

Understanding Grafting

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Grafting magically joins knitted pieces to look like they were created as a single piece. During our deep dive into the rhyme and reason behind grafting, we'll graft a variety of stitch patterns. Be sure to knit these swatches in advance so that you can work along with the class.



MATERIALS

- Light colored DK or worsted weight yarn in at least 2 colors
- Knitting needles in a size appropriate for the yarn (I used US 7/4.5mm for my swatches)
- Tapestry needle

NOTES

Each stitch pattern will need 2 separate swatches to graft together. All swatches should be left as live stitches still on the needles. **DO NOT BIND OFF ANY STITCHES.** Leave approximately 18" of tail on each swatch for grafting and so that if an additional row needs to be worked, yarn is available.

Swatch organization will be helpful. If you own lots of needles, feel free to knit the pair of swatches for each stitch pattern on an individual set of needles using a separate strand of yarn for each swatch. If you don't own that many needles, you can either park the live stitches on waste yarn or use one or two long circular needles to store the swatches. However you choose to store the swatches, order them on the needles so that both swatches of that stitch pattern are accessible on a needle tip at the same time. We will work with the two stockinette swatches first, the two ribbing swatches second, the two garter stitch swatches third, and the seed stitch swatches fourth. See picture for how I've organized my swatches.

Many people find it helpful to work the graft in a color that contrasts with the swatch so that they can see their work. To do this, bring the contrasting color yarn to class.

Total swatches:

- Two stockinette swatches (shown in blue)
- Two 2x2 rib swatches (shown in pink)
- Two garter swatches (shown in cream)
- Two seed stitch swatches (shown in gray)



Grafting lace will be discussed and demonstrated but lace knitting will not be taught in depth. If you already know how to knit basic lace, you are welcome to work along with the demo. To work along, bring a crochet hook similar in size to your needles, light to medium colored yarn and a contrasting waste yarn in a similar weight. A lace stitch pattern will be provided.

ABBREVIATIONS

K: Knit.

P: Purl.

RS: Right side.

WS: Wrong side.



Instructions:

STOCKINETTE STITCH SWATCHES (MAKE 2):

Cast on 20 stitches using any method.

Stockinette Row 1 (RS): Knit all stitches

Stockinette Row 2 (WS): Purl all stitches

Repeat Stockinette Rows 1 and 2 until swatch measures approximately 2"/5cm, ending with a wrong side row. Precise length of swatch isn't important but be sure to work enough that rolling won't be a pest. Break yarn leaving an 18" tail.

RIBBING SWATCH (MAKE 2):

Cast on 22 stitches using any method.

Work approximately 2" of length as

Ribbing Row 1 (RS): *K2, p2, repeat from * to last 2 stitches, k2.

Ribbing Row 2 (WS): *P2, k2, repeat from * to last 2 stitches, p2.

Repeat Ribbing Rows 1 and 2 until swatch measures approximately 2"/5cm, ending with a wrong side row. Precise length of swatch isn't important but be sure to work enough to see the pattern clearly. Break yarn leaving an 18" tail.

GARTER STITCH SWATCHES (MAKE 2):

Cast on 20 stitches using any method.

Garter Stitch (RS and WS): Knit all stitches

Repeat Garter Stitch until swatch measures approximately 2"/5cm, ending with a wrong side row. Precise length of swatch isn't important but be sure to work enough to see the pattern clearly. Break yarn leaving an 18" tail.

SEED STITCH SWATCHES:

Cast on 21 stitches using any method. Work approximately 2" in seed stitch:

Seed Stitch with odd stitch count (RS and WS): *K1, p1, repeat from * to last stitch, k1.

Repeat Seed Stitch until swatch measures approximately 2"/5cm, ending with a wrong side row. Precise length of swatch isn't important but be sure to work enough to see the pattern clearly. Break yarn leaving an 18" tail.



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Congratulations, you have finished
your homework! I can't wait to see you
in class.

For more upcoming events, visit
www.DaisyAndCloverDesigns.com

ABOUT THE DESIGNER

Amie Palmer is the designer behind Daisy And Clover Designs. She is a lifelong fiber arts enthusiast who has fallen in love with knitting. She believes there are two types of knitting projects: the ones that require concentration and those meant for meeting up to chat with fellow knitters. She always has at least one of each on her needles. Amie's favorite projects include custom-fitted sweaters, brioche, and exploring the technical side of knitting.



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