten off and secure.

FLOWERS (make 6)

RND 1 Ch 2, 5 sc in second ch from hook, sl st in top of first sc.

RND 2 Ch 2, (3dc, ch 2, sl st) in the same sc as joining sl st, *ch 2, (3dc, ch 2, sl st) into next sc; rep from * 3 more times—5 petals.

Fasten off.

DANGLIES

Dangly 1

Work Rnds 1 and 2 of flower but do not fasten off. Ch 20, turn, skip first ch, sl st in each ch to end.

Fasten off.

Dangly 2

Work Rnds 1 and 2 of flower but do not fasten off. Ch 15, turn, skip first ch, sl st in each ch to end.

Fasten off.

Dangly 3

Work Rnds 1 and 2 of flower but do not fasten off. Ch 10, turn, skip first ch, sl st in each ch to end.

Fasten off.

FINISHING

Wrap band cover around earmuff frame band and, with yarn threaded on a



tapestry needle, use a mattress stitch (see Glossary) to join side edges tog. With WS facing, sew one inside piece to one outside piece, leaving about one-third of the distance open. Insert round wired part of earmuff frame, lightly stuff, then sew to end of seam. Rep for other side. Sew ends

of band cover to earmuff sections. Sew flowers evenly spaced along band.

Attach danglies in a group near the band join at the top of one earmuff.



gilded mesh scarf

The simple stitch used for this project combined with the crisp ribbonlike silk yarn will make even a newbie crocheter look like a pro. In just a few easy evenings, a luscious length of spun gold will magically appear off of your hook. Add a scalloped edge of silver beads to take the opulence one step further. If your recipient is not a flashy gal, try a dry linen or a raw silk yarn and trim the ends with beads that have a subtle matte finish.



SCARF

Leaving a 30" (76 cm) tail (to use later to string beads), ch 63.

ROW 1 Trc into eleventh ch from hook, *ch 3, sk 3 ch, trc into next ch; rep from * to end, turn—14 grids.

ROW 2 Ch 7 (counts as 1 trc and 3 ch), *trc in top of the next trc, ch 3; rep from * to last grid, sk 3 ch, trc in next ch, turn.

Rep Row 2 until piece measures 66" (168 cm) or desired length, leaving a minimum of 30" (76 cm) of yarn for stringing beads.

Fasten off and secure.

FINISHING

Thread yarn still attached to piece onto tapestry needle. *Slide 9 beads onto yarn. Secure beaded "scallop" with a few stitches at the base of the next trc; rep from * to end. Fasten off securely and weave in end. Rep for opposite edge.

Block to measurements.



FINISHED SIZE

About 66" (168 cm) long and 8"
(20.5 cm) wide.

YARN

Sportweight (#2 fine).

Shown here: Alchemy Silken Straw
(100% silk; 260 yd [237 m]/40 g): #67e
topaz, 1 skein.

HOOK

Size U.S. 7 (4.5 mm).

NOTIONS

Tapestry needle (with eye big enough to
thread the yarn yet small enough for the
beads to slide over); 252 size 6" silver-
colored glass seed beads.

GAUGE

About 7 grids = 4" (10 cm) wide and 5"
(12.5 cm) high. Exact gauge is not
crucial for this project.

NOTES

- ✧ The pattern is a multiple of 4 stitches
plus 11.
- ✧ Leave a length of yarn about 30"
(76 cm) long at beginning of piece
to use later for stringing beads.







FINISHED SIZE

About 8" (20.5 cm) foot circumference and 9" (23 cm) foot length from back of heel to tip of toe. To fit woman's U.S. shoe sizes 7 to 9. Length of foot can be altered to accommodate other shoe sizes.

YARN

Worsted weight (#4 Medium).

Shown here: Mirasol Qjina (80% baby alpaca, 20% bamboo; 91 yd [83 m]/50 g): #915 (gray) 2 skeins, #900 (natural) and #903 (burnt orange), 1 skein each.

NEEDLES

Size U.S. 5 (3.75 mm): set of 4 double-pointed (dpn). Adjust needle size if necessary to obtain the correct gauge.

NOTIONS

Marker (m); stitch holder (optional for use during heel shaping); tapestry needle.

GAUGE

24 stitches and 24 rounds = 4" (10 cm) in stockinette charted pattern, worked in rounds.

NOTES

- ✧ To make it easier to hide the double wrapped stitches during the heel shaping on a purl row, turn the work so that the RS (knit side) is facing you, then pick up the wraps with the left-hand needle and place them on the right-hand needle (see Glossary). Turn work so that the WS (purl side) is facing you and purl the stitch together with the wraps.
- ✧ Lengthen or shorten foot as needed by working more or fewer rows of the dotted pattern (Rows 53 to 60 of chart) before you begin the toe shaping.

weekend socks

Tucked away in my sweater cupboard, I still have the ski sweater my mother knitted many years ago for my father based on traditional crisp, clean, two-color Norwegian motifs. Although the patterns have not changed over the years, the choice of yarns certainly has. The alpaca-bamboo blend used here creates the most scrumptious and decadent pair of socks—just perfect for weekend lounging. Think of them as après-ski sweaters for the feet!

LEFT SOCK

With gray, CO 48 sts. Divide sts as evenly as possible on 3 dpn. Place marker (pm) and join for working in rnds, being careful not to twist sts. Work in k4, p2 rib for 7 rnds. Work Rnds 1–36 of Weekend Socks chart.

Heel

Sl the previous st knitted onto the next needle, then slip the previous 22 sts onto a holder or waste yarn to work later for instep. Place rem 26 sts onto one needle to work heel.

Change to burnt orange and work short-rows (see Glossary) as foll:

SHORT-ROW 1 (RS) Sl 1, k23, wrap next st, turn.

SHORT-ROW 2 (WS) P22, wrap next st, turn.

SHORT-ROW 3 Knit to 1 st before gap created on previous RS row, wrap next st, turn.

SHORT-ROW 4 Purl to 1 st before gap created on previous WS row, wrap next st, turn.

SHORT-ROWS 5–14 Rep Short-rows 3 and 4 five more times—10 sts rem unwrapped in center.

SHORT-ROW 15 K10. Knit wrap tog with the next st (see Glossary), wrap the next stitch (this st has 2 wraps), turn.

SHORT-ROW 16 P11. Purl wrap tog with the next st, wrap the next st (this st has 2 wraps), turn.

SHORT-ROW 17 Knit to the first wrapped st, knit the 2 wraps tog with the next st, wrap the next st (this st has 2 wraps), turn.



SHORT-ROW 18 Purl to the first wrapped st, purl the 2 wraps tog with the next st (see Notes), wrap the next stitch (this st has 2 wraps), turn.

SHORT-ROWS 19–28 Rep Short-rows 17 and 18 five more times.

SHORT-ROW 29 K24, knit the 2 wraps tog with the next st, wrap the next st, turn—there is just 1 wrap on this row.

SHORT-ROW 30 P25, purl the 2 wraps tog with the next st, wrap the next st, turn—there is just 1 wrap on this row.

Rejoin for working in rnds (48 sts) and cont as charted until piece measures $6\frac{3}{4}$ " (17 cm) from center of heel or about $2\frac{1}{4}$ " (5.5 cm) less than desired total length (see Notes).

Shape Toe

Change to burnt orange and knit 1 rnd. Dec as folls:

RND 1 *K2tog, k20, ssk; rep from * to end of rnd—44 sts rem.

WEEKEND SOCKS CHART

RNDS 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, AND 12 Knit.

RND 3 *K2tog, k18, ssk; rep from * to end of rnd—40 sts rem.

RND 5 *K2tog, k16, ssk; rep from * to end of rnd—36 sts rem.

RND 7 *K2tog, k14, ssk; rep from * to end of rnd—32 sts rem.

RND 9 *K2tog, k12, ssk; rep from * to end of rnd—28 sts rem.

RND 11 *K2tog, k10, ssk; rep from * to end of rnd—24 sts rem.

RND 13 *K2tog, k8, ssk; rep from * to end of rnd—20 sts rem.

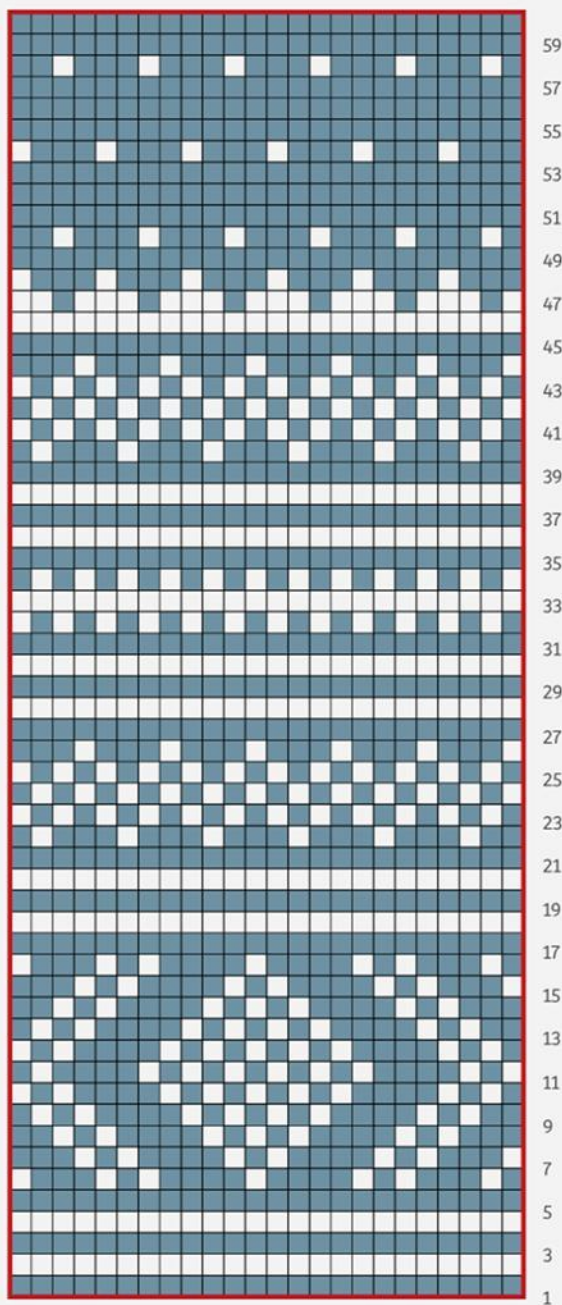
RND 14 Knit.

FINISHING

Divide remaining 20 sts equally onto 2 needles. Using the Kitchener st (see Glossary), graft these sts tog. Weave in loose ends. Block lightly if desired.

RIGHT SOCK

CO and work as for left sock to beginning of heel. Set up for heel as foll: slip the first st onto the previous needle, then slip the next 22 sts onto a holder or waste yarn to work later for instep. Place rem 26 sts onto one needle to work short-row heel. Beg with Short-row 2, complete as for left sock.



■ gray
□ natural
□ pattern repeat





modern mangas

FINISHED SIZE

About 7¾" (19.5 cm) wrist circumference, 11½" (29 cm) upper arm circumference, and 14" (35.5 cm) long, allowing cast-on edge to roll.

To fit an average-size woman.

YARN

Worsted weight (#4 Medium).

Shown here: Valley Yarns Stockbridge (50% alpaca, 50% wool; 109 yd [100 m]/50 g): soft grape (medium purple), terra cotta (soft orange), olive, wild rose (medium pink), stone blue (pale blue), periwinkle, and dark grey, 1 skein each.

NEEDLES

Size U.S. 6 (4 mm): set of 4 double-pointed (dpn). Adjust needle size if necessary to obtain the correct gauge.

NOTIONS

Marker (m); tapestry needle.

GAUGE

22 stitches and 24 rounds = 4" (10 cm) in stockinette charted pattern, worked in rounds.

Mangas is the Spanish word for "sleeves." The mountain people in the Andes wear the most wonderful ornately knitted sleeves over their clothing for warmth. They're like leg warmers for the arms. I fused this familiar Peruvian silhouette with traditional British Isle patterning, then added more color and texture with some not-so-afterthought embroidery. You don't have to live in the Andes to fight off the chill with stylish and thoroughly modern mangas.



FIRST MANGA

With soft orange, CO 40 sts. Divide sts as evenly as possible on 3 dpn. Place marker (pm) and join for working in rnds, being careful not to twist sts.

RNDS 1–9 Knit.

RND 10 Purl.

RNDS 11–19 Knit.

Work Rnd 1 of First Manga chart and *at the same time* inc 3 sts evenly spaced—43 sts. Cont as charted, inc 1 st each end of needle on the 4th rnd, then every foll 7th rnd 9 more times—63 sts. Work through Rnd 72 of chart.

Change to periwinkle and work as foll:

RNDS 1, 2, 5, AND 6 Knit.

RNDS 3, 4, 7, AND 8 Purl.

BO all sts knitwise.

SECOND MANGA

With medium purple, CO 40 sts. Divide sts as evenly as possible on 3 dpn. Pm and join for working in rnds, being careful not to twist sts.

RNDS 1–9 Knit.

RND 10 Purl.

RNDS 11–19 Knit.

Work Rnd 1 of Second Manga chart and *at the same time* inc 3 sts evenly spaced—43 sts. Cont as charted, inc 1 st each end of needle on the 4th rnd, then every foll 7th rnd 9 more times—63 sts. Work through Rnd 72 of chart.

Change to olive and work as foll:

RNDS 1, 2, 5, AND 6 Knit.

RNDS 3, 4, 7, AND 8 Purl.

BO all sts knitwise.

FINISHING

Weave in loose ends. Lightly steam-block.

Embroidery

FIRST MANGA Scatter French knots (see Glossary) in different yarn colors on the soft orange area. With pale blue, work a French knot in the center of each diamond motif on chart Rnd 13. With pale blue, work a string of cross-sts (see Glossary) along the solid dark gray band between chart Rnds 20 and 24. With olive, work duplicate sts (see Glossary) center cross motifs beg on chart Rnd 31. With dark gray, work a French knot in the center of each cross motif on chart Rnd 33. With medium purple, work a French knot in the center of each diamond motif on chart Rnd 54.

