



Steeking Class: Cutting and Finishing

Wednesday, June 12, 10am-1 pm, 3 Hour Class

Homework required!

In this half-day workshop you'll learn how to add a steek to a simple stranded two-color pattern that's knitted in the round. You'll knit a small two-color cup cozie with steek stitches for homework. In class, you'll stabilize the stitches with slipstitch crochet, cut the tube, and finish the raw edges with a zipper or button band, or simply secure the cut edges (as for an armhole).

INTERMEDIATE KNITTING SKILLS REQUIRED; MUST BE COMFORTABLE WORKING ON DOUBLE-POINTED NEEDLES, WORKING SLIPSTITCH CROCHET, AND SEWING WITH THREAD AND A NEEDLE.

Materials: Worsted-weight wool yarn in two colors (you'll use just part of each ball; avoid very dark colors if possible); a set of U.S. sizes 7 and 8 (4.5 and 5 mm) double pointed needles (two circulars or the "magic loop" method may be substituted); size G/6 crochet hook; tapestry needle; sharp-point sewing needle and sewing thread to match one of the yarn colors. Please bring your yarn and knitting needles to class along with your homework.

Homework:

Step 1. With size 7 needles and the color of your choice (we'll call this the main color; MC), cast on 55 stitches. The first 48 stitches will form the cozy; the remaining 7 stitches will form the steek. Arrange stitches for working in rounds and join, being careful not to twist the stitches.

Step 2. K4, place marker to denote end of steek stitches, work in k1, p1 rib to last 3 stitches, place another marker to denote the beginning of the steek stitches, knit to end.

Rounds begin in center of 7 steek stitches (note that the steek stitches are all worked as knit stitches).

Step 3. Working the first 4 and last 3 (steek) stitches in stockinette (knit every round), work remaining 48 stitches in k1, p1 rib as established for 3 more rounds—4 rounds total.

Step 4. Join contrasting color (CC) and work the 7 steek stitches in vertical stripes and the remaining 48 stitches in checkerboard pattern as follows (you can omit the colorwork pattern if you wish):

Rounds 1 and 2: [K1 with CC, k1 with MC] 2 times, *k2 with MC, k2 with CC; repeat from * to last 3 stitches, k1 with MC, k1 with CC, k1 with MC.

Rounds 3 and 4: [K1 with CC, k1 with MC] 2 times, *k2 with CC, k2 with MC; repeat from * to last 3 stitches, k1 with MC, k1 with CC, k1 with MC.

Repeat Rnds 1–4 until piece measures about 1¾" from CO.

Step 5. Change to size 8 needles and cont in patt as established until piece measures about 3¾" from CO, ending with Rnd 2 or 4 of pattern.

Step 6. Cut off CC. With MC, knit 1 round across all stitches.

Step 7. Working the first 4 and last 3 (steek) stitches in stockinette as before, work remaining stitches in k1, p1 rib as established for 3 rounds—3 rounds of rib total.

Step 8. Bind off all stitches in rib pattern. Weave in ends away from the 7 steek stitches.