Learn to Knit, Clothing Project 4 : EC4-41-69

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LEARN TO KNIT
CLOTHING PROJECT 4

EXTENSION SERVICE
UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND HOME ECONOMICS
AND U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE COOPERATING
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Acknowledgment is given to the Oregon and North Dakota Agricultural Extension Services and to Coats & Clark, Inc., for illustrations and information used in this manual. Permission to reprint this publication in Nebraska was given by the University of Wyoming.

For more information on knitting write Miss Gerda Petersen, Extension Clothing Specialist, College of Agriculture and Home Economics, University of Nebraska.
There are several different ways of knitting. Directions in this project book are for the right-hand method, the most common. If your leader prefers another method, follow her directions.

If you have a problem or make a mistake, go to your leader for help. It is best not to ask others for help because they may knit another way and this could be confusing.

The main thing is to enjoy knitting—relax while you work, avoid a cramped position, have good lighting and, if your hands become tired, stop and rest a while.

This year you will:

Learn to—

... Wind yarn
... Cast on and bind off stitches
... Knit and purl
... Increase and decrease stitches
... Sew seams
... Block or steam the finished products

Make —

Two or more articles requiring skills learned in this project. These articles, using only single-pointed needles, might be:

Slippers
Hat
Mittens

Other comparable articles

All entries should be labeled as follows:

a. Gauge—number of rows equal one inch—number of stitches equal one inch
b. Size of needle
c. Size of garment
d. Size of yarn

Start your record book—

Study your record book carefully now. As soon as you finish an article, fill in the record sheet.
KNITTING TOOLS

Proper tools are as necessary in knitting as in sewing or crafts. Learn about the tools before you buy so you will select quality equipment.

Needles

Knitting needles are the first tools required. Knitting patterns tell the size of needles to use, but your leader will help you decide what needles to use for your first project.

Single-pointed needles come in pairs 7 to 14 inches long and in sizes 000 to 16. They are made of plastic, aluminum, or wood. Only very large sizes come in wood. These needles are for flat work in which rows are knitted back and forth and the work is reversed each time.

This is the type of needle you will use this year.

Crochet Hook

You will need a crochet hook to pick up dropped stitches and to correct mistakes. Size 0 is a good one for this year.

Tips or Corks

Knitting needles are strong and have sharp points. Be careful with them and learn to use them properly. It is a good idea to put protectors on the tips when you put your work down. They not only keep the points from sticking people but also will prevent stitches from slipping off the needles. Use rubber tips made for this purpose or small corks.
Measuring Tool

For measuring you will need a ruler (either 6 or 12 inch), a measuring tape, or a metal-measuring gauge.

Scissors

Keep a small pair of scissors or shears handy for cutting yarn, trimming pompoms, etc. Be sure to keep scissors in a case for safety.

Tapestry Needle

A blunt-pointed tapestry needle is used for sewing seams. A straight, steel needle is best. Some tapestry needles have a "hump" around the eye. They are not good for joining seams in knitting as the hump catches on stitches and makes it hard to pull the yarn through.

Knit Check

There is also a "knit check" made especially for knitting. The open "L" is for measuring the gauge—the number of stitches and rows per square inch. The holes along the top are for measuring needle size.
KNITTING BASKETS

You can make a handy knitting basket from a large oatmeal box or a gallon size ice cream container.

Oatmeal Box

Equipment: large oatmeal box; fabric, wrapping paper, wallpaper, or contact paper; paste (wallpaper paste is best, follow directions on package); scissors, etc., as necessary.

Cut three pieces of fabric or paper—

... 1 inch longer than the distance around the box (circumference) and 1½ inches wider than box is high.

... a square, 1 inch wider than the distance straight across the lid (diameter).

... a strip 1½ inches wide and 1 inch longer than distance around lid (circumference).

Box: Lay box on material so the material is 1 inch above top of box and ½ inch below bottom.

Paste material to the box. Be sure to keep it even. The ends will lap over about 1 inch.

Holding the box so bottom is facing you, carefully make a series of cuts, about ½ inch apart through the material to the edge of bottom of box. Fold and paste the short, narrow strips to the underside of the box.

Carefully make a series of diagonal cuts about ½ inch apart through the material to edge of lid. Fold and paste the narrow strips to the rim.

Paste the 1½-inch strip of material so one edge is on the rim of the lid—just below top surface of lid. Fold and paste the other edge to inside of rim.