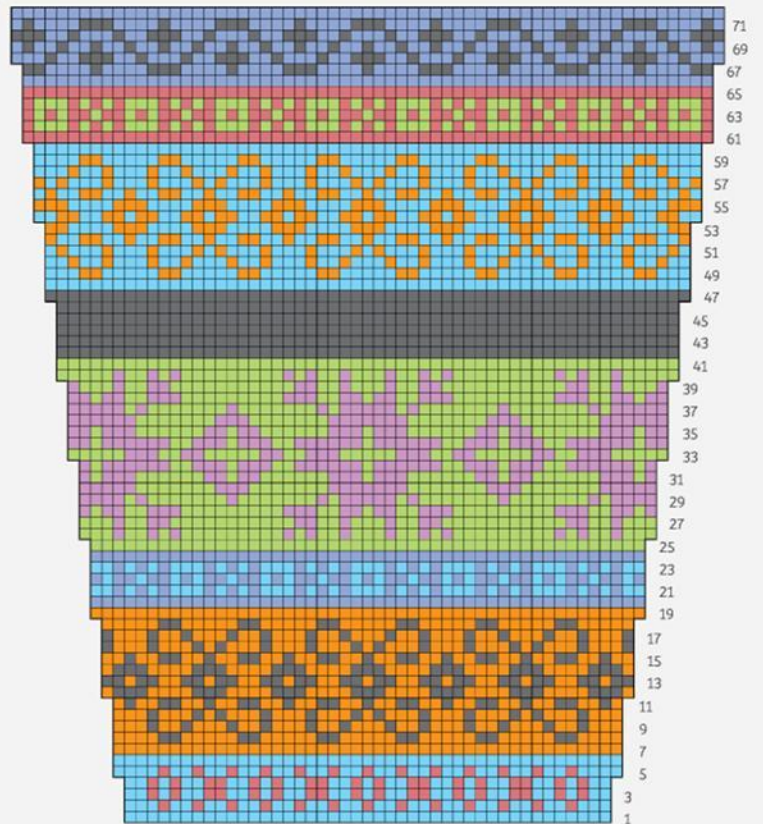
SECOND MANGA Scatter French knots in different yarn colors on the medium purple area. With medium purple, work a French knot in the center of each diamond motif on chart Rnd 13. With pale blue, work duplicate sts in center cross motifs beginning on chart Rnd 31. With soft orange, work a French knot in the center of each cross motif on chart Rnd 33. With medium pink, work a string of cross-sts along the solid dark gray band between chart Rnds 42 and 47. With medium purple, work a French knot in the center of each diamond motif on chart Rnd 54.

First Manga



-  dark gray
-  pale blue
-  soft orange
-  periwinkle
-  olive
-  medium purple
-  medium pink

Second Manga





FINISHED SIZE

About 7½" (19 cm) inside circumference.

YARN

Bulky (#5 Bulky) and sportweight (#2 Fine).

Shown here: FELTED BASES: Brown Sheep Lamb's Pride Bulky (85% wool, 15% mohair; 125 yd [114 m]/100 g): #m04 charcoal heather, #m162 mulberry, #m145 spice, #m173 wild violet, #m18 khaki, small amounts of each.

WRAPPING YARN: Brown Sheep Cotton Fine (80% cotton, 20% merino; 222 yd [203 m]/50 g): #cf930 candy apple, #cf005 cavern, #cf375 rue, #cf770 wisteria, #cf455 willow leaf, #cf450 oriental jade, and #cf860 Sedona red, small amounts of each.

NEEDLES

Size U.S. 11 (8 mm): straight *plus* 1 extra needle for three-needle bind-off.

NOTIONS

Size L/11 (8 mm) crochet hook and smooth waste yarn for provisional cast-on; tapestry needle.

GAUGE

About 10 stitches and 13 rows = 4" (10 cm) in stockinette stitch, before felting. Exact gauge is not crucial for this project.

NOTES

- ☆ The bangles are shown in two sizes based on the number of stitches cast-on. The pattern is written for the thinner size with the thicker size in parentheses.
- ☆ Some of the bangle bases are knitted in a single color, others are worked in two colors. Try different combinations, have fun, and savor your time playing with color.
- ☆ For thicker bands of color, double the yarn when wrapping the bangle; for thinner bands, use a single strand. Experiment to get the look you want.
- ☆ One skein of Brown Sheep Lamb's Pride Bulky is enough for at least a dozen bangle bases.



bevy of bangles

These silent bangles came to be because of my love of big, bold bracelets and my loathing of the clang, clang, clunk that almost always accompanies them. The first time I wore an armful to "girl's night," all my girlfriends wanted their own. I spent one evening knitting up a basket full of bases, then on the following afternoon, I tossed them all into the wash to felt them. I spent the next available evening surrounded by colorful cotton yarn, wrapping and playing to make each bangle unique.

FELTED BASE

With bulky yarn and using the crochet provisional method (see Glossary), CO 5 (7) sts. Work even in St st for 40 rows—piece measures about 12¼" (31 cm) from CO. Carefully remove the waste yarn from the provisional CO and place the live sts on a needle. Hold the needles parallel with RS of work facing tog to form a ring and use the three-needle method (see Glossary) to BO the sts tog. Weave in loose ends.

FELTING

See page 118 for felting instructions.

FINISHING

Thread a length of wrapping yarn on a tapestry needle. Secure the yarn on the inside of the bangle, then wrap the yarn around the base ring, using even tension to ensure that the base ring doesn't compress too tightly or that the wraps aren't too loose and appear sloppy.





FINISHED SIZE

About 4½" (11.5 cm) foot circumference and 3½" (9 cm) foot length, after felting.
To fit size 0–6 months.

YARN

Sportweight (#2 Fine).

Shown here: Frog Tree Spun Alpaca Sport Weight (100% alpaca; 130 yd [119 m]/50 g); 1 ball (enough yarn for three pairs).
Shown in #501 purple and #13 gold.

Fleece Artist Merino Sliver (100% merino; 50 g/reeling); red, 1 reeling.

NEEDLES

Size U.S. 6 (4 mm): straight. Adjust needle size if necessary to obtain the correct gauge.

NOTIONS

Tapestry needle; removable stitch markers or waste yarn; embroidery needle; plastic wrap or plastic bags to stuff into slipper while drying; 1 reeling of Fleece Artist Merino Sliver (100% merino; 1 reeling/50 g) in red for embellishment; 1 skein each of DMC 25 embroidery cotton (100% cotton; 8.7 yd [8 m]/skein) in #580 grass green and #3041 medium violet; medium-size needlefelting needle; dense foam pad for needlefelting.

GAUGE

18 stitches and 24 rows = 4" (10 cm) in stockinette stitch, before felting.

NOTE

✧ For needlefelting, cut a rectangular piece of foam to fit snugly inside the dried bootie, then work the needlefelting against this base.

Baby's first felted feet

What I adore most about dressing up baby is the pure whimsy of it all. When it comes to footwear, there is no need for sensible shoes on fresh little feet. The only concern is for the softness and warmth that this felted pure alpaca guarantees. Of course, the only other concern—the “cute” factor—can be achieved by the undeniable Seussian design sensibility of these little “awe” makers.



BOOTIES

Loosely CO 34 sts. Work in St st for 22 rows—piece measures about 3¾" (9.5 cm) from CO. Mark each end of the last row with removable stitch marker or waste yarn.

Shape Toe

ROW 1 K1, [k6, k2tog] 4 times, k1—30 sts rem.

ROW 2 AND ALL FOLL WS ROWS Purl.

ROW 3 Knit.

ROW 5 K1, [k5, k2tog] 4 times, k1—26 sts rem.

ROW 7 Knit.

ROW 9 K1, [k4, k2tog] 4 times, k1—22 sts rem.

ROW 11 Knit.

ROW 13 K1, [k3, k2tog] 4 times, k1—18 sts rem.



ROW 15 K1, [k2, k2tog] 4 times,
k1—14 sts rem.

ROW 17 K1, [k1, k2tog] 4 times,
k1—10 sts rem.

ROW 18 Purl.

Break yarn. Thread tail on a tapestry needle, draw through rem sts, pull tight to close hole, and secure on WS.

FINISHING

Fold CO edge of bootie in half so that WS face tog. With yarn threaded on a tapestry needle, use the mattress st (see Glossary) to sew edges tog to form back heel. Use a mattress st to join bootie from tip of toe to removable markers. Remove markers. Weave in loose ends.

Felting

Felt according to the instructions on page 118. Stretch and shape wet booties as desired, stuff with plastic to hold the shape, and allow to air-dry completely.

Needlefelting and Embroidery

With small amounts of sliver, needlefelt (see page 119) small dots as desired. With embroidery cotton threaded onto embroidery needle, embroider a French knot (see Glossary) in the center of each needlefelted dot.

tomato jam

**Makes about 2 pints*

This spicy jam is guaranteed to warm you up! Include a jar with a pair of Weekend Socks (page 54) for someone who enjoys après ski.

WHAT TO GATHER

3 lbs ripe red tomatoes (Roma work well), cored, seeded, and coarsely chopped
2 cups white sugar
2 good-size limes, freshly squeezed
3" (7.5 cm) piece of gingerroot, peeled and freshly grated or minced
1 tbsp ground cumin
1 tsp salt
1 tsp ground cinnamon
¼ tsp ground cloves
2 good-size jalapeno peppers, seeded and minced

WHAT TO DO

Combine everything in a medium-size saucepan.

Bring to a boil, stirring often.

Reduce heat and simmer uncovered and stirring occasionally for about 1¼–1½ hours until sauce has consistency of thick jam.

Taste and adjust seasoning, then cool and refrigerate until using.

Include a note or label with the following:

Great with Indian-style foods, on top of cream-cheese topped crackers, or swirled into a bowl of canned tomato soup.

Will keep refrigerated two to three weeks.







heart-in-hand mitts

The intarsia method of working with color strikes fear in many knitters. Oddly, I find it far easier and way more fun and manageable than two-color Fair Isle knitting. I guess, like everything else, it takes a first attempt followed up with a bit of practice. I hope that not only will there be a pair (or two) of quick and colorful mittens on your gift-making list, but also a sense of accomplishment in mastering this knitting technique—an added gift just for you.

FINISHED SIZE

About 8" (20.5 cm) hand circumference and 7 $\frac{1}{4}$ " (18.5 cm) hand length.

To fit an average-size woman.

YARN

Chunky (#5 Bulky).

Shown here: Valley Yarns Berkshire Bulky (85% wool, 15% alpaca; 108 yd [99 m]/100 g): #15 red, 2 balls; #12 orange, 1 ball.

NEEDLES

Size U.S. 10 (6 mm): straight and set of 4 double-pointed (dpm). Adjust needle size if necessary to obtain the correct gauge.

NOTIONS

Marker (m); stitch holder; size L/11 (8 mm) crochet hook and smooth waste yarn for provisional cast on; tapestry needle.

GAUGE

14 stitches and 18 rounds = 4" (10 cm) in stockinette stitch, worked in rounds.

LEFT MITTEN

With red, straight needles, and using the crochet chain method (see Glossary), provisionally CO 30 sts. Beg with a knit (RS) row, work 2 rows in St st. Work Rows 1–26 of Left Mitten chart and *at the same time* work thumb gusset on Rows 1–9 in orange as foll:

ROW 1 (RS) K13, M1 (see Glossary), k1, M1, knit to end of row—32 sts.

ROWS 2, 4, 6, AND 8 Purl.

ROW 3 K13, M1, k3, M1, knit to end of row—34 sts.

ROW 5 K13, M1, k5, M1, knit to end of row—36 sts.

ROW 7 K13, M1, k7, M1, knit to end of row—38 sts.

ROW 9 K13, slip next 10 sts onto holder or waste yarn, use the backward-loop method (see Glossary) to CO 2 sts over the gap, knit to end of row—30 sts rem.

Work even through Rnd 26 of chart.

Shape Top

With red only:

ROW 1 (RS) K1, [k2, k2tog] 7 times, k1—23 sts rem.

ROW 2 Purl.

ROW 3 K1, [k1, k2tog] 7 times, k1—16 sts rem.

ROW 4 Purl.

ROW 5 K1, [k2tog] 7 times, k1—9 sts rem.

Break yarn, thread tail through rem sts, pull tight to close hole, and secure on WS.



Cuff

Carefully remove waste yarn from provisional CO and place 30 exposed sts evenly spaced on 3 dpn. Place marker (pm) and join for working in rnds.

DEC RND K2tog, k1, [p2, k2] 6 times, p1, p2tog—28 sts rem.

Work in k2, p2 rib until cuff measures 4" (10 cm).

INC RND K2, [p1, M1P (see Glossary), p1] 7 times—35 sts.

Work in k2, p3 rib until cuff measures 8" (20.5 cm).

Loosely BO evenly in patt.

Thumb

With orange, dpn, and RS facing, k10 held thumb gusset sts, then pick up and knit 2 sts along CO edge at top of gusset—12 sts total. Knit 10 rnds.

SHAPE TOP

[K2tog] 6 times—6 sts rem.

Break yarn, thread tail through rem sts, pull tight to close hole, and secure on WS.

FINISHING

Weave in loose ends. With red threaded on a tapestry needle, sew side seam of hand. Lightly steam-block if needed.

RIGHT MITTEN

With red, straight needles, and using the crochet chain method (see Glossary), provisionally CO 30 sts. Beg with a knit (RS) row, work 2 rows in St st. Work Rows 1–26 of Right Mitten chart and *at the same time* work thumb gusset on Rows 1–9 in orange as foll:

ROW 1 (RS) K16, M1, k1, M1, knit to end of row—32 sts.

ROWS 2, 4, 6, AND 8 Purl.

ROW 3 K16, M1, k3, M1, knit to end of row—34 sts.

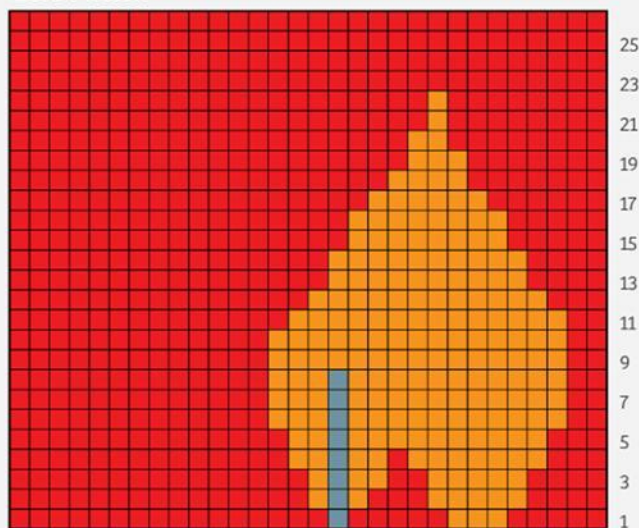
ROW 5 K16, M1, k5, M1, knit to end of row—36 sts.

ROW 7 K16, M1, k7, M1, knit to end of row—38 sts.

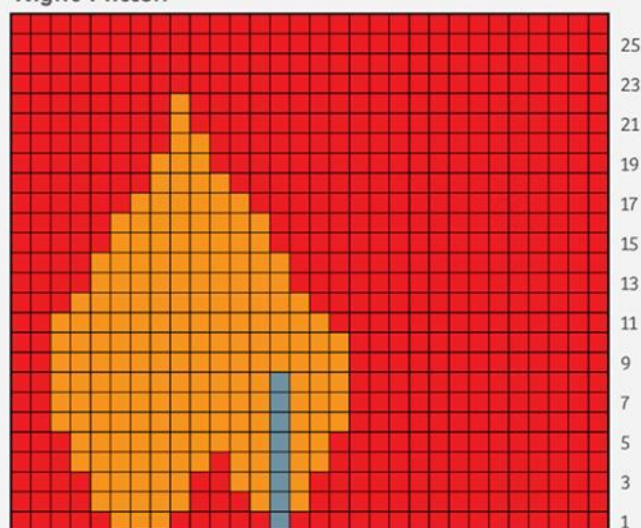
ROW 9 K16, slip next 10 sts onto holder or waste yarn, use the backward-loop method (see Glossary) to CO 2 sts over the gap, knit to end of row—30 sts rem. Complete as for left mitten.

MITTEN CHARTS

Left Mitten



Right Mitten



■ red ■ orange ■ work thumb gusset with orange





gifts for the *soul*

They celebrate passions, infuse color, add zest, and lift spirits. Never meant to be serious, they add pleasure to the simple moments of the day. Why save them for big events? The best gifts are the ones that are least expected.





tea cozy + felted tie fob

FINISHED SIZE

About 21½" (54.5 cm) circumference, stretched, and 9" (23 cm) tall.

