

Happy Holidays from Knitting Bee

Knitting Bee Buzz

Finally it seems like the rest of the country is catching on to what many of us have known all along. Crafting – the art of transforming simple materials into something useful and beautiful – is good for the soul. Whether we're sitting quietly at home on the sofa or communing with friends at a coffee shop, our chosen craft gives us a much-needed creative escape from the fast-paced, technology-driven, mass-produced world around us. Knitting and crochet allow us to think with our hands, as well as our heads. Ponder that for a moment!

Based on conversations at the shop, there's going to be a whole lot of one-of-a-kind handknit goodies wrapped up under the tree this holiday season. Haven't started yet? Don't stress, there's still plenty of time left to make something for those "knitworthy" people on your list. If you're looking for ideas, we've added lots of new projects to our annual Top Ten Quick & Wonderful Gifts to Stitch list. Almost all of the patterns are available free at the shop with yarn purchase. Come in and get inspired!

If you need additional inspiration (or just a little break from the holiday hustle and bustle), we've put together a roster of December classes featuring easy, smaller projects that can be finished in a short amount of time. Melissa Chakmakian will be back again with her fun "Last Minute Leftovers" class for all of you procrastinators out there (who me?!). And make sure and sign up early for "Festive Family Craft Night," a special evening of fiber fun for the whole family.

Were you a good girl (or boy) this past year? Even if you've been naughty, I hope you'll ask Santa for something special from Knitting Bee. Fill out a "Secret Wish List" card at the shop, then let Santa know where to find us. And don't forget gift certificates!

From everyone here at Knitting Bee, we wish you a joyous, healthy and happy holiday season filled with family, friends and the yarns of your dreams!

Top Ten Quick & Wonderful Gifts to Stitch

Sparkler Flap Cap *

Le' Slouch Beret

Brambleberry Fingerless Mitts *

Moguls & Mohair Self-fringing Scarf *

Malabrigo Loafers

Uber Glam Scarf *

Quickie Cowl (*pattern inside*)

Starry Night Lace Scarf *

Big Button Hat *

Two Hour Scarf (*pattern below*)

* Free pattern with yarn purchase

Two Hour Scarf Recipe

Take two contrasting bulky weight yarns, approximately 110 yards of each.

If you would like your scarf to have fringe, wind off 25 15-inch long strands of each color (I use a DVD case) and set aside.

Using jumbo size #35 knitting needles, cast on 9 stitches. Knit every row until you are almost out of yarn and bind off.

Attach 5 bundles of fringe (each containing 5 strands of reserved fringe yarn) evenly across each end of scarf. Weave in ends and trim fringe.

Give to someone you love!

Recommended Ingredients:

Plymouth Expressions & Cascade Lana Grande

2 colors of Rowan Big Wool

Lumpy Bumpy & Cascade Lana Grande



Mark your Calendar

December 12th - Friday Night Sock Club Knitalong, 6:00pm - 8:00pm

December 16th thru January 18th - Michele Rose Orne's INSPIRED TO KNIT Trunk Show

December 24th & 25th - Closed for Christmas Eve & Christmas Day

January 1st - Closed for New Year's Day





Quickie Cowl Recipe



This "lightning quick" cowl designed by Fawn Pea can be worn as a scarf or a hat. Reprinted with permission from fpea.blogspot.com.

Materials:

One skein **Misti Alpaca Chunky** (109 yds/100g)
US size #10.5 needles
Tapestry needle



Gauge: 3.5 st = 1" over stockinette stitch



Modified Lace Rib Pattern

Row 1 (WS): K2, *p3, k2. Repeat from * to end.
Row 2 (RS): P2, *k1, yo, k2tog, p2. Rep from * to end.
Row 3: Same as row 1.
Row 4: P2, *k3, p2. Rep from * to end.

The outer edges are made with a 3-stitch border of garter st (K every row), slipping the first stitch of every row purlwise with the yarn held in front to create a nice, clean edge.

Directions:



Cast on 38 sts.

First row: K3, Begin lace rib patt, knitting until 3 sts remain. K to end.
Next row: Slip one wyif, k2. Knit in lace rib patt until 3 sts remain. K to end.
Next row: Slip one wyif, k2. Knit in lace rib patt until 3 sts remain. K to end.

