



In the Loop™

What's New:

New Designs Intensify the Warmth of Wool

Four patterns, designed to intensify the warmth of wool, are among the new patterns seasonally published by The Knit With. Each pattern is written for **220 Superwash** which The Knit With stocks in almost 100 solid and heathered shades. **Nick Gunderson**, brew master at Chestnut Hill Brewing Co., models the designs; thanks, Nick!



Each design – a headband, watch cap, dickie and dress scarf – employ different approaches to create warm woollies to capture and intensify the warmth of wool. Each design uses layered knitted fabric for garments of extreme warmth for the coming extreme season.

The *Telemark Headband* – inspired from a garment worn by Richard Harris in the WWII docu-movie, *Heroes of Telemark* – uses slipped stitches to create a two fabric layer headband with earflaps in garter stitch. Varying the technique is the foundation of the *Damian* ribbed watch cap. Both designs are worked with straight needles.



Twisted stitches are the backbone for dual-layer warmth in the *Twining Cable Dress Scarf*. This pattern practices a novel, easy and efficient technique for twisting knitted stitches – often a bane to many knitters. Trimmed in seed stitch and worked using straight needles, the scarf can be easily elongated from dress to casual length or adapted to the height of various wearers.



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Applause, Applause:

Knitters Numbers Increase

Applause is in order to several knitters who recently successfully completed The Knit With's various classes.

Joining the ranks of recognizable knitters are **Concetta L.**, of Plymouth Meeting, **Janel H.** from Mt. Airy, **Carolyn G.** of Germantown, **Susan D.** from Jenkintown, **Diane P.** and **Erin O.** both from Lafayette Hill, **Denise F.**, from Conshohocken and **Shelly D.** of Glenside.

Both **Beulah T.**, from Mt. Airy, and **Jeanne L.**, from Plymouth Meeting, satisfied their yearn to learn by advancing beyond their accomplished knitting skills

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Reprise of a Classic:

Black Walnut Needles Are Back!

American black walnut knitting needles, with finials elegantly turned in a romantic Victorian manner, are coming in mid to late September to The Knit With's *Needle Niche*.

Produced in California from sustainably harvested, native wood, the black walnut needles are to be available in 10 inch working lengths in US sizes 3 to 13 (3.25 mm to 9 mm). The **Brittany Black Walnut** needles join the white **Brittany Birch** needles available through US size 17



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Applause, Applause:

Classes Increase Numbers of Knitters

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to venture among stitches crossed, cabled and twisted. Both hold wearable diplomas of their accomplishment in the form of the Shetland Vest.

Jeanne L. describes the two-part Accomplished Knitting class in one word: “awesome.” She explains: I learned more than I thought I would – to read and understand patterns, casting on correctly. I can see such a difference [between] what I knit before the class and after. The techniques I learned I will use over and over again. If you are thinking of taking the class, please do.”

The Knit With regularly and seasonally offers a full range of classes in knitting and occasionally in crochet. The Autumn 2017 Class Schedule is included in this edition. Among the classes that regularly achieve an early full registration is the Accomplished Knitting class.

Caring for Hand Knit Woolens

The crisp, brisk air of Autumn can be met with sighs and laments about moth damage to woollies tucked away in closets and chests since Spring. Knitters, and non-knitters too, often believe moth damage is endemic to, or inseparable from, wool. It is not necessarily so.

Since a teaspoon of prevention can be worth a bale of cure, hand knits and fine woolens should be regularly washed to prevent moth damage. Certainly, if a garment has been worn, even once, it should be cared for prior to being closeted during the ‘off’ season. The Knit With stocks **Eucalan**, a lanolin enriched soap – a teaspoon of which is ideal for cleaning woolens whether by hand or by machine.

Superwash yarns ease cleaning hand-knits. Wool, in a variety of qualities, is now spun for superwashability. Yarn labeling indicates whether the yarn is machine washable.

Glad You Asked

Sporadic answers to queer queries

In the Loop™

A newsletter published electronically six times annually to the family of knitters and crocheters of

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Delighting Knitters (And Crocheters Too) Since 1970!