YARN

Worsted weight (#4 Medium) and fingering weight (#1 Super Fine).

Shown here: TEA COZY: Classic Elite La Gran Mohair (78.4% mohair, 17.3% wool, 4.3% nylon; 106 yd [97 m]/50 g): #61555 tangerine, 1 ball.

TIE AND FOB: Frog Tree Alpaca Fingering (100% alpaca; 215 yd [196 m] /50 g): #42 teal, a walnut-size amount.

NEEDLES AND HOOK

TEA COZY: Size U.S. 10 (6 mm): 16" (40 cm) circular (cir).

TIE AND FOB: Size G/6 (4 mm) crochet hook. Adjust needle and hook size if necessary to obtain the correct gauge.

NOTIONS

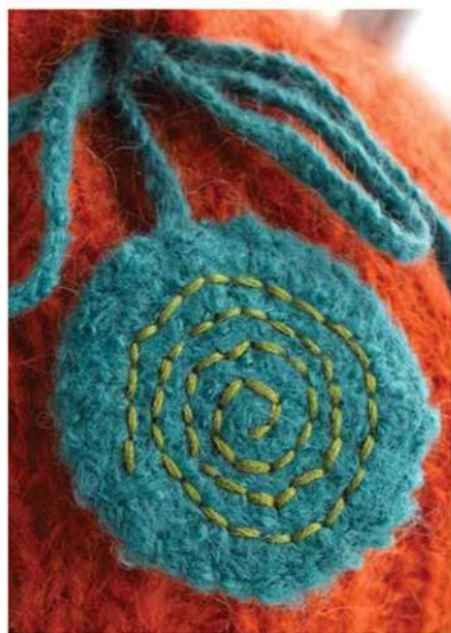
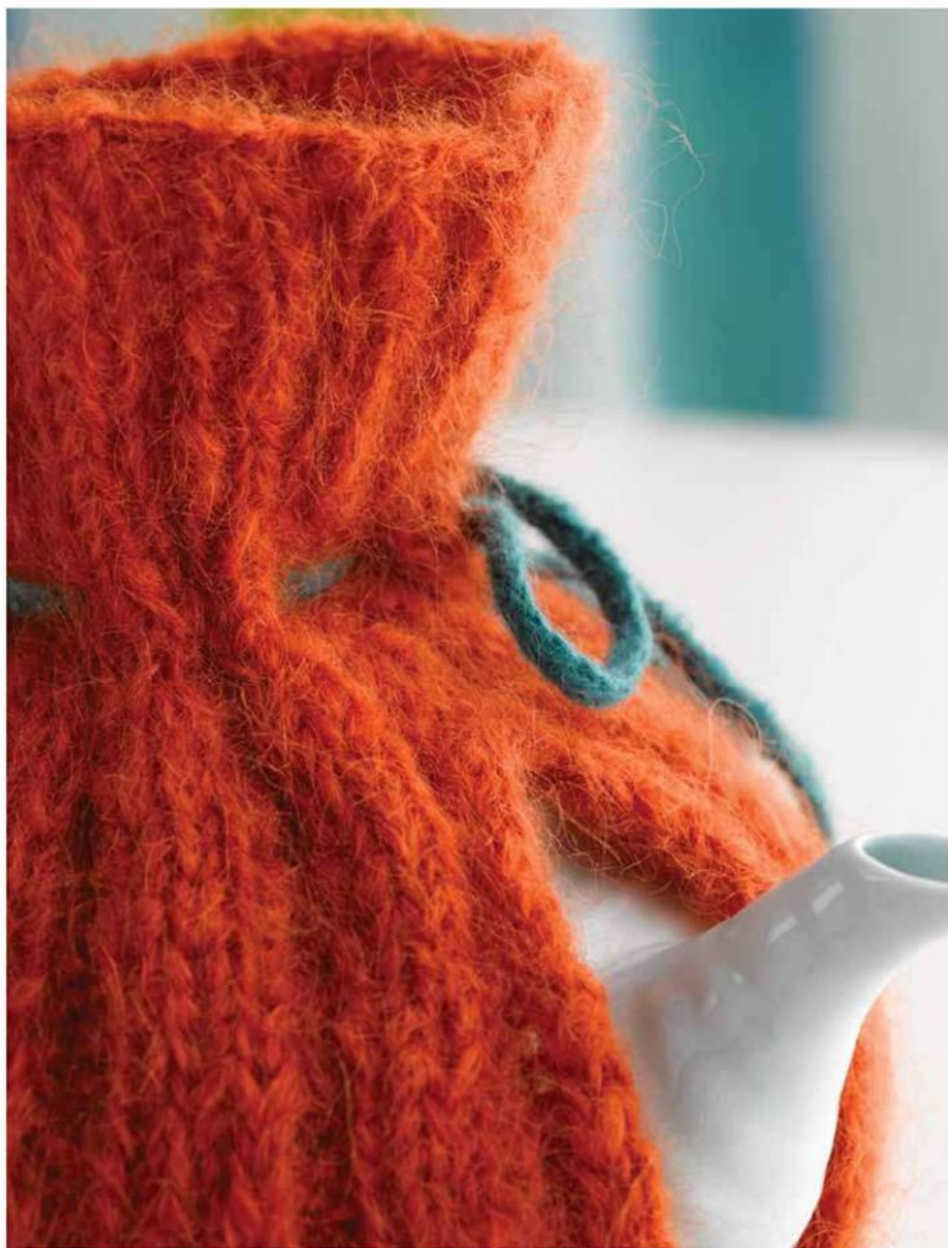
TEA COZY: Markers (m); stitch holders or waste yarn; tapestry needle.

TIE AND FOB: Embroidery needle; one 8.7 yd (8 m) skein of DMC embroidery cotton in #580 (moss green).

GAUGE

TEA COZY: 13 stitches and 20 rows/rounds = 4" (10 cm) in rib pattern, stretched.

I can't think of a better gift on a cool, dark, dreary day than sharing a cup of tea with a friend. With a brightly colored, simply ribbed, mohair "turtleneck" gracing the pot, the time spent will be even brighter. Consider a personal touch by replacing the graphic swirl on the fob with a monogram. When wrapping it all up for the intended, tuck in a few bags of your favorite tea. Even if you can't be there, your warm thoughts will be.



COZY

CO 70 sts. Place marker (pm) and join for working in the rnd, being careful not to twist sts.

RNDS 1–6 K1, *p2, k3; rep from * to last 4 sts, p2, k2.

RND 7 Cont in rib patt as established, placing a marker between the 35th and 36th sts.

Divide for Handle and Spout Openings

INC ROW (RS) K1f&b (see Glossary), *p2, k3; rep from * to 4 sts before m, p2, k2—36 sts for first half.

Place rem 35 sts on holder, removing m.

First Half

Working back and forth in rows, work 36 sts as foll:

ROW 1 (WS) P2, k2, *p3, k2; rep from * to last 2 sts, p2.

ROW 2 (RS) K2, p2, *k3, p2; rep from * to last 2 sts, k2.

Cont in rib as established until piece measures 5½" (14 cm) from CO, ending with a WS row. Place sts on holder. Do not cut yarn.

Second Half

Return 35 held sts to needle with RS facing and rejoin yarn to beg of sts. Work back and forth in rows as foll:

INC ROW (RS) K1f&b, *p2, k3; rep from * to last 4 sts, p2, k2—36 sts.

ROW 1 (WS) P2, k2, *p3, k2; rep from * to last 2 sts, p2.

ROW 2 (RS) K2, p2, *k3, p2; rep from * to last 2 sts, k2.

Cont in rib as established until second half matches first half. Leave sts on needle. Cut yarn.

Join Halves

With RS of second half facing, return held sts of first half onto needle to the right of the second half.

JOINING RND Using yarn still attached to first half, work first half sts as foll: *k2, p2, k1; rep from * to last st of first half, k2tog (last st of first half with first st of second half), k1, p2, **k3, p2; rep from ** to last 2 sts, k1, k2tog (last st of second half with first st of first half, pm to mark beg of rnd—70 sts.

Work even as established for 2 rnds, ending last rnd 1 st before m. Sl last st, remove m, return slipped st to left needle, replace m.

DEC RND *K2tog, p2, k1; rep from * to end of rnd—56 sts rem.

NEXT RND *K1, p2, k1; rep from * to end of rnd.

EYELET RND *K1, p2, k2, p2tog, yo, k1; rep from * to end of rnd—7 eyelets completed.

NEXT RND *K1, p2, k1; rep from * to end of rnd.

Rep last rnd until piece measures about 9" (23 cm) from CO. Loosely BO all sts.

FINISHING

Weave in loose ends.

Tie

With jade and crochet hook, loosely work a crochet chain (see Glossary) that measures 36" (91.5 cm) long. Turn, skip 1 ch, sc in each ch to end. Fasten off.

Fob

With teal and crochet hook, make two circles as described for Felted Yule Bling on page 108.

Felting

Felt the two circles and tie as described on page 118.

EMBROIDERY

With embroidery cotton threaded onto needle and working outward from the center, use running stitches (see Glossary) to form a spiral pattern on the fob.

Hold the two circles with WS facing together. With jade threaded on embroidery needle, use whipstitches (see Glossary) to join the outer edges of the two circles tog, leaving a small opening. Insert one end of tie between the two circles, then sew to end of seam, catching the tie as you go. Thread tie through eyelets of cozy, knot the free end, and trim.





FINISHED SIZE

About 7¼" (18.5 cm) circumference and 2½" (6.5 cm) tall, after felting.

YARN

Shown here: Fingering weight (#1 Super Fine). Frog Tree Alpaca Fingering Weight (100% alpaca; 215 yd [196 m]/50 g): #0011 heathered gray or #46 lime green, 1 ball.

NEEDLES

Size U.S. 6 (4 mm): set of 4 or 5 double-pointed (dpn). Adjust needle size if necessary to obtain the correct gauge.

NOTIONS

Marker (m); tapestry needle; embroidery needle; one 8.7 yd (8 m) skein each of DMC 25 Embroidery Cotton in #902 (deep wine) or #347 (red), #3740 (purple), and #501 (teal).

GAUGE

22 stitches and 28 rounds = 4" (10 cm) in stockinette stitch worked in rounds, before felting.

NOTES

- ✧ One ball will make cozies for at least a half-dozen eggs.
- ✧ Wrap the embroidery thread around the needle four times to create chunkier French knots.

felted egg cozies

Here's a warm and fuzzy way to serve up some true green eggs with that ham! Basically constructed like little hats, these toppers will keep eggs at an optimum temperature while you enjoy a leisurely breakfast. Stitch up a motif that reflects the season or the personality of the recipient. When invited for a weekend visit, bring along a collection of these as a hostess gift—you will leave behind smiles for years to come.



COZY

Loosely CO 48 sts. Place marker (pm) and join for working in the rnd, being careful not to twist sts. Work in St st until piece measures 3" (7.5 cm) from CO.

Shape Top

RND 1 *K2tog; rep from *—24 sts rem.

RND 2 Knit.

RND 3 *K2tog; rep from *—12 sts rem.

RND 4 Knit.

RND 5 *K2tog; rep from *—6 sts rem.

RND 6 K2tog, k2, k2tog—4 sts rem.

Work rem 4 sts in I-cord (see Glossary) for 4" (10 cm). Fasten off.

FINISHING

Weave in loose ends. Felt as described on page 118.

FOR THE GRAY COZIES

With embroidery cotton threaded onto embroidery needle, work French knots (see Glossary) randomly as desired (see Notes). Tie the I-cord in an overhand knot.

FOR THE GREEN COZIES

With embroidery cotton threaded onto embroidery needle, work stem stitches (see Glossary) and French knots as shown in photograph. Tie the I-cord in an overhand knot.

mexican hot chocolate mix

**Enough for about 12 servings*

This easy-to-use mix will satisfy the hot chocolate lover on your gift list. Package the mix along with a bundle of cinnamon sticks tied up with Felted Heart Milagros (page 82) for a heartfelt gift.

WHAT TO GATHER

½ cup unsweetened cocoa
½ cup granulated sugar
1 tbsp ground cinnamon
1 tsp chili powder

WHAT TO DO

Mix everything together and pour into a jar.

Include a note or label with the following:

~Place 2 tbsp of mix in a cup.

~Add ¼ cup of milk, ¾ cup of boiling water,
and a good squirt of chocolate syrup (optional).

~Stir and enjoy!

recipe





felted heart milagros

FINISHED SIZE

About 2" (5 cm) high and 2" (5 cm) wide, after felting.

YARN

Sportweight (#2 Fine).

Shown here: Brown Sheep Nature Spun Sport Weight (100% wool; 184 yd [168 m]/50 g): less than 10 yards (9.1 m) for each heart. Shown in #880s charcoal, #N17s French clay, #335s brick road, #109s spring break, #107s silver sage, and #146s pomegranate.

Frog Tree Alpaca Sport Weight (100% alpaca; 130 yd [118 m]/50 g): less than 10 yd (9.1 m) for each heart. Shown in #28 plum.

NEEDLES

Size U.S. 6 (4 mm): straight.

NOTIONS

Tapestry needle; small amount of polyester or bamboo fiberfill.

GAUGE

About 21 stitches and 30 rows = 4" (10 cm) in stockinette stitch, before felting. Exact gauge is not crucial for this project.

These little hearts bring me such joy that I can't stop myself from making and sharing them! Knitted in one piece with a bit of short-rowing for shape, there is just one quick seam and a little stuffing before you shout, "Everyone in the pool!" Well, the "pool" may be the washing machine or a basin, but I do promise it will be fun. These hearts can be used for anything you can imagine—pins, bookmarks, place markers, welcome garlands, good-luck charms, etc.



HEART

Loosely CO 12 sts. Work short-rows (see Glossary) as foll:

SHORT-ROW 1 (RS) K8, wrap next st, turn.

SHORT-ROWS 2, 4, AND 6 Purl to last st, p1f&b (see Glossary)—1 st inc'd.

SHORT-ROW 3 K7, wrap next st, turn—13 sts.

SHORT-ROW 5 K6, wrap next st, turn—14 sts.

SHORT-ROW 7 K5, wrap next st, turn—15 sts.

SHORT-ROWS 8 AND 10 Purl.

SHORT-ROW 9 K4, wrap next st, turn.

SHORT-ROW 11 K3, wrap next st, turn.

SHORT-ROWS 12, 14, AND 16 Purl to last 2 sts, p2tog.

SHORT-ROW 13 K5, working wraps tog with wrapped sts when you come to them, wrap next st, turn—14 sts rem.

SHORT-ROW 15 K6, working wraps tog with wrapped sts when you come to them, wrap next st, turn—13 sts rem.

SHORT-ROW 17 Knit to end, working wraps tog with wrapped sts when you come to them—12 sts rem.

SHORT-ROW 18 Purl.

Rep Short-Rows 1–18 three more times—piece measures about 9½" (24 cm) from CO at widest point. Loosely BO all sts.

FINISHING

With yarn threaded on a tapestry needle, sew the CO and BO edges tog. Stitch top of heart closed, leaving 1" (2.5 cm) open for stuffing. Stuff with fiberfill until lightly firm but not bursting. Stitch closed.

