

2019 Unwind Classes

Petite Pinwheel - Laura Barker

Pinwheel is a rectangular shawl that begins in the center with a provisional cast-on that appeared in Knitty, Spring 2015. Modifying Barbara Walker's Vortex creates a stitch pattern that looks the same every time it rotates 90 degrees, making the provisional cast-on a seamless part of the design, and giving the illusion of being worked in one direction while actually rotating 360 degrees. The pattern up close resembles lace bowties, but viewed from farther away, the solid areas become pinwheels. Thinking about how pinwheels spin and still look the same, it was the perfect name. A sideways knit-on border that mimics the alternating lace and solid triangles completes the shawl. This class uses a miniature version to cover the provisional cord cast-on (PCCO), cord management, and special increases to create the corner increases

Skills Needed: Prior experience with lace

Homework: None

Materials Fee: None

Supplies to Bring: Any weight yarn from fingering to worsted, using approximately 300 yds, regardless of weight; appropriately sized circular needles, 36" or longer; 8 stitch markers of one type/color; 2 stitch markers of another type/color

Twined Knitting - Jeffrey Wall

Learn the basics of twined knitting while working on a mini mitten. How to cast on using 3 strands. How to hold the yarns for twined knitting. How to prepare the balls for twined knitting. How to untwist your yarn. How to work Latvian braids/Herringbone sts, crook/O/chain sts.

Skills Needed: Students should have experience with knit, purl, reading charts, working in the round on DPNs/2 circulars/magic loop.

Homework: None

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Materials fee: \$18 for Z-twist yarn in two colors

Supplies to bring: Size 2.5 mm (US 1.5) needles (DPNs, 2 circulars or 1 long circular for magic loop), small amount of a smooth waste yarn for thumb placement

Rock your Socks - Hannah Thiessen

Explore unique sock construction methods to achieve your perfect fit! Socks are among the most popular things to knit, and rightfully so: they're small, portable, and are the perfect one-skein project to celebrate a souvenir skein or brilliantly hand-dyed hank. In this class, we'll explore how yarn choices, construction methods, plus a variety of cast-ons, heels, toes, and shaping that can help you identify the perfect route to your best-fitting sock. Even experienced sock knitters should be prepared to walk out with a deeper understanding of this popular knitted accessory!

Skills Needed: Students should have experience with knit, purl, reading charts, working in the round on DPNs/2 circulars/magic loop.

Homework: Make a swatch in the round using 60 stitches, sock yarn, and your preferred sock knitting method using Stockinette Stitch, in the round. Please aim for between 8-9 stitches per inch, with whatever needle that requires of you. Bind off and wash your swatch. The finished swatch when pressed flat should be 4" tall.

Materials fee: None

Supplies to bring: notebook, writing utensils, your swatch, needles & yarn from the homework

All about Directional Increases - Mimi Kezer

Put some new tools in your knitting toolbox as we explore different kinds of directional increases and how to use them. From make ones (both knitwise and purlwise) to lifted increases, this class covers both the mechanics and the concept behind why they work the way they do. We will work some samples, then use

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Mimi's Aqueous pattern to incorporate the techniques into a beautiful crescent shawl. Materials: US 6/4mm circular needle with 32" cable; 420 yds fingering weight yarn; stitch markers.

Skills Needed: knit, purl, garter tab cast on

Homework: None

Materials Fee: None

Supplies to bring: US 6/4mm circular needle with 32" cable; 420 yds fingering weight yarn; stitch markers

Shorty the Short Row Bear - Laura Barker

Shorty is a colorful 4" teddy bear which uses German short rows to create a big round tummy, a bottom so the bear can sit, no-sew ears, pointed toes, curved arms, and contrasting colored pads on the hands and feet. This miniature (baby bear) version, can be mostly completed in class, using approximately 5g of each of 5 colors of yarn found in a mini pack. Included in the class handout is the pattern for the mama bear size (9"), using approximately 15g of each color (the remainder of the mini pack), and the papa bear size (11") using 20g of each color (or a second mini pack). The body is worked sideways using four of the colors individually with no colorwork required. Appendages are added to body by picking up stitches.

Skills Needed: Prior experience with short rows (not necessarily German) recommended

Homework: None

Materials Fee: None

Supplies to Bring: 5g each of 5 shades of worsted yarn, and size US 5 needles with relatively pointy tips. May be worked in one color to learn skills, but won't be as cute. May not get this far in class, but fiberfill to stuff bear and embroidery floss and needle to embroider facial features will be needed to complete project

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Sweater Meditations - Hannah Thiessen

It's likely that most knitters have at least one "dream garment": a sweater that exists, with or without a pattern, in our imaginations and hearts that we dream of casting on. This course is all about getting started down the path of meditative sweater knitting: the act of creating the perfect garment with the perfect yarn and achieving knitting nirvana in the process. • Learn to love the process of swatching and selecting the right pattern & gauge • Identify the gap in your wardrobe you've been meaning to fill with the best sweater ever

- Decipher (or write your own) patterns that create your dream garment
- Avoiding common garment pitfalls with handy tips & tricks

Skills Needed: Appropriate for beginner and beyond

Homework: If you know what yarn you'll be using, go ahead and swatch on a few needle sizes. If you know what pattern you want to use, print & bring it. If you know yarn and pattern, bring both!