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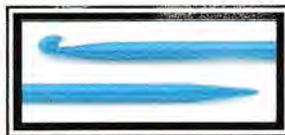
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Needle Niche Expands

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and featuring a minimalist Art Deco finial. Both Brittany styles are of heirloom quality – fully guaranteed for five years from purchase against breakage or damage.

Also new is the **Duett** – a specialist’s instrument combining a crochet hook and a knitting point. The anodized aluminium tool is useful to correct dropped twisted, split or incomplete stitches without raveling.



Distributed by Addi, the Duett is expected to be in-store by early October.

New Designs Intensify the Warmth of Wool

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The final new garment pattern is the square-bib, unisex turtleneck dickie. Fashion designer Michael Kors is emphasizing the dickie as the ‘go to’ garment for this year. The dickie provides all the warmth advantages of a turtleneck pullover – but without the bulk.



In addition to patterns for wearable warmth, The Knit With publishes **Oblique Lines**, a baby afghan design which seemingly defies the simplicity of its knitting. The pattern is suitable for beginning knitters or those desiring a simple four-row pattern with only one variant stitch on each row.

The pattern is written for US size 9 needles and **220 Superwash**; both **Longwood** (100% extrafine merino) and **220 Aran** (100% merino) are suitable substitute yarns.



Oblique Lines augments the hundreds of baby patterns available at The Knit With from a variety of independent designers, professional pattern writers and yarn distributors.



FIBRE FACTS

YAK

What is Yak Fibre

Without being classed a noble fibre, Yak down is similar to cashmere in texture and weight and provides a high degree of insulation with a higher loft and luster and a better hand than wool – attributes which produce a yarn comparable to cashmere. Fiber purists bemoan yak down when spinner substitute it for cashmere. Yak down differs from wool by being relatively smooth with poor felting qualities – a consequence of the very slight angle between scale and shaft on the surface of the fibre such that the scale virtually sticks to the shaft. The length of yak down is similar to cashmere and varies between 1 and 1½ inches. Unlike both sheep’s wool and cashmere, yak down is remarkably strong – when knitted or woven, garments wear longer. Yak down grows prior to the onset of winter as an additional protection against the extreme cold in the animal’s native terrain. The undercoat is combed out at the time of the Spring molt; by early summer, the down is naturally shed.

Zoologically and Geographically Where Do Yaks Live

The Yak is a hoofed bovine native to Tibet and the surrounding Himalayan high valleys. The domestic yak (*bos grunniens*) – husbanded as a beast of burden and for both subsistence milk and meat by the indigenous people – is distinguished by hair color from the wild yak (*bos mutus*). The Yak differs from other bovines in several characteristics, eg., it has a horse-like tail, and a long, thick and shaggy coat of hair (not fur) which reaches the ground much like the Musk Ox. Approximately 13 million yaks can be found in the high, semi-arid Tibetan upland valleys and surrounding plateaux that flank the Himalayas.

Grades of Yak Fibre

Domesticated yak down is usually dark brown to black in color and consists of short, unmedullated fibers with irregular crimps and a soft luster but the fiber also can be piebald and, very rarely, white. The down of yearling calves is the most prized for its fineness (a diameter of 15-17 microns) and greater length, approximating 2 inches. Adult yak down is coarser (diameter of 18-20 microns) and shorter (up to 1¼”) length. Yak hair is significantly coarser and longer than down and is often used for rope-making and tent making.

Production

Each yak produces only about 100 grams of fibre a year; both fibre quantity and quality – distribution between down and hair – varies by climate, animal breed, sex and age and both the season and method of harvesting. Most harvested fibre is used locally for weaving hut coverings, blankets, mats and sacks. Since the 1970’s, yak down has been used extensively by the international textile industry as an alternative to other fine animal fibers. Recently, in Europe, yak has attracted adverse attention as a substitute for, and an adulterant of, cashmere.

the knit with

The Knit With ■ 8226 Germantown Avenue ■ Chestnut Hill, PA 19118-3402 ■ 215 - 247 - YARN (9276)

Autumn 2017, Class Schedule

Classes begin the week of September 17, 2017

Register Early, Register With a Friend!