The bottom may also be covered, if desired, in the same way as the lid.
Handle: Make a twisted cord as a handle for your basket. Take a strand of yarn six times as long as the desired finished length. Double the yarn and twist it tightly, holding both ends. Or, knot the loose ends of the strands and insert a pencil in each loop. Twist the pencils in opposite directions until the cord begins to curl. Hold the center and place the two pencils side by side. Allow cord to twist of its own accord. Pull to make the twist even.

To attach cord, punch two holes on opposite sides of the basket about 2 inches from top. Thread ends of cord through the holes from outside, and tie a knot on each end on the inside.

Ice Cream Container

A large knitting basket may be made using an ice cream container as a base.

Equipment: 1 round container approximately 10 inches high and 9½ inches across the bottom; lid also is needed; 1 yard of 35-inch wide fabric—a dark print will not soil easily; approximately 10 inches of narrow elastic.

Directions: Cut material for basket 35 inches long by 31 inches wide (or 1 inch wider than distance around container). Use the 4-inch strip remaining for a handle.

On wrong side, measure 15 inches from top and with marking pencil draw a line all the way across material.

With right sides together, sew the side seam, using 1/2-inch seam. Press seam open.

Form casing at bottom by turning ¾-inch hem and stitching, leaving end open for elastic.

Fold strip for handle with right sides together, sew up with a 1/4-inch seam. Turn right side out. Press flat with seam in center of underside. Turn under 1/4-inch hem at each end and blind stitch on the back side.

Attach one end of handle to basket covering by top stitching it about 11 inches from bottom over side seam. Attach the other end on the opposite side 11 inches from bottom.
Work stitching to top

Turn under ¼-inch hem on top edge of cover.
Press down.
Cut center out of lid. With bottom edge down, place rim inside covering approximately 7 1/4 inches down from top (or halfway between top edge and line you made on wrong side of fabric.)
Fold top edge of covering to the inside over the rim and bring the top fold to pencil line.
Pin in place. Stitch.
Form casing for rim by stitching with zipper foot as close as possible to bottom of rim.

From the inside, ease the stitching forming the casing for rim to the top of rim. This brings the rim and casing out and over the top of cover.
Place the carton (top edge first) inside the cover from the bottom of cover. Work carton up until bottom of carton is up inside the cover, 4½ inches from casing. Thread elastic into casing and pull up tightly (leaving approximately 1 inch of open space in center). Fasten securely. Conceal ends of elastic under casing.
To close lid of basket, turn rim clockwise and push rim down over top of carton. To open, lift lid and turn counter-clockwise.

**KNITTING NEEDLE CASE**

You can make a handy case for knitting needles by cutting a piece of corrugated paper from a packing carton. Insert your needles and crochet hooks into the ends of the paper. Leave the holder flat, or roll and fasten it with a rubber band.

**CASE FOR SMALL ITEMS**

It is a good idea to keep all easily lost items (such as rubber tips and tapestry needles) in a small, transparent case. Ask your mother to save a round, long, narrow, plastic medicine bottle. It will make a very nice case. Be sure to wash the bottle thoroughly before using it for needles and other small items.
There are many kinds of yarn. Knitting patterns give the kind or size and amount you need to make the garment. For your first project your leader will help you decide what size and how much yarn to buy.

BUYING YARN

When buying yarn, always buy enough to make the complete article. No two dye-lots are exactly the same, and it is nearly impossible to get a perfect match later if you run out. If there is any doubt about the amount of yarn you need, it is far better to buy a little too much than not enough.

You can buy yarn in wound skeins or balls, or by the ounce in a loose hank. When you buy yarn in a hank, roll it into a ball before you start working with it.

ROLLING A HANK OF YARN

If you follow these directions for rolling a hank into a skein or ball, the yarn will pull out from the inside and the ball will not roll away as you knit from it.

Carefully untie the two ends of the yarn, keeping it in the large loop. Have someone hold the hank for you, or drape it over the back of a chair.

Measure off 10 or 12 inches from the free end of the yarn. Holding this loose end firm with your thumb, very loosely, roll the yarn 12 or 15 times around 3 fingers.

Slip the yarn off your fingers, and hold it firmly on one end with the free end of the yarn hanging loose.

Wrap the yarn loosely around the part you rolled on your fingers about 12 or 14 times. If you pull the yarn too tight, it will not pull free from the center of the ball when you are ready to knit. It also may take some of the stretch out of the yarn.
Now that you have formed a base for your ball, hold your thumb on the spot where the free end of the yarn is coming out and your fingers on the opposite side. (We will call the side with your thumb the top and the other side the bottom.) Hold the free end of yarn in the palm of your hand with your little finger.