Weave in loose ends. Felt as described on page 118.



heart milagros door hanger

LET'S FACE IT, sometimes you just won't have the time to gather the *exact* supplies needed for an *exact* project to gift. Often I am left digging through my stash and sifting through drawers for inspiring bits and bobs. This project is a perfect example of using what you have floating about for last-minute giving. The leftover yarn from the Modern Mangas (page 58) provided the yarn for the Felted Heart Milagros (page 82), and the beads from the Crocheted Flower Brooch (page 47) offered the shiny little spacers.

All that is needed to complete the project is some strong fishing line to thread the pieces together and a sharp needle with a good-size eye that is long enough to pass through the hearts. Tada—a way to parlay that joyful bowl or basket full of milagros into another gift idea!





FINISHED SIZE

About 10" (25.5 cm) wide and 7½" (19 cm) long; see Notes for adjusting the size.

FABRIC

Gray wool suiting (looks fabulously felty) measuring the desired width and depth and 1" (2.5 cm) wide (11" [28 cm] shown) and the desired height and depth and 1" (2.5 cm) long (8½" [21.5 cm] shown); lining fabric measuring the same dimensions (dark red douppioni silk shown here).

NOTIONS

Ruler; pencil; felt scraps cut into squares varying in size from ¾" to 1" (2 to 2.5 cm); fabric glue; straight pins; matching thread; contrasting thread; embroidery needle; six 28" (71 cm) lengths of fingering-weight yarn (Brown Sheep Cotton Fine shown here) for braided ties.

NOTES

- ✧ To make a cozy for any size notebook (or netbook or laptop), cut the fabric the width and depth and 1" (2.5 cm) wide (W) and the length and depth and 1" (2.5 cm) long (L).
- ✧ Use a drop of fabric glue or a few basting stitches to keep the bits of felt secure prior to stitching.
- ✧ If you know the make and model, you can find the exact dimensions of any netbook or laptop online.
- ✧ When pressing the wool fabric, be sure to use a steam setting on your iron that is appropriate for wool and use a damp pressing cloth on top of the wool to protect it.

notebook or netbook cozy

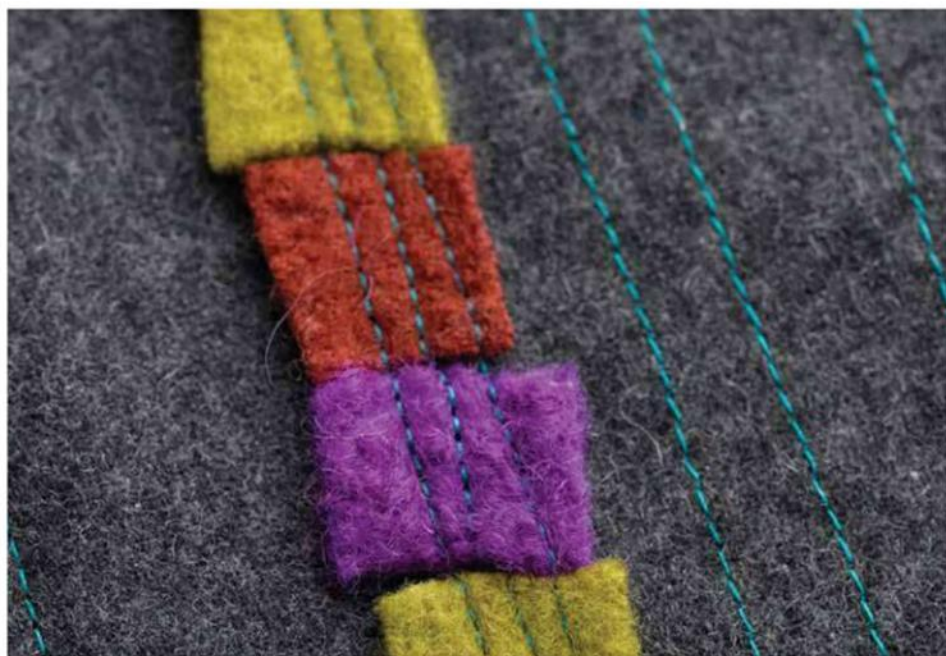
Whether the recipient is high tech or low, a personalized cozy will be happily received. Originally conceived with a Netbook in mind, just a small square of wool-blend suiting offers up the majority of the felty feel of this project. The shots of color and interest are achieved through contrasting thread that top-stitches small scraplets of cut-up knitted felt onto the background. It is headshaking how little bits of nothing can make such a colorful difference. Waste not, want not!

NETBOOK COZY

Cut two pieces of wool fabric and two pieces of lining, all measuring $W'' \times L''$ (see Notes). Arrange the felt bits on the right (long) side of one of the pieces of wool fabric and pin in place (use a drop of fabric glue or a few basting sts if necessary). Topstitch the felt in place with contrasting thread, taking several passes with the sewing machine from short edge to short edge. Work free-form lines of additional machine stitching as desired.

Hold the two wool fabric pieces tog with RS facing tog and sew along the short sides and bottom (non-embellished long side), using a $\frac{1}{2}''$ (1.3 cm) seam allowance. Trim the corners close to the stitching to lessen the bulk. Press seams open. Turn RS out and use a knitting needle to gently shape the corners into points. Press flat.

Hold the two lining pieces tog with RS facing tog and sew both short sides tog using a $\frac{1}{2}''$ (1.3 cm) seam allowance. Sew across the bottom, leaving about a 3" (7.5 cm) opening. Press seams open. With the lining still inside out, pull it up around the wool bag (RS will be tog) and pin lining to wool fabric along top opening. Sew tog along top opening, using a $\frac{1}{2}''$ (1.3 cm) seam allowance. Turn RS out by gently easing the wool bag through the lining opening, then turn in the seam allowances at the opening and sew closed by hand or machine. Push the lining down into the wool bag.



FINISHING

Topstitch $\frac{1}{8}$ " (3 mm) from opening edge. Mark placement of tie in the center of the front and back, about $\frac{1}{8}$ " (3 mm) below open edge. Cut three lengths of fingering-weight yarn, each about 28" (71 cm) long. Thread all three lengths on a tapestry needle and make a single stitch through both thicknesses at the marked position—6 working lengths.

Center the lengths and divide them into three groups of two strands each. Work a three-strand braid for about 10" (25.5 cm). Tie the ends in an overhand knot to secure. Trim ends. Rep for other side. Use the braided strands to tie a bow, securing the notebook inside the cozy.

vanilla sugar

**Makes 3 cups*

This flavored sugar is a great way to say "I think you're sweet." Include a jar with the Linen Summer Wrap (page 14) to welcome the sunny season or wrap a jar with a Colorful Crochet Flower bookmark (page 90) for an avid reader.

WHAT TO GATHER

1 vanilla bean, cut in 1" (2.5 cm) pieces
3 cups extra-fine sugar

WHAT TO DO

Add vanilla bean pieces to the sugar.
Cover and let sit for two weeks before using.
Do not remove vanilla bean pieces.
Store in an airtight container.

Include a note or label with the following:

- ~Serve with fresh-picked strawberries.
- ~Use in Darjeeling tea.
- ~Sprinkle on crepes.







FINISHED SIZE

From about 1¼" (3.2 cm) to 2" (5 cm) across, size varies depending on yarn used.

YARNS

Sportweight (#2 Fine) and worsted weight (#4 Medium).

Shown here: KEY RING AND BOOK-MARK OR GIFT TIE: Brown Sheep Nature Spun Sport Weight (100% wool; 184 yd [168 m]/50 g); Small amounts of assorted colors (yarn shown is leftover from Granny Bag on page 30).

BROOCH: Frog Tree Alpaca Sport Weight (100% alpaca; 130 yd [119 m]/50 g), Nashua Handknits Creative Focus Worsted Wool (75% wool, 25% alpaca; 220 yd [201 m]/100 g), and Mirasol Sulka (60% merino, 20% alpaca, 20% silk; 55 yd [50 m]/50 g).

HOOK

Size F/5 to G/6 (3.75 to 4 mm) for sportweight yarn; size H/7 to I/9 (4.5 to 5.5 mm) for worsted-weight yarn.

NOTIONS

Metal ring and clip for key ring; brooch back or safety pin.

GAUGE

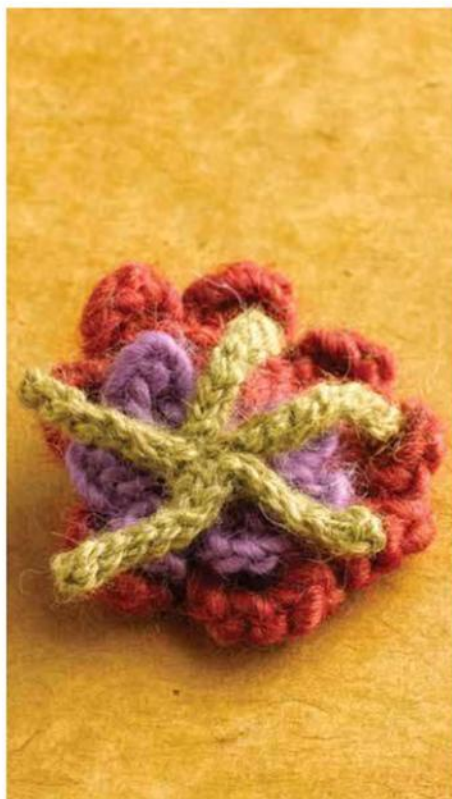
Not crucial for project. The bigger the yarn, the bigger the hook, the bigger the gauge, the bigger the flower; and vice-versa.

NOTES

- ✧ For key ring, begin and end each part leaving about a 12" (30.5 cm) tail.
- ✧ For brooch, begin and end each part leaving about a 6" (15 cm) tail.
- ✧ For brooch, work Part 1 in Frog Tree Alpaca Sport Weight, Part 2 in Nashua Handknits Creative Focus Worsted Wool, and Part 3 in Mirasol Sulka.
- ✧ For bookmark or gift tie, begin and end each part leaving about an 18" (45.5 cm) tail.

colorful crochet flowers

If you're like me, you have little scraps of luscious yarns far too pretty to throw away. These little gems of crochet whimsy use up yarn bits too small for anything useful, and they give you the added enjoyment of experimenting with colorways as you go. Make up a bunch of each of the pieces and then mull all the color-mixing possibilities—you'll be amazed by how wonderful some of the oddest color combinations look! Use them for key fobs, bookmarks, and brooches.





FLOWER

Part 1: Cluster

*Ch 8, turn, sl st to end; rep from * 4 times more—5 “stamen” total. Knot tails tog to form cluster.

Part 2: Small Petals

Ch 5, sl st into first ch to form ring. *Ch 6, sc into ring; rep from * 5 more times—6 petals.

Part 3: Large Petals

Ch 5, sl st into first ch to form ring. *Ch 8, sc into ring; rep from * 7 more times—8 petals.

FINISHING

Assemble parts by inserting the tails of the small petals through the center of the large petals, then inserting the tails of the cluster through the center of the petals. Knot ends tog to secure in place.

Braid

Divide tails into three groups of two strands each and work 3-strand braid as follows for your project.

KEY RING

Work braid for $\frac{1}{2}$ " to $1\frac{1}{2}$ " (1.3 to 3.8 cm), slide ring onto one group, then cont to braid for desired length. Secure ends with an overhand knot. Trim ends.

BROOCH

Work braid for $\frac{1}{2}$ " to 1" (1.3 to 2.5 cm). Secure ends with an overhand knot. Trim ends.

BOOKMARK OR GIFT TIE

Work braid for or 12" (30.5 cm) or desired length. Secure ends with an overhand knot. Trim ends.





FINISHED SIZE

About 4" (10 cm) square.

FABRIC

Two piece of natural linen measuring 5" (12.5 cm) square for each sachet.

NOTIONS

Sharp scissors; sharp-point sewing needle and matching thread; pieces of scrap felt cut into squares varying in size from 1" to 1½" (2.5 to 3.8 cm); straight pins; embroidery needle with eye small enough to penetrate button holes; embroidery cotton; assorted buttons; about 15 grams (0.5 ounce) of lavender for each sachet.

NOTES

- ✱ Add all embellishments before sewing the pieces together.
- ✱ Begin sewing the seams at the center of an edge so that all of the corners will look the same and to facilitate pressing and handstitching.
- ✱ To help fill the pouch with lavender, insert the small end of a funnel or paper cone into the opening and pour into the wide end.



Lavender sachets

Sachets have always been a gift-giving staple for me. Inspired by whatever is floating around my work space at the time, they are always changing and always unique. I like to tuck one or two into a pair of socks or a folded scarf to give the gifted a whiff that something good is about to happen.

SACHET

With embroidery needle and cotton, sew felt to right side of one linen square, using a running stitch around the inner perimeter of the felt, at least ¾" (2 cm) away from each edge (sachets shown have the squares placed near the center). Sew button on top of felt.

Hold two linen squares tog with right sides facing tog. With sharp-point sewing needle, matching thread, and beg at the center of one edge, sew the

square tog with a ½" (1.3 cm) seam allowance, leaving a 1½" (3.8 cm) opening on one side for filling with lavender. Trim the corners close to the stitching to lessen the bulk. Turn bag right side out by easing it gingerly through the opening. Use a knitting needle to nudge the corners into points. Press flat, being careful not to touch the iron to the button.

Fill with lavender (see Notes), then turn in the seam allowances at the opening and stitch closed.





wrist rest

FINISHED SIZE

About 4½" (11.5 cm) wide and 6½" (16.5 cm) long.

FABRIC

Piece of fabric from lightweight sweater that has been *lightly* felted or fabric rescued from a well-loved T-shirt or sweatshirt, cut to measure 8" (20.5 cm) wide and 12" (30.5 cm) long; remnant of green felt or felted sweater fabric for leaf accent, cut to measure 2" (5 cm) wide and 4" (10 cm) long.

NOTIONS

Sharp-point sewing needle and matching thread; lightweight paper for wrist-rest template; card stock for leaf template; pencil or washable marker to trace templates; sharp scissors; straight pins; embroidery needle and six-strand cotton embroidery floss to match green felt; about 250 grams (9 ounces) of whole flax seed.

NOTES

- ✧ To help fill the pouch with seeds, insert the small end of a funnel or paper cone into the opening and pour the seeds into the wide end.
- ✧ For maximum comfort, do not appliqué anything exactly where your wrist will lie.

A lightweight wool sweater (this one was snagged on a nail) tossed in the wash created the perfect felted fabric for this organically shaped wrist rest. For this project, it is best for the felt to be firm enough to hold its shape but supple enough to pass easily through a sewing machine. Filled with whole flax seed, all it takes is a quick zap in the microwave to make a soothing place to rest a wrist that has had too much mouse action.



WRIST REST

Fold the fabric in half with RS facing together. Trace the wrist-rest template onto lightweight paper, cut out, and place the pattern on the folded fabric. Cut shape through both layers of fabric.