Continue knitting in this manner until the cowl measures about 19 inches long, ending after a WS row. Bind off all sts loosely. Sew the two ends together using mattress stitch. Weave in ends. For maximum softness, wet block with *Eucalan*.



"THERE ARE FEW MORE TOUCHING WAYS
TO SHOW SOMEONE YOU CARE THAN TO KNIT
SOMETHING FOR THEM BY HAND.
SOMEHOW THE STITCHES WE CREATE
ARE ABLE TO CONVEY SENTIMENTS
FOR WHICH WORDS DON'T ALWAYS SUFFICE."

—Joelle Hoverson from *Last-Minute Knitted Gifts*



Our Favorite Things



'Tis the season for giving (and also for getting), so here's a few goodies we think any knitter or crocheter would be happy to find under the tree!

Color junkies will be smitten with brilliantly handpainted **Wasonga**, a super soft fingering weight merino from indie-dyer *Curious Creek Fibers* – perfect for socks, lace and Fair Isle colorwork. Nature lovers will fall head over heels for the saturated hues of *Mountain Colors*, inspired by the mountains, rivers and woodlands of Montana. And the practical knitter on your list is sure to appreciate the cheery shades of superwash Australian Merino from the gals at *Dream in Color*. Choose from **Smoochy**, **Classy** or **Softy** – you can't go wrong!



If you're looking for a really indulgent holiday treat (without all the calories), head for the luxury fibers. *Louet* combines bamboo, cashmere and bison in **Mooi** (which means "pretty" in Dutch). Prior to spinning, only the bamboo fiber is dyed, so the natural cashmere and bison create a wispy halo of duo-toned color. Yummy! And speaking of delicious, we simply can't resist the shimmery hanks of **Sea Silk** from *Hand Maiden*. Combining 70% silk with 30% Seacell, this sumptuous handpainted yarn has a fabulous sheen and gorgeous drape that can't be beat. Add a little sophisticated sparkle to your stash with beaded and sequined **Silk Mohair** from *Artyarns* (just one skein makes a quick and glamorous shawl, perfect for holiday parties). Or ask your sweetie to swing for a scarf's worth of that amazingly soft **Touch Me** you've been craving. Of course, if you've been especially good this past year, we can't think of anything better than a skein of *Hand Maiden* **4-ply Cashmere**. Pure. Knitting. Bliss.

Where to put all that gorgeous yarn? We're excited to offer lovely totes from Portland's own **Queen Bee Creations**, including their new recycled wool line. So hip and stylish, you might want to use these for more than your knitting! And what about all those needles? Give them a snazzy place to call their own with a super practical needle sack from **Ashland Sky**. Or if you prefer something a little more elegant, don't miss the silk needle clutches from **Lantern Moon** and **Della Q**. Sooo pretty!

Looking for the perfect stocking stuffer for the yarnaholic on your list? We have lots of ideas at the shop, both little and large, from locking stitch markers to wooden umbrella swifts. We'd love to help you find the perfect gift!





Holiday Classes

We've put together a special collection of classes for the holidays. Enjoy!

Two Bead Crochet Bracelet *with Darla J. Fanton*

Everyone needs a little bling for the holidays, and these sparkling beaded bracelets are absolutely stunning! They really aren't that hard to make, as long as you know how to single crochet. Darla will teach two different methods of bead crochet: how to work with pre-strung beads and how to add in beads as you go. Class fee: \$25.00 + bracelet kit.

Thursday 12/4, 4:00pm – 6:00pm

Grannies Don't Have to Be Square *with Darla J. Fanton*

Grannies come in all shapes and sizes! If you don't yet know how to crochet, Darla will teach you the double crochet stitch as you create your first square. If you already know the basics, this two-part class will provide lots of inspiration as we explore different shapes, different methods of joining motifs, a bit of history, plus tips for designing your own projects with grannies. No previous crochet experience required.

Class fee: \$35.00 + materials

Saturdays 12/6 & 12/13, 10:30am – 12:30pm

Lisa's Fair Isle Hat *with Tess Mattos*

Everyone on your list will want one of these adorable hats! Working with worsted weight yarn and knitting in the round, Tess will show you how to carry a different color yarn in each hand to create brilliantly patterned Fair Isle designs. You should be able to finish several before the 25th.