Gently wind yarn from the bottom, toward you, across top of ball, keeping the yarn close to your thumb. Keep turning the ball slowly, counter-clockwise. Be very careful to keep your thumb in the hole you form as you wind, and keep the free end of yarn free. Wind the ball loosely and always wind from bottom across top—never around sides. If the ball becomes too pointed on bottom, squeeze it tighter between thumb and fingers.

When the yarn is wound, tuck the end under several loops of yarn. The free end should pull easily from the inside.
Knitting Abbreviations

These abbreviations are the A-B-C's of the language of knitting. They are always used in directions. The ones you will need to know in this project are:

k..................knit
p..................purl
st(s)................stitch(es)
sl..................slip
*..................repeat
inc................increase
dec................decrease
tog.................together
psso..............pass slip stitch over

Read Directions Step by Step

Read the directions completely before you start a garment to make sure you have the needed equipment and that the pattern includes the skills you want to learn. Once you start to knit, however, read only one step at a time. Never read ahead when you are following directions step by step.

Understand the Importance of Your Gauge

The gauge is the most important part of all knitting. It is even more important than having the size of needles the directions call for.

Gauge means the number of stitches in each inch across your work and the number of rows in each inch up and down your work. Some people knit tightly and others loosely. The only way to tell if your gauge is the same as that called for in the directions is to knit a little sample of your work (a swatch) and count the stitches across and the rows down for every inch.

To check your gauge, use the size of needles and yarn called for in your directions and cast on about 20 stitches. Using the stitch called for in the directions, knit a swatch at least 2 inches square.

Put two pins exactly 1 inch apart and count the stitches between. If 1 inch has fewer stitches than the directions call for, use a smaller needle. If it has more stitches, use a larger one.

Always Finish the Row Before Putting Your Work Down

If you must put your work down in the middle of a row, when you pick it up again, be certain that the yarn coming from the ball is in your right hand. Then you can't go wrong.

Two Stitches Used for All Knitting

One is called a knit stitch, the other is called a purl stitch. Directions will tell you when to knit and when to purl.

A good way to tell a knit from a purl is to think of the yarn on your needle as a sweater neck.

The knit stitch looks like a V-neck sweater and the purl stitch like a turtle-neck sweater.

Complete directions for these stitches are given later in this manual.
CASTING ON

There are several methods of casting stitches onto the needles. Here are two of the most common ways.

First Method

Allow 1 inch of yarn for every stitch you cast on. (20 inches, if you wish 20 stitches.)

Make a slip loop this distance (20 inches) from the end of the yarn.

Place the loop on the needle and gently pull the ends of the yarn (not too tight). The ball end of the yarn is to the right, the free end to the left. This loop makes the first stitch.

Place the needle between the thumb and first finger of the right hand, as if you were holding a pencil. Be sure that the loop is near the pointed end of the needle.

Using the ball end of yarn, place yarn loosely over the first finger, under second, over third and under fourth above the knuckles. The second and third fingers are very important because they keep the flow of yarn even — not too tight nor too loose. They regulate the tension.

Grasp the free end of the yarn lightly against the left hand with second, third, and fourth fingers.
Place the yarn near the needle around and under the thumb. Bring the hands close together and adjust the yarn to take up any slack. Notice that the yarn makes a loop around the left thumb.

*Insert your needle through the underside of the loop.

Bring the yarn in the right hand over the point of the needle from the back. Draw it through the loop.

Gently pull the free end of the yarn with the left hand to tighten the stitch (not too much). This makes the second stitch.

Repeat from * until you have the desired number of stitches on the needle.

Second Method

Put the first loop or stitch on your needle as directed in the first method.

*Loop the loose end of yarn over the left thumb, and the other end (ball end) over the index finger. Bring both ends of yarn down across your palm and hold them with the remaining fingers.
Bring the needle back under the yarn around your left thumb.

Catch yarn on index finger and draw through large loop on thumb. There should now be two stitches on needle.

Slip the loop off your left thumb and loosely pull the loop on the needle with your thumb in same position as at the beginning.

Repeat from * until you have the desired number of stitches on the needle.

Stitches should fit closely but not tightly around the needles. They should move back and forth along the needles freely but not so loosely as to allow the needles to fall out.

If you find you have a tendency to cast on too tightly, or bind off too tightly, use a larger size needle for the cast-on or bind-off row. After casting on with the larger needle, slip the stitches on to the proper size of needle.

THE KNIT STITCH

Hold the needle, with stitches you have just cast on, in the left hand. Hold the first stitch lightly with the index finger near the tip of the needle, to keep the stitch from slipping off.