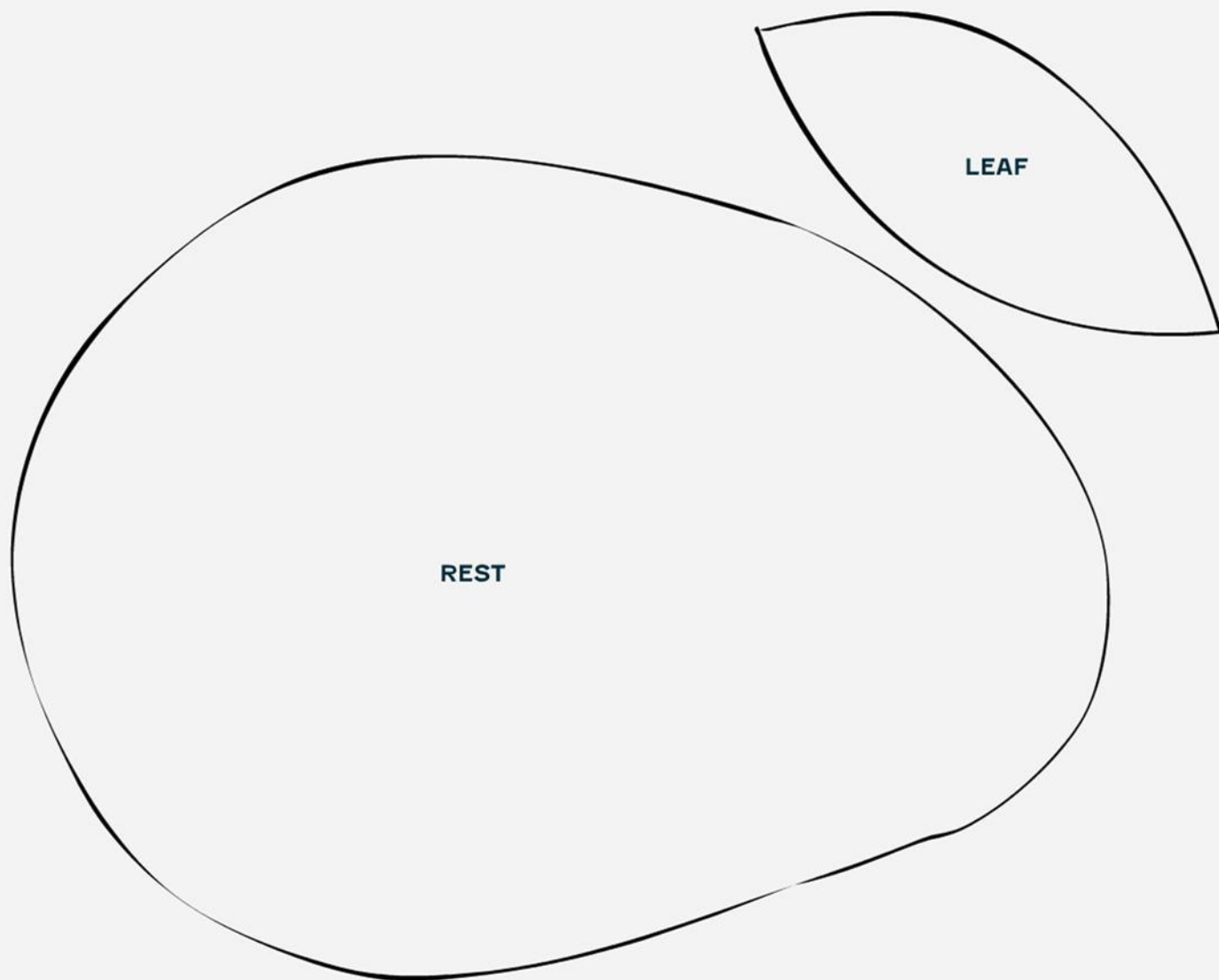
With RS facing tog, sew around the edge of the shape by hand or machine, allowing a $\frac{1}{2}$ " (1.3 cm) seam allowance and leaving a $1\frac{1}{2}$ " (3.8 cm) opening for filling with seeds. Press. Trim seam and clip curves, being careful not to cut through stitching. Turn the pouch RS out.

Fill with flax seeds (see Notes), then handstitch the opening securely closed.

FINISHING

Trace the leaf template onto green felt and cut out. Pin leaf as desired onto wrist rest (see Notes). With cotton embroidery floss and embroidery needle, sew the leaf in place as shown, using a backstitch (see Glossary) for the center of the leaf and adding straight stitches (see Glossary) for stem and veins.

 WRIST-REST TEMPLATE







gift bag

FINISHED SIZE

About 11½" (29 cm) wide and 13" (33 cm) deep.

FABRIC

Douppioni silk measuring 15" (38 cm) wide and 26" (66 cm) long (about ½ yd [45 cm] if buying off the bolt).

NOTIONS

Sharp scissors; straight pins; sharp-point sewing needle matching thread; Felted Heart Milagros pin (page 82); 3 lengths of yarn, each 36" (91.5 cm) long for braided tie.

NOTES

- ✱ The yarn for the felted Milagros pin and braided tie is Classic Elite Miracle in #3388 prairie sunset and #3332 gamay.
- ✱ Instead of a Felted Heart Milagros, decorate the bag with a Colorful Crocheted Flower (page 90) or a Paper Rose (page 34).
- ✱ You can make this project simple by cutting scraps of fabric to size, stitching the side and bottom seams, pinking or zig-zagging the seams, and adding a quick double-fold hem at the top. I chose to use French seams to protect the silk fabric from fraying, and I made a gusset to create a flat bottom.

Whipping up your own gift bags does take a bit of time, but they are always well received. When I have the time, I add gussets to make a square base so that after the gifting, the bag can be used to tote portable projects. It doubles the gifting!

BAG

Cut two pieces of fabric to the desired dimensions, adding about 1½" (3.8 cm) to the width and 2" (5 cm) to the height for seam allowances and hem (for a bag that measures 11½" × 13" [29 × 33 cm], cut each piece of fabric 13" × 15" [33 × 38 cm]).

Sew the side seams in a French seam to neatly enclose the seam allowances on the inside of the bag: Beginning with *wrong* sides tog, pin the two pieces tog along one long side. By hand or machine, sew ¼" (6 mm) seam. Press and trim the seam allowance to ⅛" (3 mm). Rep for other side seam. Turn bag so WS is facing out. Press seamline flat. Pin and sew each side seam again, enclosing the original seam in a wider seam (about ½" [1.3 cm]). Turn bag RS out and press. Sew the bottom seam in the same manner.

To make the gussets, turn the bag inside out, flatten the bottom, and sew a diagonal seam at each corner as for Granny Bag shown on page 30. Fold the top edge down about ½" (1.3 cm) to the WS and press. Fold again to enclose raw edge. Stitch close to lower folded edge by hand or machine.

FINISHING

Tie

Hold three lengths of yarn tog and knot at one end. Work a 3-strand braid. Knot the other end. With sharp-point sewing needle and matching thread, sew one end of the braid to the top of the bag. Tie braid into a bow to close the bag. Decorate with a felted heart, crocheted flower, or paper rose, if desired.





double-point needle case

FINISHED SIZE

About 5¼ (7)" (13.5 [18] cm) long from base to fold of flap. To fit needles up to 5 (7)" (12.5 [18] cm) long.

YARN

DK weight (#3 Light).

Shown here: Reynolds Soft Sea Wool (100% wool; 162 yd [147 m]/50 g): #910 raspberry (shown for large cozy) and #521 teal (shown for small cozies), 1 skein each.

NEEDLES

Size U.S. 6 (4 mm): set of 4 or 5 double-pointed (dpn). Adjust needle size if necessary to obtain the correct gauge.

NOTIONS

Marker (m); tapestry needle; sewing needle; one 9-mm snap set for each cozy; sharp-point sewing needle and matching thread.

GAUGE

20 stitches and 28 rounds = 4" (10 cm) in stockinette stitch, before felting.

The committed and disorganized sock knitter knows the frustration of hunting down sets of matching double-pointed needles. A selection of needle cases, each holding a single set, will make for an easier and far more colorful life. Clearly mark the flap with French knots to denote the size needles—one knot for size 1, two knots for size 2, and so on. Or, add some small buttons or beads or use silky floss to embroider the needle size.



CASE

CO 12 sts. Place marker (pm) and join for working in the rnd, being careful not to twist sts.

RNDS 1–12 Knit.

RND 13 K1f&b (see Glossary), k4, [k1f&b] 2 times, k4, k1f&b—16 sts.

RNDS 14–25 Knit.

RND 26 K1f&b, k6, [k1f&b] 2 times, k6, k1f&b—20 sts.

Knit even until piece measures 6 (8½)" (15 [21.5] cm) from CO.

Flap

Loosely BO 10 sts—10 sts rem. Working back and forth in rows, cont in St st (knit RS rows; purl WS rows) until flap measures 2" (5 cm). Loosely BO all sts.

FINISHING

Thread CO tail onto a tapestry needle and sew base of case closed. Weave in loose ends.

Felting

Felt as described on page 118.

Embroidery

With contrasting yarn, work French knots (see Glossary) to indicate needle size: one knot for size U.S. 1 (2.25 mm) needles, two knots for size U.S. 2 (2.75 mm) needles, and so on.

With sharp-point sewing needle and matching thread, sew one half of snap to underside of flap and the other half to the corresponding position on the cozy.



FINISHED SIZE

About 7" (18 cm) circumference at base and 5" (12.5 cm) tall. To fit an average large egg.

FABRIC

Felt scraps from a recycled lightweight sweater that has been fully felted (page 119).

NOTIONS

Card stock for template; pencil or washable marker to trace template; sharp scissors; embellishments—cotton embroidery floss, needlefelting gear, felt scraps, buttons, bells, etc.; embroidery or crewel needle; a length of matching or coordinating fine yarn or embroidery floss to stitch together the cozy.

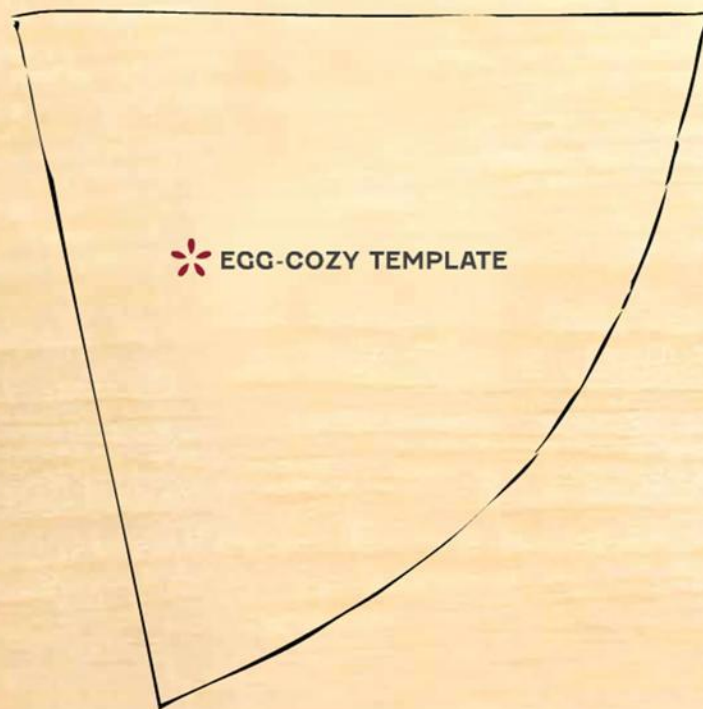
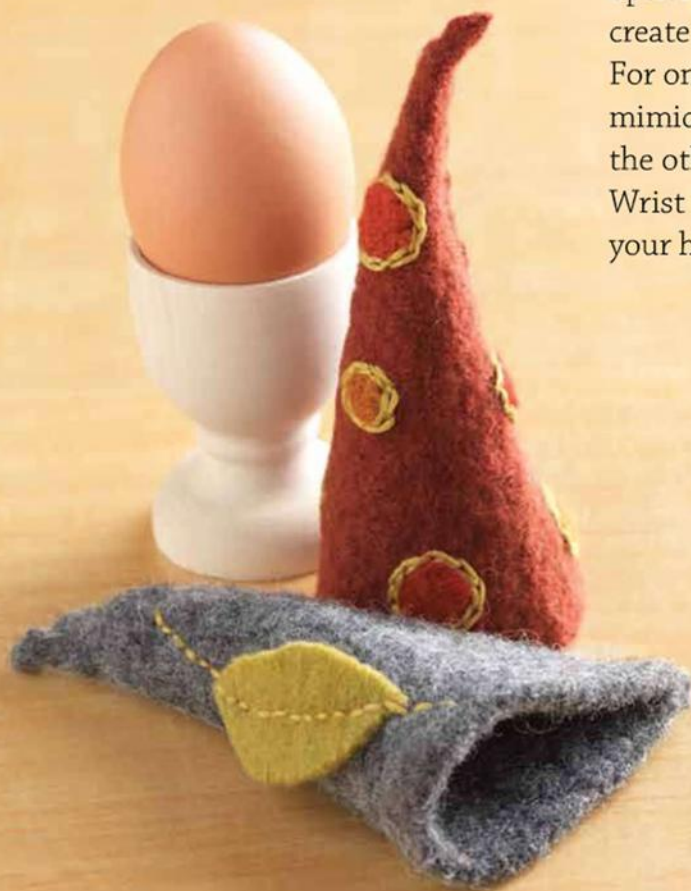
EGG COZIES

Trace the cozy template onto the felted fabric and cut out. Personalize the cozy any way you like. Keep in mind that it is easiest to do all the embroidery, needlefelting, stitching, etc., before sewing the side seam. Align the two straight edges with WS facing tog (seam will show on outside of cozy).

Thread the length of fine yarn or floss on an embroidery or crewel needle and sew the straight edges tog in a ⅜" (3 mm) seam with a running stitch or use a blanket stitch (see Glossary) for a more decorative effect.

cut-and-sew egg cozies

If you don't quite have the time to make custom-fitted cozies from scratch (page 78), you can still brighten up the breakfast table with this quick cut-and-handstitched option. Dig through your odds and sods of felted scraps, create a template out of card stock, and start tracing away. For one, I chose a bit of needlefelting and stitching that mimics the Felted Trivets and Coasters (page 114). For the other, I was inspired by the leaf appliqué found on the Wrist Rest (page 96). Decorate in any manner that makes your heart sing.







felted yule bling

Unwrapping all the little bits and bobs that are brought out every year to adorn the tree is a tradition in many homes. Finding that some of the fragile treasures did not survive storage is never a happy discovery. A modern take on traditional Swedish cut-felt ornaments, these bits of bling will last from year to year. Crochet circles worked in the softest fingering-weight alpaca are felted, stitched, stacked, and held together in a neat package with a simple braided ribbon.

FINISHED SIZE

About 2½" (6.5 cm) in diameter, after felting.

YARN

Fingering weight (#1 Super Fine).

Shown here: Frog Tree Alpaca Fingering (100% alpaca; 215 yd [196 m]/50 g): #204 red, 1 ball.

HOOK

Size U.S. G/6 (4 mm) hook.

NOTIONS

Embroidery needle; DMC 25 Embroidery Cotton in #453 (pale silver grey), two (8.7 yd [8 m]) skeins.

GAUGE

2 rounds = about 1¾" (4.5 cm) in diameter, before felting. Exact gauge is not crucial for this project.

CIRCLES

(make 2 for each bling)

Ch 4. Sl st in first chain to form a ring.

RND 1 Ch 2 (count as 1 dc here and throughout), dc into ring 11 times, sl st in top of second ch—12 dc.

RND 2 Ch 2, dc in same ch, work 2 dc in each of the next 11 dc, sl st into top of second ch—24 dc.