Class fee: \$35.00 + materials

Sundays 12/7 & 12/14, 3:45pm – 5:45pm

Fearless Fair Isle Mitts *with Melissa Chakmakian*

Another easy intro to Fair Isle for newbie knitters! Don't worry about knitting in the round ... Melissa has designed these colorful fingerless mitts to be knit flat. You'll learn how to knit charted patterns carrying a different color of yarn in each hand and how to create an invisible seam using mattress stitch. Class fee: \$35.00 + materials.

Thursdays, 12/11 & 12/18, 6:00pm – 8:00pm

Last Minute Leftovers *with Melissa Chakmakian*

Need help with some last minute gift ideas? Your holiday angel has arrived! Marvelous Melissa of *Lint* fame will share lots of unique and fun ideas for hats, fingerless gloves, ornaments, kids toys and more using your leftover stash yarns. Whatever you choose to make, it's sure to be a hit and even something a little out of the ordinary. *Materials:* Bring lots of holiday cheer, any and all yarn you would like to use (leftovers, recycled or new), and all of the needles and notions you can carry. Class fee: \$25.00

Saturday 12/13, 2:00pm – 4:00pm

Phat Cable Scarf *with Tanya Patterson*

Wrap someone you love up in a cozy cable scarf! Using bulky yarn, Tanya will show you how to read a pattern and make a basic cable design. If you can knit and purl, you're ready to tackle cables in this quick-knitting project.

Class fee: \$25.00 + materials.

Sunday 12/14, 1:00pm – 3:00pm

Festive Family Craft Night

with Annika & Christina Peters and Jack & Jami Brynildson
Pom-poms, i-cord, finger crochet, braiding ... bring the kids and join us for a fun evening of crafting with yarn and fiber. We'll make ornaments for the tree, toppers for presents, and lots, lots more! No knitting required. Ages 6 and up, must be accompanied by an adult. Class fee: \$12.00 per person, includes materials.

Tuesday 12/16, 6:00pm – 8:00pm

Learn to Knit *with Elaine Bueffel*

Want to get knitting in a hurry? Our one session knitting crash course is for you! Using chunky yarn and big needles, we'll show you how to cast on and knit to create a fun and fashionable scarf. If time allows, we'll also tackle purling.

Class fee: \$20.00 + materials.

Wednesday 12/10, 4:00pm – 6:00pm

Other times available by Private Lesson

Friday Night Sock Club Knitalong

with Stephanie Engle & Christina Peters

Break out your stash! This month we'll explore creative holiday ideas for using up leftover bits of sock yarn. Sock club is our FREE knitalong dedicated to all things socks. No sign up required. Come join the fun!

Friday 12/12, 6:00pm – 8:00pm

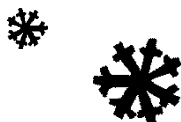
The Knitty-Gritty on Classes ...

Student Discounts: Students receive a non-transferable 10% storewide discount upon registering for class. Discount is valid on all purchases through the last day of class. Sorry, no additional discounts on sale items or class fees.

Registration: Pre-payment is required. Register at the shop or by phone at (503)439-3316 with a credit card.

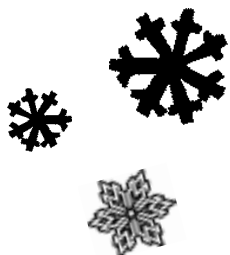
Cancellations: You may cancel up to one week before your class for a full refund. If you cancel later, we can't issue a refund unless we are able to fill your spot from a waiting list.

Attention new knitters! Classes marked with the checked box symbol are designed to accommodate new knitters. If you know how to knit and purl, take your knitting to the next level and come join the fun in one of these easy classes!



Knitting Bee

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LOCATED IN WEST UNION VILLAGE AT 185TH & WEST UNION RD. PHONE 503.439.3316 www.theknittingbee.com
OPEN TUESDAY - FRIDAY 10-6, SATURDAY 10-5, SUNDAY 12-4, CLOSED MONDAYS
OPEN WEDNESDAYS UNTIL 8:30PM FOR LATE SHOPPING & KNT NIGHT



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Knitting Bee