Hold right-hand needle between thumb and index finger, as if you were holding a pencil.
Place the yarn over first finger, under second, over third, and under the fourth above the knuckles. As you practice knitting, you will learn to adjust the yarn with these fingers so you will get even stitches. Bring your hands close together and adjust yarn to take up any slack.

Insert the needle in your right hand into the front of the first stitch on left-hand needle. Insert from the left side of the stitch.

Steady the right needle against the forefinger of left hand. Keep yarn to the back of your work.

With the right hand bring yarn over point of the right needle.

Draw yarn through the stitch with the right-hand needle.

Slip the old stitch off the left needle, thus completing the first new stitch. A new row is being formed on the right needle.

Always keep pushing your work up so that the stitch on which you are working is near the tip of the left needle.

Repeat until all the stitches have been knitted off the left needle. An easy way to remember these steps is to repeat to yourself: "in—over—through—off."
Now you have knitted one row. You should have the same number of stitches that you started with on the needle. For additional rows—

Change the needle with the stitches into the left hand.

The empty needle is in the right hand. Yarn is over first finger, under second, over third, and under fourth above the knuckles.

At the beginning of the second and all other rows, knit the first stitch. (Some instructions suggest slipping the first stitch of each row to maintain a smoother edge. Knitting shops today, however, generally recommend knitting the first stitch to secure a better edge for sewing the garment together.)

Bring yarn to the back of work by passing it between the two needles. Proceed as before. When every row is knitted, the pattern which results is known as the garter stitch.

THE PURL STITCH

The purl stitch differs in two ways from the knit stitch.

In plain knitting, keep the yarn at the back of the work. In purling bring it to the front of the work.

In plain knitting, insert the needle from the front of the stitch and from the left side. In purling, insert the needle from the front of the stitch from right side.

The purl stitch is not used alone. It is combined with the knit stitch to create different patterns.

OTHER STITCHES

Stockinette Stitch

The stockinette stitch is made by knitting one row and purling one row. One side of the work is smooth, the other rough. When the smooth side of the work is toward you, the row is knitted and when the rough side is toward you, the row is purled.

Remember, when you knit, your yarn is in back of your work. When you purl, the yarn is in front of your work.
Ribbing

Ribbing is made by alternating a series of knit stitches with a series of purl stitches. The most common form of ribbing is knit two, purl two. In knit two, purl two ribbing, the number of stitches cast on is usually divisible by four. Knit the first two stitches, bring the yarn forward and purl two stitches, then bring the yarn to the back and knit two stitches. Continue in this manner to the end of the row.

When you turn your work for the next row, the stitches you purled on the previous row will become knit stitches on the next row. Remember that an easy way to tell a knit stitch from a purl stitch is to think of the knit stitch as a “V-Neck” sweater and the purl stitch as a “turtle-neck” sweater.

When binding off (page —) in ribbing, always remember to bind off by knitting the knit stitches and purling the purl stitches as if you were continuing to rib.

Because of its elasticity, ribbing is frequently used where the garment fits snugly, such as the waistband and cuffs of a sweater and the tops of mittens and socks. Ribbing is usually worked on smaller needles than the rest of the garment.

HOW TO JOIN YARNS

Yarns may be joined in any of several ways:

In flat work, always start a new ball of yarn at the edge. Tie the old and new ends into a knot. Thread the loose ends back into the work later.

Yarn may be spliced by unraveling ends about 2 inches. Separate the threads and cut into uneven lengths. Lay the strands of both pieces of yarn together. Dovetail or roll them all together, following the original twist of yarn as much as possible. This makes a strong joining.
Another way is to work to within 4 inches of the end of yarn, then lay a new thread along old so that about 1 inch extends beyond last stitch. Knit the next four stitches with double threads. Cut ends after completing the piece you are knitting.

**INCREASING**

There are many ways to increase or add one or more stitches to the number you already have. This is done to shape the work or help form a design.

The increase stitch most commonly used is to knit into the front and then into the back of the same stitch before removing it from the needle. There will be two stitches transferred to the right needle instead of one.

Increasing may be done in a purl stitch in the same manner. Purl into the front, then purl into the back. Slip the two stitches to right needle and the old stitch off the left needle.

**DECREASING**

To decrease means to take away one or more stitches you are working with. Decrease, like increase, is used to shape your work or to help form a design in your knitted garment.

The two methods most commonly used for decreasing are:

1) Knit 2 stitches together . . .
   This method makes the resulting stitch slant to the right.
   On a knit row, knit two stitches together. On a purl row, purl two stitches together.
2) Slip one, knit one, pass slip stitch over (psso).
This method makes the resulting stitch slant to the left.