RND 3 Ch 2, dc in same ch, work 1 dc in next dc, *work 2 dc in next dc, work 1 dc in following dc; rep from * to end of rnd, sl st in top of second ch—36 dc.

RND 4 Rep Rnd 3—54 dc.

Fasten off.

FINISHING

Weave in loose ends.

Felting

Felt as described on page 118.

Embroidery

With embroidery cotton threaded on a needle and using the photos as a guide, embroider (see Glossary for embroidery instructions) the traditional snowflake pattern in chain stitches or the modern snowflake pattern in long stitches that are anchored in the center and topped with 4-wrap French knots.

Assembly

Hold two circles tog with WS facing together. With yarn threaded on a tapestry needle, use whipstitches (see Glossary)

to join the outer edges of the circles tog. Cut embroidery cotton into 12" (30.5 cm) lengths. Fold each length in half and tie ends tog in an overhand knot. Attach loop to edge of circle with a half-hitch knot.

Braided "Ribbon" (optional)

Cut 9 lengths of embroidery cotton, each 36" (91.5 cm) long. Tie one end of the bundle in an overhand knot. Divide into 3 groups of 3 lengths each and braid for desired length. Tie end with an overhand knot. Trim ends.





mulling spice mix

**Makes 4 sachets*

Include a few sachets of this traditional mix with some Yule Bling (page 106) to ensure a happy holiday.

WHAT TO GATHER

- 8 squares of cheesecloth cut into 4" (10 cm) squares
- 4 lengths of string, each 8" (20.5 cm) long
- 8 slices of gingerroot, each about $\frac{1}{8}$ " (3 mm) thick
- 6 strips each of lemon and orange rind, each about 1" (2.5 cm) thick
- $\frac{1}{4}$ cup whole cloves
- 2 tbsp whole allspice
- 2 cinnamon sticks, each about 3"–4" (7.5–10 cm) long, broken in small pieces

WHAT TO DO

Arrange gingerroot, lemon rind, and orange rind on rack.

Let stand for about a day until dry and brittle.

Break gingerroot, lemon rind, and orange rind into $\frac{1}{4}$ " (6 mm) pieces and place in mixing bowl.

Add cloves, allspice, and cinnamon and mix thoroughly.

Scoop one-quarter of the mix onto center of a double layer of cheesecloth. Pull up the corners and tie with string. Repeat with remaining mix.

Include a note or label with the following:

~Mulled Wine: In a medium saucepan, combine a bottle of red wine, $\frac{1}{2}$ cup of sugar, and 1 sachet. Simmer until warm and fragrant.

~Mulled Juice: In a medium saucepan, combine 6–8 cups of apple cider or cranberry juice and 1 sachet. Simmer until warm and fragrant.

~Room Fragrance: Simmer 1 sachet in a few cups of water. Keep a careful eye on the stove.







FINISHED SIZE

SCISSORS SLEEVE: About 7½" (19 cm) long without flap and 2¼" (5.5 cm) wide at top, after felting.

PINCUSHION: About 4" (10 cm) high and 4" (10 cm) wide, after felting.

YARN

Fingering weight (#1 Super Fine).

Shown here: Brown Sheep Nature Spun Fingering Weight (100% wool; 310 yd [283 m]/50 g): #N80 mountain purple (purple) and #N48 scarlet (red), 1 ball each.

NEEDLES

Sizes U.S. 6 and 10 (4 and 6 mm): straight. Adjust needle size if necessary to obtain the correct gauge.

NOTIONS

Tapestry needle; embroidery needle; polyester or bamboo fiberfill.

GAUGE

SCISSORS SLEEVE: 21 stitches and 30 rows = 4" (10 cm) in stockinette stitch with smaller needles, before felting.

PINCUSHION: 16 stitches and 22 rows = 4" (10 cm) in stockinette stitch with larger needles and yarn doubled, before felting.

NOTE

✧ The scissors sleeve will accommodate scissors measuring up to 5" (12.5 cm) from tip to beginning of finger holes. If your scissors are considerably smaller, trim the top to the desired length after felting.

scissors sleeve + heart pincushion

When I entertained the notion of a knitted gift for a sewing friend, my first thought was of a scissors sleeve. After a wee bit of mulling, I concluded that I could use short-rows to create a cone shape that would accommodate scissors blades of various lengths. By adding some simple stitching on the flap the gift is that much more special. The pincushion? Just a variation of one of my very favorite Felted Heart Milagros (page 82) all pumped up.

SCISSORS SLEEVE

With purple and smaller needles, loosely CO 45 sts. Work short-rows (see Glossary) as foll:

SHORT-ROW 1 (RS) K40, wrap next st, turn.

SHORT-ROWS 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, AND 16
Purl.

SHORT-ROW 3 K35, wrap next st, turn.

SHORT-ROW 5 K30, wrap next st, turn.

SHORT-ROW 7 K25, wrap next st, turn.

SHORT-ROW 9 K20, wrap next st, turn.

SHORT-ROW 11 K15, wrap next st, turn.

SHORT-ROW 13 K10, wrap next st, turn.

SHORT-ROW 15 K5, wrap next st, turn.

SHORT-ROW 17 Knit, working wraps tog
with wrapped sts when you come to them.

SHORT-ROW 18 Purl.

Rep Rows 1–18 two more times—piece
measures about 7¼" (18 cm) from CO
along long edge. Loosely BO all sts.

Flap

With purple, loosely CO 18 sts. Work even
in St st until piece measures about 5¼"
(14.5 cm) from CO. Loosely BO all sts.

FINISHING

With purple threaded on a tapestry
needle, sew the CO and BO edges of sleeve
tog to form a cone. Weave in loose ends.
Felt as described on page 118.

Stitching

With red threaded on an embroidery
needle, work running stitches (see



Glossary) to create free-form loops as
shown. With purple, use backstitches (see
Glossary) to sew flap to sleeve.

Braided Ties

Mark for first tie at center of flap just
above the edge. Cut three lengths of red,

each about 18" (45.5 cm) long. Thread
all three lengths onto a tapestry needle
and make a single stitch at the marked
position—6 lengths. Center the lengths
and divide them into three groups of two
strands each. Work a three-strand braid
for about 6" (15 cm). Tie the ends in an

overhand knot to secure. Trim ends. Make another braided tie at the center of the sleeve, opposite the first tie.

PIN CUSHION

With two strands of purple held tog and larger needles, loosely CO 18 sts. Work short-rows (see Glossary) as foll:

SHORT-ROW 1 (RS) K14, wrap next st, turn.

SHORT-ROWS 2, 4, 6, AND 8 Purl to last st, p1f&b (see Glossary)—1 st inc'd.

SHORT-ROW 3 K13, wrap next st, turn—15 sts.

SHORT-ROW 5 K12, wrap next st, turn—16 sts.

SHORT-ROW 7 K11, wrap next st, turn—17 sts.

SHORT-ROW 9 K10, wrap next st, turn—18 sts.

SHORT-ROWS 10 AND 12 Purl.

SHORT-ROW 11: K8, wrap next st, turn.

SHORT-ROW 13 K5, wrap next st, turn.

SHORT-ROWS 14, 16, 18, AND 20 Purl to last 2 sts, p2tog.

SHORT-ROW 15 K6, working wraps tog with wrapped sts when you come to them, wrap next st, turn—17 sts rem.

SHORT-ROW 17 K7, working wraps tog with wrapped sts when you come to them, wrap next st, turn—16 sts rem.

SHORT-ROW 19 K10, working wraps tog with wrapped sts when you come to them, wrap next st, turn—15 sts rem.

SHORT-ROW 21 Knit to end, working wraps tog with wrapped sts when you come to them—14 sts rem.

SHORT-ROW 22 Purl.

SHORT-ROWS 23–43 Rep Short-Rows 1–21.

SHORT-ROW 44 With two strands of red held tog, purl all sts.

With red, rep Short-Rows 1–22 twice.

Loosely BO all sts.

FINISHING

With either yarn threaded on a tapestry needle, sew the CO and BO edges tog. Sew top closed, leaving a 1" (2.5 cm) gap for stuffing. Stuff with fiberfill until lightly firm but not bursting. Stitch closed. Weave in loose ends. Felt as described on page 118. With purple threaded on an embroidery needle, work running stitches (see Glossary) to create free-form loops as shown.







felted trivet + coasters

FINISHED SIZE

TRIVET: About 7½" (19 cm) in diameter, after felting.

COASTERS: About 4¾" (12 cm) in diameter, after felting.

YARN

Worsted weight (#4 Medium).

Shown here: Paton's Classic Wool (100% wool; 223 yd [204 m]/100 g): #240 leaf green, #238 paprika, and #218 peacock, 1 ball each.

Fleece Artist Merino Sliver (100% merino; 50 g/reeling): cosmic dawn, 1 reeling.

HOOK

Size J/10 (6 mm). Adjust hook size if necessary to obtain the correct gauge.

NOTIONS

Tapestry needle; embroidery needle; one 8.7 yd (8 m) skein of DMC 25 embroidery cotton in #844 (dark gray); medium-sized needlefelting needle; dense foam pad for needlefelting.

GAUGE

2 rounds = 2½" (6.5 cm) in diameter, before felting.

Crochet is the way to go if you want perfectly felted circles. These circles are great practice for a crochet and needlefelting newbie—any “imperfections” will disappear in the wash, and dots are easy to master with a felting needle. Add a loop, and the trivet can be hung near the stove and double as a quirky and convenient pot holder!



TRIVET

With leaf green, ch 4. Sl st in first ch to form a ring.

RND 1 Ch 2 (count as 1 dc here and throughout), dc into ring 11 times, sl st in top of second ch to join—12 dc.

RND 2 Ch 2, dc into same ch, work 2 dc in each of the next 11 dc, sl st in top of

second ch to join—24 dc.

RND 3 Ch 2, dc into same ch, work 1 dc in next dc, *work 2 dc in the next dc, work 1 dc in foll dc; rep from * to end of rnd, sl st in top of second ch to join—36 dc.

RND 4 Rep Rnd 3—54 dc.

RND 5 Ch 2, dc into same ch, work 1 dc in next 2 dc, *work 2 dc in the next dc,

work 1 dc in next 2 dc; rep from * to end of rnd, sl st in top of second ch to join—72 dc.

RND 6 Rep Rnd 5—96 dc.

RND 7 Ch 2, work 1 dc in each dc, sl st into top of second ch to join.

RND 8 Rep Rnd 7.

Fasten off.

COASTERS

Make 2 each in peacock and paprika. Work as for trivet, ending with Rnd 5.

FINISHING

Weave in loose ends.

Felting

Felt as described on page 118. Pin to shape on a flat surface and allow to air-dry. Once dry, steam-press if necessary.

Needlefelting and Embroidery

With small amounts of sliver, needlefelt (see page 119) small dots as desired.

With embroidery cotton threaded on an embroidery needle, work chain stitches (see Glossary) around each dot.

WHEN it comes to embellishments and finishing, I'm not a big fan of step-by-step instructions. To me, they encourage "cookie cutter crafting" that defeats the whole purpose of making things by hand. Instead, I hope that *Gifted* will inspire you to create gifts that reflect your passion and personality as well as the personality of the recipient. Keep in mind that the only rule to creativity is that there are no rules! There may be *momentary* better ways of doing things, but in general, new ideas arise from mistakes. To paraphrase a dear friend, there are no mistakes—just opportunities! That said, there are a number of tips that will simplify the process, whether it's embroidery, beading, or felting.

embroidery

As with most creative endeavors, when it comes to embroidery, you are only limited by your imagination. Although I used cotton embroidery floss for many of the *Gifted* projects, the choice is all yours. Embroidery is a perfect way to make use of leftover bits of thread and yarn that may be in your scrap basket.

- ✧ You do not need to knot the end of the thread when you begin embroidery. Simply thread the needle, enter the work from front (right side) to back (wrong side) a few inches (2.5 cm) away from where the stitching is to begin, leaving a tail about 3" to 4" (7.5 to 10 cm) on the right side. After the stitching is complete, pull that tail to the wrong side and weave it in.
- ✧ Use manageable lengths of stitching thread—36" (91.5 cm) is more than enough length. Don't be fooled into thinking that you'll save time weaving in multiple ends by using one overly long length. You'll end up spending more time straightening tangles and getting frustrated.
- ✧ Be sure that the stitching yarn can be laundered the same as the knitted project. Check colorfastness before stitching it on the knitted or crocheted base.
- ✧ Consider splitting the plies of thick yarn to create a suitable yarn for embroidery. I commonly work with two plies of four-ply yarn.



make it special

beading

Instead of knitting or crocheting beads in place as I work, I often prefer to add them after the fact. This gives me complete freedom to place the beads exactly where I think they will look best.

- ✧ Attach the beads with thread or yarn that matches the base fabric.
- ✧ If the size of needle necessary to accommodate the thickness of the yarn is too big for the bead to pass over, thread the beads on an auxiliary thread and a smaller needle. Thread a 10" (25.5 cm) length of strong thread through the smaller needle, fold the string in half and knot the ends to form a ring. Loop the yarn through the thread ring, pass the bead over the needle, along the thread, and onto the yarn.
- ✧ When adding beads in close clusters, simply weave the needle through stitches on the wrong side to where the next bead is to be placed instead of knotting and cutting the yarn after each bead.

felting

When it comes to felting, you don't have to limit yourself to pure wool. Alpaca, camel, yak, cashmere, mohair, and angora all have great felting potential. But because every yarn felts differently, it is important that you knit and felt a generous swatch to understand how a particular yarn will behave. Try felting blends of these fibers with nonfelting fibers—silk, Tencel, rayon, or soy—for an inspiring adventure. Swatch and wash to discover the possibilities.

There is no magical formula when it comes to the shrinking factor of a felted project. Therefore, it's always a good idea to take the time to knit and wash a swatch. Every yarn felts differently—even different colors of the same yarn can have very different results. Small projects are best handfelted.



- ✧ Be careful not to let the inside of a project fuse together. I had to gently pry apart the sides of my first felted egg cozy and the crease never went away. Check the progress periodically and never underestimate how quickly an item can go from floppy to felted.
- ✧ When felting in the washing machine, place the project in a lingerie bag or pillowcase to reduce the amount of fiber that can escape and clog the machine or attach to the next load of laundry.
- ✧ Keep in mind that what appears to be a felting disaster may in fact be a wonderful opportunity. I have had more than my share of mishaps when felting. The boo-boos that I've collected over the years have become inspiring materials for other projects.

FELT APPLIQUÉ

Working with felt appliqué is one of my favorite ways to embellish gifts. I love the handcrafted quality of appliqué.

- ✧ I prefer that the stitch definition of the felted fabric is completely obscured before I cut the fabric for appliqué. That way, I'm sure that the fabric will not fray when cut.
- ✧ Use sharp scissors to cut the felt pieces and use a sharp needle with the appropriate size eye to stitch the pieces in place. Your work is only as good as your tools.

FELTING READY-MADE KNITS

The art of felting ready-made knits is a whole bunch of known-knowns (superwash wool will not felt and lambswool almost certainly will), unknown-knowns (a 50% wool 50% silk blend will felt, but we don't know exactly how well until we try), and unknown-unknowns (a 70% rayon 30% alpaca inexplicitly felts like a dream with thrilling, lustrous little loops of rayon that raise above the felted background).