Materials Fee: None

Supplies to Bring: A single skein from your sweater lot, yardage information (or a label from your yarn), appropriately sized needles, a pattern if you have one in mind.

Mimi's Signature Edging Trio- Mimi Kezer

Used in two of her garment designs from 2018, Mimi combines some of her favorite techniques into a dynamite edging using the Lateral Braid, Chinese Waitress Bind Off and Single Crochet. Obviating the need for ribbing, this trio produces a beautiful, stable ending for hems, sleeves and necklines that can be utilized for most any pattern.

Skills Needed: knit, purl, yarn over, and single crochet (helpful but not imperative)

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Homework: Cast on 60 stitches with Size 7 needs; join in the round and knit three rounds. Place stitches onto a piece of waste yarn.

Materials Fee: None

Supplies to bring: Worsted weight yarn; US 5 and US 7 circular needles with 16" cable; Size F crochet hook

Mitered Entrelac- Laura Barker

Mitered entrelac is an exciting new technique that takes two or more tiers of entrelac around corners as seen in Laura's book, "Mitered Entrelac, Knitting Entrelac Around the Corner." The precise matching at the corners is reminiscent of mitered frames. Learn to turn a corner, begin a triangle shawl, learn my 'double half stitch pickup' method of picking up stitches for tiny and gap-free transitions between blocks, and everything else you need to finish this reversible and versatile accessory

Skills Needed: A basic understanding of entrelac helpful, but not required for the adventuresome

Homework: None

Materials Fee: None

Supplies to Bring: Three colors of worsted weight yarn (15 yards per color for class, 100 grams of each for a complete shawl); and 40-48" US #8/5mm circular needle

Double Knitting - Jeffrey Wall

learn how to double knit. How to cast on for double knitting with two colors, how to read the charts and complete the knitting so you end up with the same pattern on both sides in opposite colors! No experience with color work is required.

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Skills Needed: Should be comfortable with knit and purl stitch, long tail cast on, and familiarity with reading charts is helpful but not required

Homework: None

Materials Fee: None

Supplies to Bring: 2 balls of DK weight yarn (1 each of two different contrasting colors) Size US4/3.5mm needles (straight or circular are fine)

Double Knitting - Heather Storta

Double knitting is a special knitting technique that produces a double thickness fabric that can be reversible but doesn't have to be. We'll knit a small coaster while learning two-color cast on, the basics of double knitting, and a seamless bind off.

Skills Needed: Should be comfortable with cast on, knit, purl, bind off, basic decreases

Homework: None

Materials Fee: None

Supplies to Bring: Worsted weight yarn in 2 contrasting colors, about 25g of each color. Straight or circular needles Size 4 or 5 - or about 2 sizes smaller than you would normally use.

Stash Smarter Hannah Thiessen

As knitters and crocheters, we can hold onto a lot of guilt about what we collect and accumulate.

If you've found yourself buying yarn (only to find more of the same in your stash later), you have

'guilty purchases' hiding under the bed, or you just want to get a handle on what you have, this

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class is for you. We'll explore: ● Deciphering the “why before the buy” ● Organizational methods for what you already have ● Project planning using the Ravelry database and library ● Being realistic about our expectations and accomplishments ● Destash methods for yarns we no longer want or need ● Notions & Tools organization ● Books & magazines organization ● Digital tools that may be useful ● Letting go of unloved projects ● WIP workdown plans

Skills Needed: None

Homework: optional--go through your stash and bring a few things to class you might want to swap or trade. Additionally, bring notes about yarns you're struggling to find projects for or have questions about.

Materials Fee: None

Supplies to Bring: pencil & paper, notes about your stash

Portuguese Knitting - Mimi Kezer

Learn this easy, ergonomic knitting style which has applications for both English and Continental knitters. A great tool for stranded color work, the class will cover both the knit and purl stitches, as well as tensioning styles.

Skills Needed: Knit & Purl

Homework: None

Materials Fee: None

Supplies to Bring: Worsted weight yarn; US 7/4.5mm needle (any type)

Shadow Knitting - Jeffrey Wall

learn how to create hidden pictures in your knitting! By combining knits and purls you create a piece that looks striped from the front, but when you view from the side a picture immerses.

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Skills Needed: Should be comfortable with knit and purl stitch and familiarity with reading charts is helpful but not required

Homework: None

Materials Fee: None

Supplies to Bring: 2 balls of DK weight yarn (1 light and 1 dark) most often use a light and dark of the same color family but total opposites can work as well (Like a light green and dark green) Size (US6/4.0mm) needles (16 or 24" circular)