Slip one stitch from left to right needle without knitting (unless directions state differently).

Knit next stitch.

With help of left needle, pass the slipped stitch over the knitted stitch and off tip of needle.

CORRECTING ERRORS

Before you can correct mistakes you must learn to recognize them. The most common errors in knitting are: dropped stitches, twisted stitches, split stitches, and holes in a knitted fabric caused by having the yarn in the wrong position.

Dropped Stitch

Whenever possible, pick up a dropped stitch on the right or outside of your work. Use a crochet hook. Catch the loose stitch and work it up on the horizontal thread of each row until you reach the row on which you are working. Be careful not to twist the stitches.

Knit and purl stitches should be pulled through from opposite directions. To pick up dropped stitches in the garter stitch, alternate the two methods . . . . . for knitting and purling.
Twisted Stitch

If you look closely at the right side (or knit side) in the stockinette stitch, you see that each stitch is a V. If you gently pull or spread the fabric by holding it on each side, the V will open up or separate at the bottom. Now, if a stitch is twisted and the yarn is crossed at the bottom or base of the stitch, when you pull on the fabric the V of the twisted stitch will not separate but will pull together more closely.

When you have a twisted stitch or knit a purl stitch or purl a knit stitch, work over to a point in the work directly above the mistake. Drop this stitch from the needle and down to the twisted stitch. With a crochet hook and with the knit side of the same stitch facing you, pick up the stitch as you would any dropped stitch.

Put Knitting Back on the Needle After Ripping

When you have made a mistake and you must rip back by taking the knitting off the needles, it is easier if, for the pick-up row, you use a smaller needle than you are knitting with. The point of a smaller needle will slip into the stitches much more easily than the larger needle.

Rip back to the row above the row you want to put back on your needle. Put your needle into the stitch below exposed loop, purl side, holding the yarn in left hand. Pull yarn out of each stitch gently as you pick up the one underneath. Now the stitches are on the needle in the correct position for working the next row, and none is lost or dropped.

When putting the top stitches back on the needle, always insert needle from front to back through each loop, or the knitting will be twisted.

If you make an error in the pattern, do not rip all the stitches at once. Remove one at a time, as follows:

Slip the left-hand needle into the stitch under the first stitch now on the right-hand needle. Drop the first stitch off the right-hand needle, and pull yarn. Repeat until you come to the place where the error was made.

Holes

Holes are often caused by having the yarn in the wrong position.

If you have been purling, your yarn is in the front of your work. To knit, you must put your yarn in the back of your work. If you fail to do this, you will have a hole when you knit. These holes can be corrected by dropping the stitch directly above the error as explained under twisted stitches.

A hole will also be formed in your knitted fabric if you put your work down in the middle of a row and then work in the wrong direction when you pick it up.

A hole caused by knitting the wrong direction in the middle of a row can be corrected by ripping down to the error.
When your work is finished and you wish to remove it from the needles, bind off or cast off in the following manner:

Knit two stitches loosely.

Insert the left needle through the left side of the first stitch. Keep the yarn in the right hand very loosely so the stitches will remain loose.

Bring the first stitch forward over the second stitch and over the tip of the needle so that one stitch remains on the needle. Same as psso done in decreasing.

Knit the next stitch loosely. There are again two stitches on the right needle. Slip the first stitch over the second and drop it over the tip of the needle as before. Continue until only one stitch remains.

When you come to the last stitch, clip your yarn about three inches from the needle. Bring the loose end through the stitch remaining on the needle and pull tightly.

If you are going to sew a seam on the bound-off edge, leave the yarn long enough to sew the seam. If there is no seam, darn or weave the loose end back into the fabric so it will not show.

To bind-off in ribbing, knit the k stitches and purl the p stitches.

Blocking means to steam into shape. For good fit and smartness, block the separate pieces of your work before joining them together. Pin article to the ironing board, wrong side up, to the proper shape and measurements, and steam it lightly through a damp cloth. Do not press.

Ribbing is never blocked. If a piece is dirty, wash it in lukewarm suds, rinse it well, lay it flat between two towels and mop it as dry as you can. Then spread it flat on a dry towel, pat it to the proper shape and measurements, and allow it to dry.
SEAMS

Most knitted garments are made in separate sections—back, front (or right and left fronts), and sleeves. These, after blocking, are joined by seams, using as thread the yarn used for knitting. The seams are usually started with the hanging yarn ends.

The best needle to use is the large-eyed, blunt-pointed tapestry needle, but there are also plastic needles made especially for the purpose. For backstitched seams (page 22) a yarn-darning needle also may be used.