- ✧ When felting reclaimed sweaters, etc., assume nothing and be prepared to be pleasantly surprised or disappointed.
- ✧ Take solace in the fact that you did not spend hours knitting the piece to begin with. The odds are good that it wasn't wearable when you began or why would you want to felt it in the first place?
- ✧ Read the content label to increase your chances of success. If the garment is made of pure wool, 100% wool, lambswool, 100% alpaca, or 50% wool and 50% alpaca, you can expect good results. Blends of these fibers with silk, Tencel, rayon, or soy may also work. Avoid superwash wool, which has been treated not to felt.
- ✧ If the care label says handwash, dry flat, or dry-clean only, the chances are good that it will felt.
- ✧ I prefer to felt reclaimed sweaters, etc., that are lightweight. Lightweight garments produce a finer and more pliable

felted fabric that suit many project ideas. Besides, it's better that a machine to do all the fine, time consuming work and you stick to the quicker, chunkier handknitting. I also find that simple stitch patterns such as stockinette stitch are best. Lace patterns often get lost during felting, Fair Isle patterns can distort and blur, cable patterns can become too bulky.

- ✧ Don't worry about rips or holes—the felting process will prevent them from raveling.

NEEDLEFELTING

When needlefelting, it's important to mind your fingers. Needlefelting needles are sharp and painful if stabbed into flesh. It's better to be cautious than learn the hard way.

- ✧ You may wish to dig up some thimbles for protection for at the very least your first few projects.
- ✧ Always have a few needlefelting needles on hand. You are almost guaranteed to break a needle on your first go.
- ✧ Most needlefelters work against a dense foam pad. Not knowing any better when I started, I used a 2" (4 cm) pad of Styrofoam covered with muslin (to hold the pieces that would inevitably crumble off). I still prefer this to a dense foam pad. This is a creative process—use whatever works for you!



*Have fun when
making it special!*



ABBREVIATIONS

beg(s)	begin(s); beginning	rnd(s)	round(s)
BO	bind off	RS	right side
CC	contrasting color	sl	slip
cm	centimeter(s)	sl st	slip st (slip 1 stitch purlwise unless otherwise indicated)
cn	cable needle	ssk	slip 2 stitches knitwise, one at a time, from the left needle to right needle, insert left needle tip through both front loops and knit together from this position (1 stitch decrease)
CO	cast on	st(s)	stitch(es)
cont	continue(s); continuing	St st	stockinette stitch
dec(s)	decrease(s); decreasing	tbl	through back loop
dpn	double-pointed needles	tog	together
fol	follow(s); following	WS	wrong side
g	gram(s)	wyb	with yarn in back
inc(s)	increase(s); increasing	wyf	with yarn in front
k	knit	yd	yard(s)
k1f&b	knit into the front and back of same stitch	yo	yarnover
kwise	knitwise, as if to knit	*	repeat starting point
m	marker(s)	* *	repeat all instructions between asterisks
MC	main color	()	alternate measurements and/or instructions
mm	millimeter(s)	[]	work instructions as a group a specified number of times
M1	make one (increase)		
p	purl		
p1f&b	purl into front and back of same stitch		
patt(s)	pattern(s)		
psso	pass slipped stitch over		
pwise	purlwise, as if to purl		
rem	remain(s); remaining		
rep	repeat(s); repeating		
rev St st	reverse stockinette stitch		

BIND-OFFS

Standard Bind-Off

Knit the first stitch, *knit the next stitch (2 stitches on right needle), insert left needle tip into first stitch on right needle (**figure 1**) and lift this stitch up and over the second stitch (**figure 2**) and off the needle (**figure 3**). Repeat from * for the desired number of stitches.

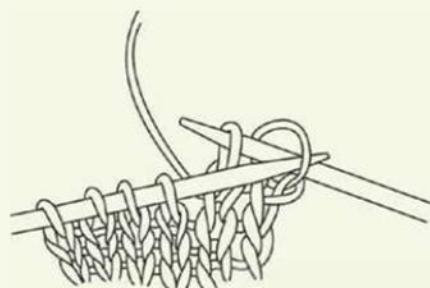


figure 1



figure 2

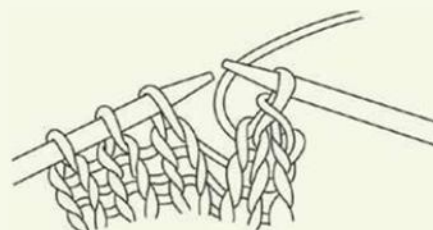


figure 3



Three-Needle Bind-Off

Place the stitches to be joined onto two separate needles and hold the needles parallel so that the right sides of the knitting face together. Insert a third needle into the first stitch on each of the two needles (**figure 1**) and knit them together as a single stitch (**figure 2**). *Knit the next stitch on each needle the same way, then use the left needle tip to lift the first stitch over the second and off the needle (**figure 3**). Repeat from * until no stitches remain on the first two needles. Cut the yarn and pull the tail through the last stitch to secure it.

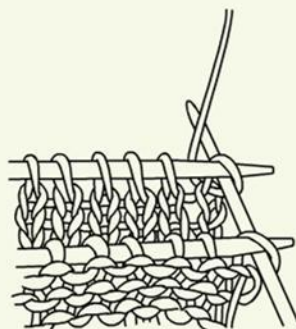


figure 1

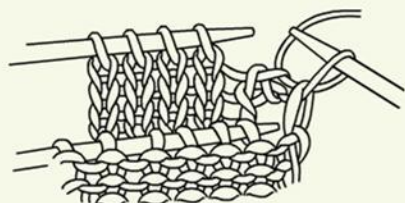


figure 2

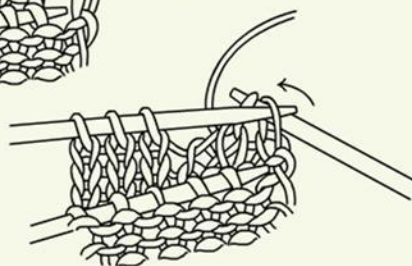


figure 3

CAST-ONS

Backward-Loop Cast-On

*Loop working yarn and place it on needle backward so that it doesn't unwind. Repeat from *.



Cable Cast-On

Hold needle with working yarn in your left hand with the wrong side of the work facing you. *Insert right needle *between* the first 2 stitches on left needle (**figure 1**), wrap yarn around needle as if to knit, draw yarn through (**figure 2**), and place new loop on left needle (**figure 3**) to form a new stitch. Repeat from * for the desired number of stitches, always working between the first 2 stitches on the left needle.

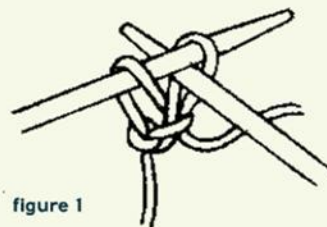


figure 1

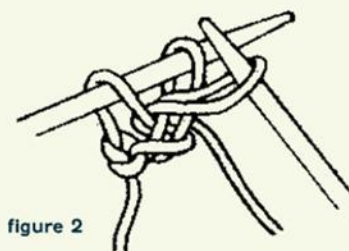


figure 2

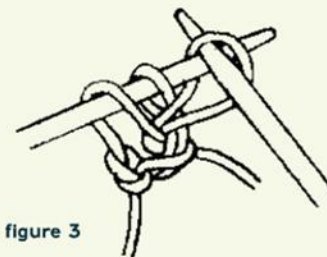


figure 3

Crochet Chain Provisional Cast-On

With waste yarn and crochet hook, make a loose crochet chain (see page 124) about 4 stitches more than you need to cast on. With knitting needle, working yarn, and beginning 2 stitches from end of chain, pick up and knit 1 stitch through the back loop of each crochet chain (**figure 1**) for desired number of stitches. When you're ready to work in the opposite direction, pull out the crochet chain to expose live stitches (**figure 2**).

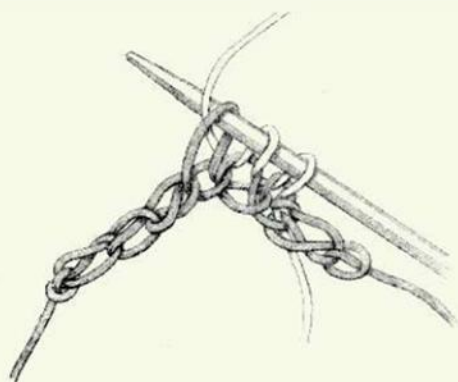


figure 1

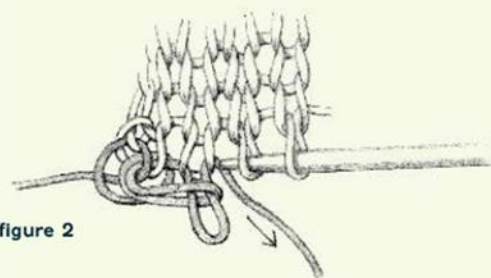


figure 2

Long-Tail (Continental) Cast-On

Leaving a long tail (about $\frac{1}{2}$ " [1.3 cm]) for each stitch to be cast on, make a slipknot and place on right needle. Place thumb and index finger of your left hand between the yarn ends so that working yarn is around your index finger and tail end is around your thumb and secure the yarn ends with your other fingers. Hold your palm upward, making a V of yarn (**figure 1**). *Bring needle up through loop on thumb (**figure 2**), catch first strand around index finger, and go back down through loop on thumb (**figure 3**). Drop loop off thumb and, placing thumb back in V configuration, tighten resulting stitch on needle (**figure 4**). Repeat from * for the desired number of stitches.



figure 1



figure 2

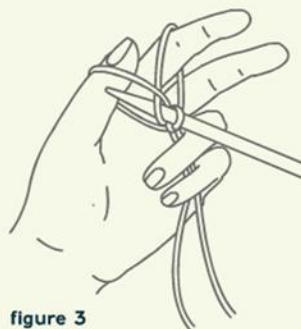


figure 3

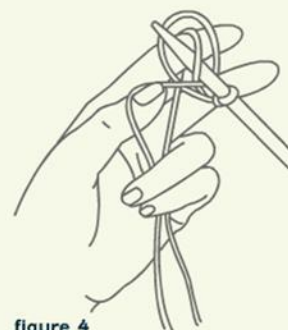


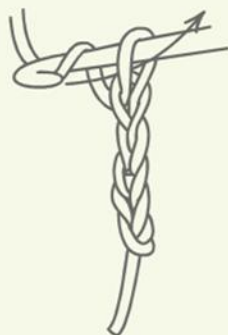
figure 4



CROCHET

Crochet Chain (ch)

Make a slipknot and place it on crochet hook if there isn't a loop already on the hook. *Yarn over hook and draw through loop on hook. Repeat from * for the desired number of stitches. To fasten off, cut yarn and draw end through last loop formed.



Slip-Stitch Crochet (sl st)

*Insert hook into stitch, yarn over hook and draw a loop through both the stitch and the loop already on hook. Repeat from * for the desired number of stitches.



Single Crochet (sc)

*Insert hook into the second chain from the hook (or the next stitch), yarn over hook and draw through a loop, yarn over hook (**figure 1**), and draw it through both loops on hook (**figure 2**). Repeat from * for the desired number of stitches.



figure 1



figure 2

Double Crochet (dc)

*Yarn over hook, insert hook into a stitch, yarn over hook and draw a loop through (3 loops on hook), yarn over hook (**figure 1**) and draw it through 2 loops, yarn over hook and draw it through remaining 2 loops (**figure 2**). Repeat from * for the desired number of stitches.



figure 1



figure 2

Treble Crochet (trc)

*Wrap yarn around hook two times, insert hook into a stitch, yarn over hook and draw a loop through (**4 loops on hook; figure 1**), yarn over hook and draw a loop through 2 loops (**figure 2**), yarn over hook and draw a loop through the next 2 loops, yarn over hook and draw it through the remaining 2 loops (**figure 3**). Repeat from * for the desired number of stitches.

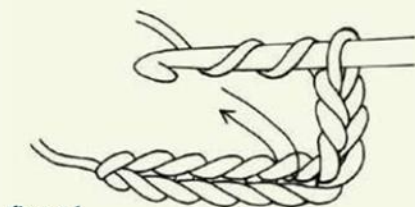


figure 1



figure 2



figure 3

EMBROIDERY

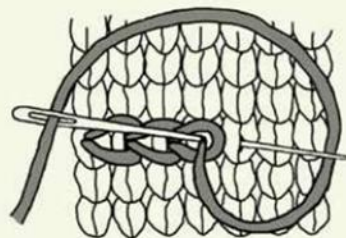
Backstitch

Bring threaded needle out from back to front between the first 2 knitted stitches you want to cover. *Insert the needle at the right edge of the right stitch to be covered, then bring it back out at the left edge of the second stitch. Insert the needle again between these 2 stitches and bring it out between the next 2 to be covered. Repeat from *.



Chain Stitch

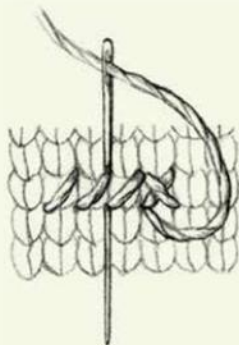
Bring threaded needle out from back to front, form a short loop, then insert needle back in where it came out. Keeping the loop under the needle, bring the needle back out a short distance to the right.





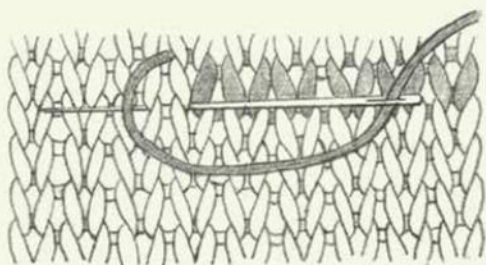
Cross-Stitch

Bring threaded needle out from back to front at lower left edge of the knitted stitch to be covered. Working from left to right, *insert needle at the upper right edge of the same stitch and bring it back out at the lower left edge of the adjacent stitch, directly below and in line with the insertion point. Work from right to left to work the other half of the cross.



Duplicate Stitch

Bring threaded needle out from back to front at the base of the V of the knitted stitch you want to cover. *Working right to left, pass needle in and out under the stitch in the row above it and back into the base of the same stitch. Bring needle back out at the base of the V of the next stitch to the left. Repeat from * for desired number of stitches.



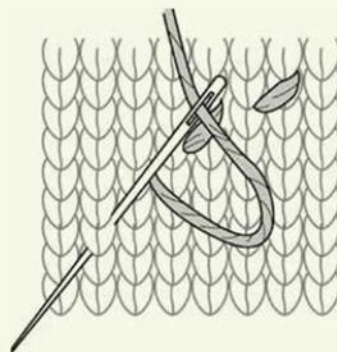
French Knot

Bring threaded needle out of knitted background from back to front, wrap yarn around needle 1 to 3 times, and use your thumb to hold the wraps in place while you insert needle into background a short distance from where it came out. Pull the needle through the wraps into the background.



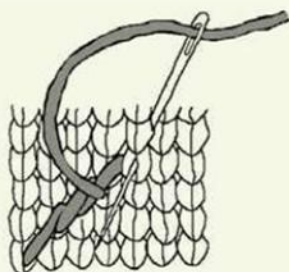
Running Stitch

Bring threaded needle in and out of background to form a dashed line.