Materials List Provided Upon Registration

Beginning Knitting: A Crash Course

Want to give knitting a try? Satisfy your yearn to learn while becoming adept at handling needles, accomplishing the knit stitch, casting-on, joining yarns and binding off while creating your own infinity scarf. Unleash your desire to create wearable art of your own making.

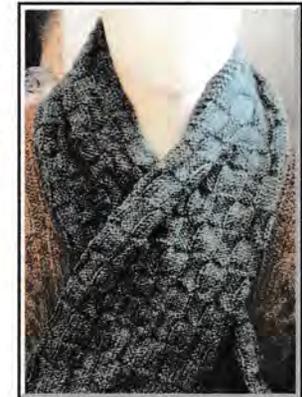
Pre-requisites:	Desire to knit.
Duration:	Four weekly sessions, each one hour.
Sessions:	Sun 1 PM, Wed 1 PM
Instructor:	Various
Tuition:	\$ 125.00
Registration Limits:	Six participants each class



Basic Knitting: The Essentials

Embark on being the competent knitter you want to be. Master basic knitting skills: cast on, swatching, joining yarn, pattern stitching and binding off. Practice knit. Encounter (and embrace) purl. Learn basic pattern reading to make a framed basketweave scarf. Hand-outs provided.

Pre-requisites:	Beginning Knitting or equivalent knowledge.
Duration:	Six weekly sessions of one hour.
Sessions:	Sun 2 PM, Tues 11 AM, Thurs 7 PM
Instructor:	Various
Tuition:	\$ 150. 00
Registration Limits:	Six participants each class



Introduction to Accomplished Knitting (Part I)

Gain the skills of an accomplished knitter: increases, decreases, yarn-overs, multi-row pattern stitches, reading both printed and knitted knitting. Ideal next class for graduates of **Basic Knitting**. Pattern and hand-outs provided. Assembly and finishing separately introduced in Part II.

Pre-requisites:	Basic Knitting, or equivalent knowledge.
Duration:	Six weekly sessions of two hours.
Sessions:	Sun 11 AM, Tues 7 PM, Thurs 11 AM
Instructor:	Various
Tuition:	\$ 175. 00
Registration Limits:	Six participants each class.



Domino Knitting

The mitered square playfully creates knitted fabric one square at a time. The mitered square approach offers practice in picking-up stitches and casting-on-in-knitting; the class project practices invisibly working color changes. The mitered square approach can be used in any knitting application whether a garment or accessory.

Pre-requisites: **Accomplished Knitting .**
Duration: Six weekly sessions of two hours.
Sessions: Wed 5 PM
Instructor: Jim Casale
Tuition: \$ 175. 00
Registration Limits: Six participants each class.

Master Knitting Techniques Applied

Knit a four color 'Onesie' to master multiple 'master's' techniques: provisional cast-on, divided stitch cast-on, invisible increases and seamless or all-in-one borders. Expand your repertoire of master's techniques to explore versatile knitting and gain knitting confidence. Pattern provided. Excludes assembly and finishing.

Pre-requisites: **Introduction to Accomplished Knitting.**
Duration: Six sessions, each two hours.
Sessions: Tues 2 PM
Instructor: Jim Casale
Tuition: \$ 175. 00
Registration Limits: Six participants each class.



Knitting Skills Brush-Up Workshop

Buff up your knitting skills with this brush-up workshop. Regain facility with cast-on, knit, purl, increases, decreases, basic knitting stitches as well as some of the specialized techniques you used to do.

Pre-requisites: **Previous familiarity with knitting**
Duration: Four sessions, each one hour.
Sessions: Thurs, 4 PM
Instructor: Jim Casale
Tuition: \$ 125.00
Registration Limits: Eight participants.



We'll Keep You in Stitches!