There are two kinds of seams—woven seams, possible only on vertical edges (side seams, sleeve seams), where the rows end; and backstitched seams, which can be made anywhere. One garment, therefore, can be joined with different seams.

Woven Seams

Woven seams are smoother and more flexible. The sections to be joined, however, must be true to size, not needing to be taken in or fitted.

The smoothest, flattest seam of all is woven by catching the head of the end stitch in a row on each edge alternately as you go back and forth, as shown. Match rows and patterns. This weaving may be done either from the right or the wrong side of the work.

The most invisible seam is not quite as flat or elastic. It is woven from the right (knit) side only. Start from left edge, bringing needle up through first stitch. Put the needle down through first stitch on right edge and bring it up along the same edge two rows below (or above, depending on how you are holding your work). Put it down through corresponding stitch on left edge, bring it up two rows below (or above) and continue weaving back and forth in the same way, matching rows or pattern.

Backstitched Seams

Backstitched seams can be made anywhere; they allow for adjusting edges if this happens to be necessary. The knitted pieces are handled like fabric. Pin the two pieces together, right sides facing; place pins crosswise, matching rows and pattern. Make backstitches through both thicknesses, either very close to edge, as in illustration, or taking wide seams if necessary for fit.

Whichever type of seam you choose, be sure the finished seam has as much elasticity or stretch as your knitted fabric.
You may use any pattern you and your leader desire, as long as it calls for the skills discussed in this manual. However, until you have enough practice to keep your gauge and tension nice and even, it will be best to stick to 4-ply yarn and large needles (size 6 or larger). Make several small articles, using the plain knit stitch.

Articles you might make in this project include:
- Pot holder
- Slippers
- Simple hat
- Sweater (using only knit and purl stitches, no decorative pattern other than ribbing)
- Mittens

STRETCH SLIPPERS

This is a perfect beginner's project . . . straight, simple work throughout, very little finishing . . . results that look like an expert's job.

You start with the “bows” . . . they serve as practice pieces for the garter stitch and ribbing used in the slippers themselves.

Three sizes can be made from these directions:
- Medium-to-large—women's sizes 7 and over
- Small—women's sizes 5 and 6
- Children's—4 years to 6 years

The number of stitches and the measurements are given for the largest size, with the two smaller sizes following in parentheses. Be sure to stick to one size throughout!

You need knitting worsted 'tangle-proof’ pull-out skeins; 3 ounces for largest size; 2 ounces for other sizes.

1 pair plastic knitting needles—size 8
Tapestry needle (blunt-end needle), large size.
Rule or tape measure
How to Make a Bow

Measure 12" from end of yarn and cast on 10 (10, 8) stitches.

KNIT 4 (4, 3) rows
PURL 4 (4, 3) rows
KNIT 4 (4, 3) rows
PURL 4 (4, 3) rows

RIBBING
Knit 1, purl 1 for 5 (5, 3) rows

Bind off stitches. Cut yarn, leaving an end. Thread end into your tapestry needle and run it back through last row. Trim off. Finish other yarn-end in the same manner.

Repeat and make the second "bow."

How to Make the Slippers

Measure off 2 yards of yarn. Over two needles, cast on 42 (36, 30) stitches. A fairly long end will be left hanging.

Work in garter stitch: knit each row until you have a piece 4½" (3½", 2¾") long.

Now bind off 6 (6, 4) stitches at the beginning of your row; knit all the other stitches in the row.

Bind off 6 (6, 4) stitches at the beginning of next row; knit all the other stitches in the row.

Work in ribbing: k 1, p 1 across. Repeat this row (each row begins with k 1 and ends with p 1) until the ribbed part measures 4½" (3½", 2¾").

Cut yarn, leaving a yarn-end of about 18". Thread this into your tapestry needle. Your piece now looks like the picture.

Along the two edges of the ribbed section, you will see that a part of each stitch stands out, looking like a knot. Match the two edges evenly and join them by picking up a knot alternately in each edge with your needle and yarn. Take several very firm stitches where ribbing ends. Do not sew up the two short garter-stitch edges. This will be the wrong side (inside) of the slipper.
Turn slipper right side out and bring the needle out between the two edges. Run needle and yarn through center of "bow" as shown. Draw up yarn and attach bow firmly. Run thread back through the seam for an inch or two and cut off.

To sew up the heel seam, use the hanging yarn-end. Turn the slipper wrong side out and take a few very firm stitches at the top of the seam; then whip the two edges together by putting your needle through two stitches (one in each edge) at the same time. Run yarn-end back through seam before cutting it off. Turn slipper to right side.