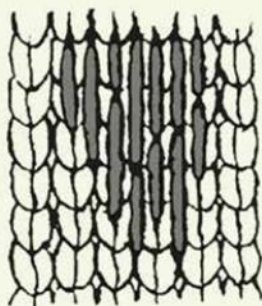
Stem Stitch

*Bring threaded needle out of knitted background from back to front at the center of a knitted stitch. Insert the needle into the upper right edge of the next stitch to the right, then out again at the center of the stitch below. Repeat from * as desired.



Straight Stitch

*Bring threaded needle out of knitted background from back to front at the base of the stitches to be covered, then in from front to back at the tip of the stitches to be covered. Repeat from *, working in straight lines or radiating from a point as desired.



I-Cord (also called Knit-Cord)

Using two double-pointed needles, cast on the desired number of stitches (usually 3 to 4). *Without turning the needle, slide stitches to other end of needle, pull the yarn around the back, and knit the stitches as usual. Repeat from * for desired length.

Attached I-Cord: As I-cord is knitted, attach it to the garment as follows: With garment right side facing and using a separate ball of yarn and circular needle, pick up and knit the desired number of stitches along the garment edge. Slide these stitches down the needle so that the first picked-up stitch is near the opposite needle point. With double-pointed needle, cast on the desired number of I-cord stitches. *Knit across the I-cord to the last stitch, then knit the last stitch together with the first picked-up stitch on the garment, and pull the yarn behind the cord. Repeat from * until all picked-up stitches have been used.

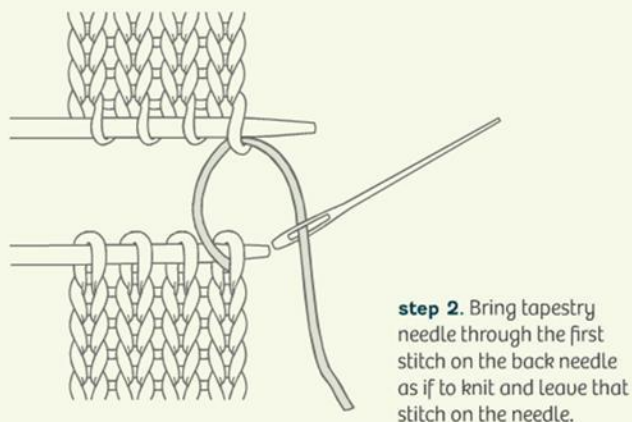
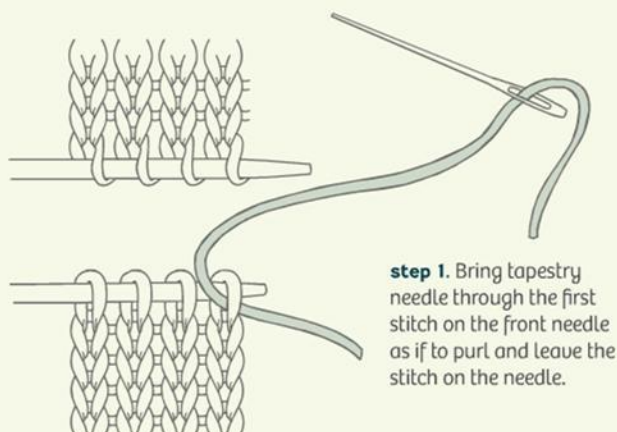




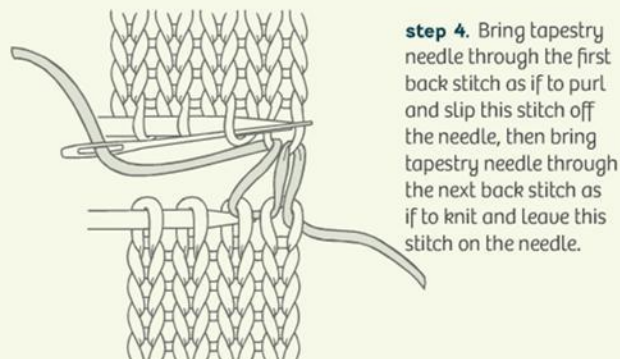
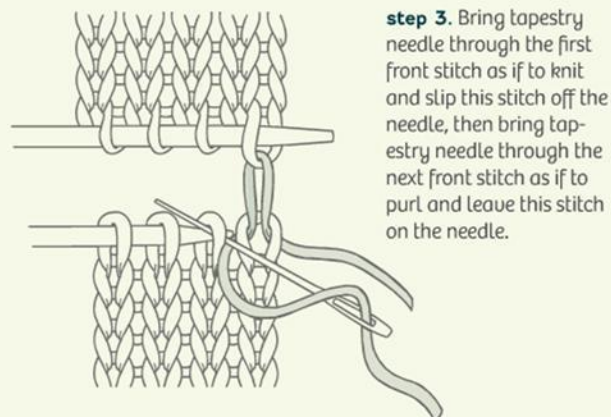
CRAFTING

Kitchener Stitch

Arrange stitches on two needles so that there is the same number of stitches on each needle. Hold the needles parallel to each other with wrong sides of the knitting together. Allowing about $\frac{1}{2}$ " (1.3 cm) per stitch to be grafted, thread matching yarn on a tapestry needle. Work from right to left as follows below.



Repeat Steps 3 and 4 until 1 stitch remains on each needle, adjusting the tension to match the rest of the knitting as you go. To finish, bring tapestry needle through the front stitch as if to knit and slip this stitch off the needle, then bring tapestry needle through the back stitch as if to purl and slip this stitch off the needle.



INCREASES

Bar Increase Knitwise (k1f&b)

Knit into a stitch but leave it on the left needle (**figure 1**), then knit through the back loop of the same stitch (**figure 2**) and slip the original stitch off the needle (**figure 3**).

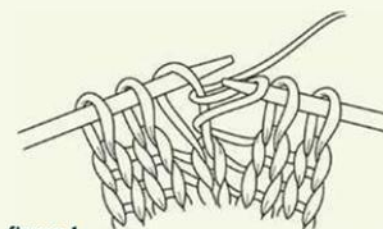


figure 1



figure 2

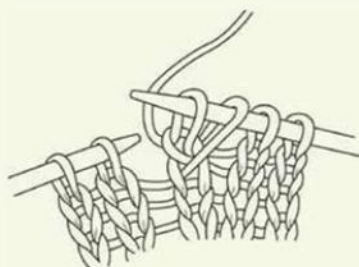


figure 3

Bar Increase Purlwise (p1f&b)

Purl into a stitch but leave it on the left needle (**figure 1**), then purl through the back loop of the same stitch (**figure 2**) and slip the original stitch off the needle.



figure 1

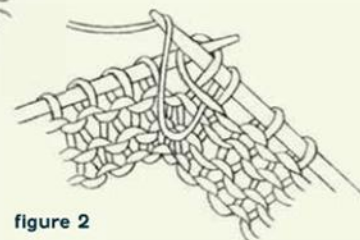


figure 2

Raised Increase Knitwise (M1)

With left needle tip, lift the strand between the needles from front to back (**figure 1**), then knit the lifted loop through the back (**figure 2**).



figure 1

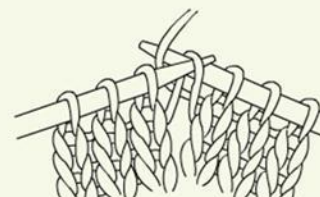


figure 2



Raised Increase—Purlwise (MIP)

With left needle tip, lift the strand between the needles from front to back (figure 1), then purl the lifted loop through the back (figure 2).

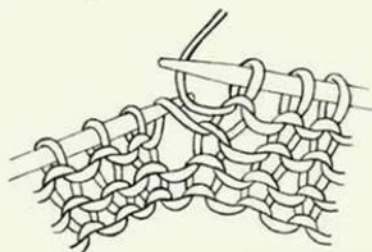


figure 1

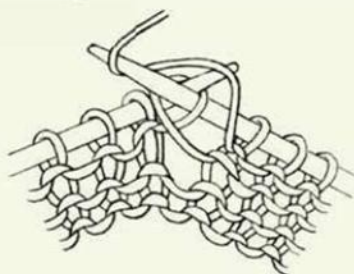


figure 2

NO STITCH

Many charted stitch patterns involve increases or decreases that cause the stitch count, and consequently the number of boxes in a chart, to vary from one row to the next. When adding or subtracting boxes at the edge of a chart disrupts the vertical alignment of symbols in the chart, “no stitch” symbols may be used. “No stitch” symbols are placed within the borders of a chart so that stitches that are aligned vertically in the knitting will appear aligned vertically in the chart. The no stitch symbol accommodates a “missing” stitch while maintaining the vertical integrity of the pattern. In this book, missing stitches are represented by gray shaded boxes. When you come to a shaded box in a chart, simply skip over it and continue to the end of the row as if it doesn’t exist.

SEAMS

Backstitch

Pin pieces to be seamed with right sides facing together. Working from right to left into the edge stitch, bring threaded needle up between the next 2 stitches on each piece of knitted fabric, then back down through both layers, 1 stitch to the right of the starting point (figure 1). *Bring the needle up through both layers a stitch to the left of the backstitch just made (figure 2), then back down to the right, through the same hole used before (figure 3). Repeat from *, working backward 1 stitch for every 2 stitches worked forward.

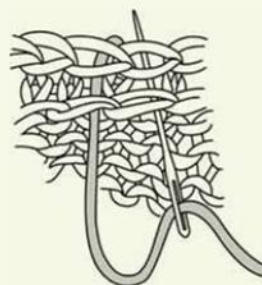


figure 1



figure 2

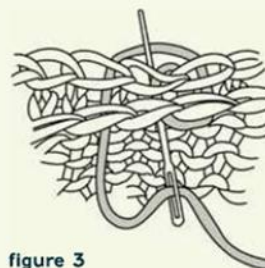


figure 3

Mattress Stitch

Place the pieces to be seamed on a table, right sides facing up. Begin at the lower edge and work upward as follows for your stitch pattern:

STOCKINETTE STITCH with 1-Stitch Seam Allowance

Insert threaded needle under one bar between the 2 edge stitches on one piece, then under the corresponding bar plus the bar above it on the other piece (**figure 1**). *Pick up the next 2 bars on the first piece (**figure 2**), then the next 2 bars on the other (**figure 3**). Repeat from *, ending by picking up the last bar or pair of bars on the first piece.

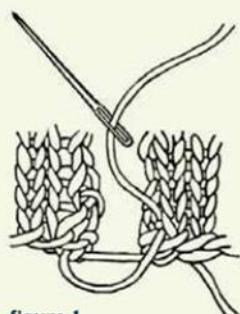


figure 1



figure 2



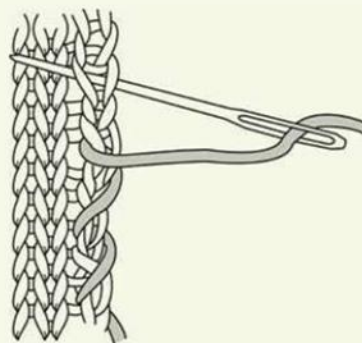
figure 2

STOCKINETTE STITCH with ½-Stitch Seam Allowance

To reduce bulk in the mattress-stitch seam, work as for the 1-stitch seam allowance but pick up the bars in the center of the edge stitches instead of between the last 2 stitches.

Whipstitch

Hold pieces to be seamed so that the edges are even with each other. With yarn threaded on a tapestry needle, *insert needle through both layers from back to front, then bring needle to back. Repeat from *, keeping even tension on the seaming yarn.





SHORT-ROWS

Short-Rows Knit Side

Work to turning point, slip next stitch purlwise (**figure 1**), bring the yarn to the front, then slip the same stitch back to the left needle (**figure 2**), turn the work around and bring the yarn in position for the next stitch—1 stitch has been wrapped and the yarn is correctly positioned to work the next stitch. When you come to a wrapped stitch on a subsequent row, hide the wrap by working it together with the wrapped stitch as follows: Insert right needle tip under the wrap (from the front if wrapped stitch is a knit stitch; from the back if wrapped stitch is a purl stitch; **figure 3**), then into the stitch on the needle, and work the stitch and its wrap together as a single stitch.



figure 1



figure 2

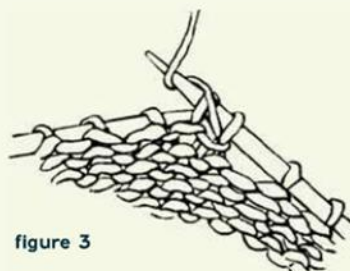


figure 3

Short-Rows Purl Side

Work to the turning point, slip the next stitch purlwise to the right needle, bring the yarn to the back of the work (**figure 1**), return the slipped stitch to the left needle, bring the yarn to the front between the needles (**figure 2**), and turn the work so that the knit side is facing—1 stitch has been wrapped and the yarn is correctly positioned to knit the next stitch. To hide the wrap on a subsequent purl row, work to the wrapped stitch, use the tip of the right needle to pick up the wrap from the back, place it on the left needle (**figure 3**), then purl it together with the wrapped stitch.

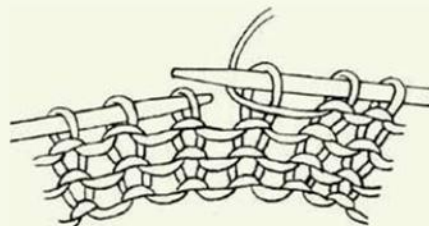


figure 1

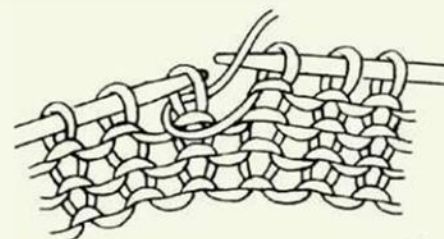


figure 2

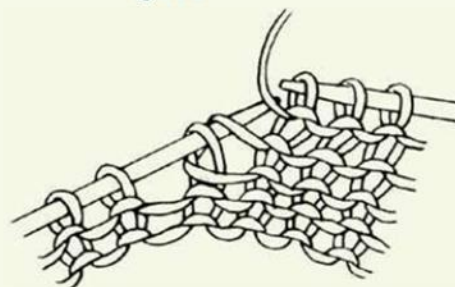


figure 3

SOURCES FOR SUPPLY

ALCHEMY YARNS OF TRANSFORMATION

PO Box 1080
Sebastopol, CA 95473
alchemyyarns.com

BERROCO INC.

PO Box 367
14 Elmdale Rd.
Uxbridge, MA 01569
berroco.com
in Canada: S. R. Kertzer Ltd.

BLUE SKY ALPACAS INC.

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Cedar, MN 55011
blueskyalpacos.com

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Toronto, ON
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diamondyarn.com

FLEECE ARTIST

fleeceartist.com

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habutextiles.com

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Townsend, MA 01469
jccrafts.com

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patonsyarns.com

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plymouthyarn.com

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165 Ledge St.
Nashua, NH 03060
westminsterfibers.com
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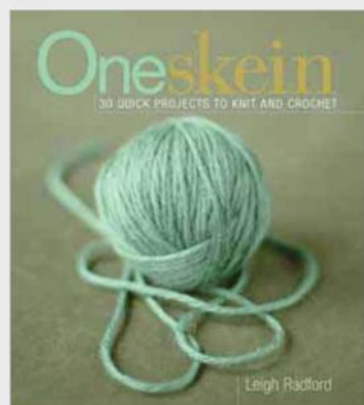
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