Repeat for a second slipper.
A cozy, becoming band, on which you will use ribbing, decreasing, increasing. You will also sew two short seams through ribbing, and make two pretty twisted cords and two beautiful pompons.

**Cords**

Cut a strand of yarn 2 yards long. Fold in half. Holding the two ends in the left hand, put a finger of your right hand in the fold and twist, holding the yarn taut. Keep turning until you have a tight twist. Then have someone catch the length of twisted yarn in the center, while you fold it in half. It will automatically twist into a cord. Make two such cords.

**Pompons**

Before making the pompons, which will use up the rest of your yarn, cut off and put aside four strands of about 20” each. For each pompon, cut two discs of thin cardboard, 2 1/2 inches in diameter. Cut a round hole in center, a scant 3/4 inch in diameter. Thread a yarn needle with a long, doubled strand of yarn; wind around the disc through the hole, as shown. When the hole is filled, cut the yarn between the two discs, as shown. Double a 20” strand of yarn. Slip it between the discs. Tie it securely around wound yarn, leaving hanging ends. Tear away cardboard and trim pompon. Make two.

**Finishing**

Tie pompon ends securely to loop end of cord. Trim. Sew other end of cord to point of bonnet, coiling cord (yarn) ends slightly. Tack seam allowance out of sight at the same time. With the yarn needle, thread yarn-ends invisibly into work and trim off.

You will need 4-ply knitting worsted; two 1-oz. “tangle-proof” pull-out skeins.
One pair knitting needles No. 5.
Yarn darning or tapestry needle, large.
NOTE: This bonnet must be knitted fairly tight. If you are a “loose knitter”—which means that you make rather big stitches that tend to drop off your needle—get a smaller size needle, No. 4.
Knitting Instructions

You are going to knit a piece looking like this:

- Bind off tightly
- Increasing rows
- Decreasing rows

You begin here, casting on 90 stitches

Do your casting on over 1 needle. When making your starting loop, leave an end about 60" long. Cast on 90 sts.

1st row: k 2, * p 2, k 2*. Repeat the stitches after * to end of row.
2nd row: p 2, * k 2, p 2. Repeat the stitches after * to end of row.
3rd row: Bind off 2 sts. Then p 1, k 2, * p 2, k 2.
   Repeat the sts after * to end of row.
4th row: Bind off 2 sts. Then k 1, * p 2, k 2. Repeat the sts after * to end of row.
5th row: Bind off 2 sts. K 1, p 2, * k 2, p 2. Repeat the sts after * to end of row.
6th row: Bind off 2 sts. P 1, * k 2, p 2. Repeat the sts after * to end of row.

Keep repeating these four rows (3 to 6 inclusive) through Row 22, when you will have 50 stitches left on your needle. Your work will now look like this:

Now cast on two stitches at the beginning of the next (23rd) row. To do this you knit the first stitch, but instead of lifting the old stitch off the left-hand needle, you pick up the new stitch with the left needle, as shown.

You now have an extra stitch. For a second stitch, repeat.

23rd row: (After casting on two sts) p 2, k 2 to end of row.

Continue casting on two sts at the beginning of each of the next 19 rows, or through Row 42. As you work back over each row, always start the row (over the two cast-on stitches) with the same 2 sts (knit or purl) with which you ended the row before. By the time you have finished Row 42 you will have 90 stitches. Knit two more rows in ribbing over the 90 stitches.

Now bind off tightly (this is against the usual rule, but the edge of the bonnet must be pulled in). Be sure to bind off in ribbing—that is, knitting and purling.

Seams

To shape the band into a bonnet, the points of each end are sewn together. Fold the band in half lengthwise. At each end, match the outside edges of the points and pin the inside (bound-off and cast-on) edges together, placing a pin between each rib, as shown. Thread a strand of yarn into the yarn needle. Sew the two inside edges firmly together with a backstitch as shown. Steam seams open through a damp cloth, using only the point of the iron. The seam allowance showing at points will be tacked back later. Do not block the bonnet, since it is in ribbing.
Mittens on Two Needles

Easy, fun to make, and quick—you use two strands of yarn instead of one.

The mittens in the picture were made with jewel-blue yarn, embroidered in white, red, and navy yarn. They are medium size.

You will need: knitting worsted—4 one-ounce “tangle-proof” pull-out skeins
1 pair plastic knitting needles—size 8
Tapestry needle (blunt darning needle)
Colored yarns for embroidery, at least 2 yards each
2 rubber bands that fit your wrist

Two ways of decreasing are used in making the mittens:
this is one:

k 2 tog—knit 2 together

this is the other:

sl 1, k 1, p.s.s.o.—slip 1, knit 1, pass slip stitch over knit stitch

The mittens are done in stockinette stitch, that is:

you knit one row, purl the next row. The knit side is the right side.
Starting the Mitten (at bottom edge)

Cast on 30 sts loosely, drawing yarn from 2 balls at once and working the two threads as one. Knit the first three rows. Then start the stockinette stitch with a purl row. Work until piece measures 3". End with a purl row.

Beginning the Thumb

1st increase row: K 14 sts, inc 1 st in next st (see abbreviations) k 1, inc 1 st in next st, k remainder of row.
Next row: Purl across.
2nd increase row: K 14 sts, inc 1 st in next st, k 3, inc 1 st in next st, k remainder of row.
Next row: Purl across.
3rd increase row: K 14 sts, inc 1 st in next st, k 5, inc 1 st in next st, k remainder of row.
Next row: Purl across.
4th increase row: K 14 sts, inc 1 st in next st, k 7, inc 1 st in next st, k remainder of row.
Next row: Purl across.
Following row: K 14 and place these sts on a stitch holder, k 11, place remaining 13 sts on a stitch holder.

Completing the Thumb

You now have 11 sts on your needle. Cast on 1 st, as shown, making 12 sts, then purl these sts.

Rows on Thumb: Work over these 12 sts for 1½" in stockinette stitch, ending on a purl row.
Final row: K 2 tog across row.
To finish, measure 12" of yarn from last stitch; break off. Thread end into darning needle, draw it through remaining 6 sts, removing knitting needle. Go through stitches again and pull tight. Sew up thumb on right side as shown.

Making the Top of the Mitten

Transfer the first 14 sts from the stitch holder to a knitting needle. Tie the ends of the balls of yarn to the last stitch. Be sure to have the knot on the wrong side of the work.

Pick up 3 sts at base of thumb: to pick up stitches, insert the empty knitting needle into the edge of the base of thumb, taking up 3 threads—one left of the thumb seam, one over the seam, one right of the seam. Knit these stitches onto right-hand needle.

Slip remaining 13 sts from stitch holder onto other knitting needle and knit across. There are now 30 sts on the needle.

Work in stockinette stitch until mitten measures 8¾", ending on a purl row.
Shaping the Top of the Mitten

1st row: k 2; sl 1, k 1, p.s.s.o., k 7, k 2 tog, k 4; sl 1, k 1, p.s.s.o., k 7, k 2 tog, k 2.
2nd row: Purl across.
3rd row: k 2; sl 1, k 1, p.s.s.o., k 5, k 2 tog, k 4; sl 1, k 1, p.s.s.o., k 5, k 2 tog, k 2.
4th row: Purl across.
5th row: K 2 tog 11 times.

Measure 18" of yarn from last stitch; break yarn. Thread darning needle with this end and draw it through remaining 11 sts, removing knitting needle.

Embroider the Mitten

You need two yards of yarn for each stripe. Measure off the yarn; thread the needle and use yarn doubled.

Attach white yarn on the right edge of the mitten, just below the row where you made your first decrease. Following one row, pass the needle over one stitch, under the next, over the following and so forth. At the end of the row pull the needle out of the mitten. Straighten the mitten back into shape, stretching to make sure the yarn does not pull it together. The knitting must not lose its elasticity. Turn at the edge and come back as shown. Make a third row and fasten end of yarn.

Attach the navy yarn in line with the crotch of the thumb. Weave the yarn through until you come to the increases, pass yarn through the stitches on the wrong side and continue on other half of mitten.

Make a second and third row and fasten yarn.

Find the center between the navy and the white stripes and make a red stripe the same way.

Finishing the Mitten

Pull tight the thread hanging from the top and sew up the side of mitten the same way as the thumb. Darn any loose thread-ends back through work. To keep mitten tight at wrist put in the rubber band as follows: Turn mitten inside out. Slip rubber band over it, placing it about 1" from cuff edge. Hold in place with yarn as shown, taking stitches through the purl stitches. Fasten end of yarn.

Make the other mitten the same way.
How does your knitting look?

Are you pleased with the results?

Are there places you can improve?

**General Appearance**

Is your article clean and neat,

Is it properly blocked?

**Workmanship—Knitting Skills**

Do the cast-on and round-off stitches have enough elasticity?

Is the gauge accurate?

Is the tension uniform?

Is the article free of twisted, split, or dropped stitches?

Are yarn-ends joined neatly?

Are seams smooth, neat, and flexible?