

# Loom Knitting

## Getting Started on the Round Loom

By Anne Bipes

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## Getting Started on the Round Loom

### **Introduction**

Thank you for purchasing Getting Started on the Round Loom from Loom Knitting. The instructions in this book were written for round looms, but can be used for single rake straight looms as well.

Many people find the looms easier to use than knitting needles or crochet hooks. Some have always wanted to knit, but just couldn't get the knack of working with needles. And many accomplished needle knitters and crocheters enjoy using looms as another tool to create beautiful and useful knit pieces.

This book assumes you have no experience with using looms, and will help you get started with the basics. Once you master these techniques, you will be ready to learn additional stitches, and then how to combine them into a large variety of stitch patterns. Loom Knitting can help you along the way.

It is easiest to learn to loom knit if you use a smooth yarn, not a novelty yarn with fur or bumps or other texture. We recommend using a single strand of worsted weight yarn for all the instructions in this book.

If you have any questions or comments about this e-book, please contact us at [customerservice@loomknitting.com](mailto:customerservice@loomknitting.com).

Wishing you much success and pleasure with your loom knitting,  
Anne Bipes

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## Casting On

Most round looms have an anchor peg on the side. This is used to hold the ends of the yarn in place, so it doesn't unwrap from the loom. Make a slip knot with your yarn, leaving about a 6" tail. Put the slip knot on the anchor peg and gently tighten it just so it stays.

The basic wrap technique is called an e-wrap. This is because the yarn travels around the pegs in a pattern that looks like a series of lower case cursive es.

It doesn't matter if you wrap the loom in a clockwise or counter clockwise direction. (Keep in mind that when you knit flat pieces on a round loom, you will be going back and forth.) It also doesn't matter if you hold the loom with the pegs facing up, down, to the left, or to the right, or any other direction. Whatever feels most comfortable for you is fine. The pictures will show the pegs pointing up.



Move the yarn to the inside of the loom, straight up from the anchor peg. Then bring it around a peg in a circle to the inside of the loom again. Do this again for the next peg. Continue all the way around the loom. Notice that the yarn crosses over itself on the inside of the loom, and there is a single wrap of yarn on the outside of each peg.

A word of caution: Don't wrap the yarn as tight as it will go. You want the loops to be just snug enough that they don't slip off the pegs. If the yarn is wrapped too tightly, you will have a hard time moving it off the pegs.

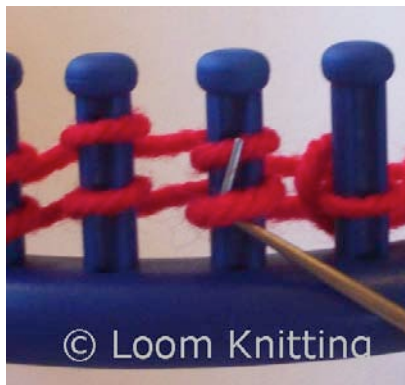


Once you get to the beginning, go all the way around again. Make sure the second row of loops is above the first row. When you finish the second row, you will see there are two loops on each peg.



Wrap the yarn around the anchor peg a couple times to secure it, or you can use a half hitch.

To knit off, insert the hook tool into the lower loop.



Pull the stitch over the top loop, and over the top of the peg, to the inside of the loom.



Continue knitting off all the pegs, until all pegs have just one loop on them.

Congratulations! You have successfully cast on to your loom!

## One-over-one stitch



One-over-one means that there are two loops on the peg, and one loop is knit off over the other loop. This is also called the stockinette stitch.

Knitting one-over-one with worsted weight yarn produces a lacy piece of knitting on large gauge looms. This may or may not be desirable, depending on the piece you are working on. The one-over-one stitch is recommended for many novelty yarns with texture such as fun fur, fancy fur, eyelash, mohair, etc.

After you have knit off your cast on row, loosen the working yarn from the anchor peg. E-wrap the entire loom again, making sure the loops you wrap are above the loops already on the pegs. You might have to push the existing loops down a little. Go in the same direction on the loom as you did before. When you get to the beginning, secure your working yarn on the anchor peg.



Knit off, just as you did before. Insert the hook tool into the lower loop on the peg, and pull the loop up and over the peg to the inside of the loom.

## One-over-two stitch



One-over-two means that there are three loops on the peg, and one loop is knit off over the other two loops.

This is a very pretty stitch, and produces a tighter knit piece than the one-over-one stitch.

After you have knit off your cast on row, loosen the working yarn from the anchor peg. E-wrap the entire loom, making sure the loops you wrap are above the loops already on the pegs. You might have to push the existing loops down a little. Go in the same direction on the loom as you did before. When you get to the beginning, e-wrap the entire loom one more time, placing these loops above the other two. When you are done, secure your working yarn on the anchor peg.

Notice that there are now three loops on each peg. Knit off by taking the bottom loop and bringing it over the middle and top loops to the inside of the loom.



You still have two loops on each peg. Push them down a little, so you have room to put another row of loops on the pegs. Wrap the loom once, so there are three loops on each peg again, and anchor your yarn. Knit off, taking the bottom one loop over the top two loops.



## One-over-three stitch



One-over-three means that there are four loops on the peg, and one loop is knit off over the other three loops.

This stitch looks a bit like a braid. The knitting is thicker and tighter than that made with a one-over-two stitch. It also doesn't have as much stretch to it. The stiffness of this knit stitch makes it a good choice for tote bags, purses, and cases for cell phones and the like.

After you have knit off your cast on row, loosen the working yarn from the anchor peg. E-wrap the entire loom, making sure the loops you wrap are above the loops already on the pegs. You might have to push the existing loops down a little. Go in the same direction on the loom as you did before. When you get to the beginning, e-wrap the entire loom two more times, placing each loop above the loops already on each peg. The pegs will seem pretty full. When you are done, secure your working yarn on the anchor peg.

Notice that there are now four loops on each peg. Knit off, by taking the bottom loop and bringing it up over the three other loops to the inside of the loom.



You still have three loops on each peg. Push them down, so you have room to put another row of loops on the pegs. Wrap the loom once, so there are four loops on each



peg again, and anchor your yarn. Knit off, taking the bottom one loop over the top three loops.

## Two-over-two stitch



Two-over-two means that there are four loops on the peg, and two loops are knit off over the other two loops.

After you have knit off your cast on row, loosen the yarn from the anchor peg. E-wrap the entire loom, making sure the loops you wrap are above the loops already on the pegs. You might have to push the existing loops down a little. Go in the same direction on the loom as you did before. When you get to the beginning, e-wrap the entire loom two more times, placing each loops above the loops already on each peg. The pegs will seem pretty full. When you are done, secure your yarn on the anchor peg.

Notice that there are now four loops on each peg. Knit off, by taking the bottom two loops and bringing them up over the top two loops to the inside of the loom. If this is difficult, take one loop at a time.



You now have two loops on each peg. Push them down, so you have room to put another two rows of loops on the pegs. Wrap the loom twice, so there are four loops on each peg again, and anchor your yarn. Knit off, taking the bottom two loops up over the top two loops.

## Hints on Not Wrapping Too Tightly

Until you get comfortable with the looms, you may experience a common problem – wrapping the yarn so tightly on the pegs that it is hard to lift the bottom loop over the top loop(s). When you lift a yarn loop up and over the peg, the yarn pulls the strands between that peg and the pegs on either side of it. So it's not just the yarn wrapped around the peg that needs to be loose, but also the yarn that travels between the pegs.

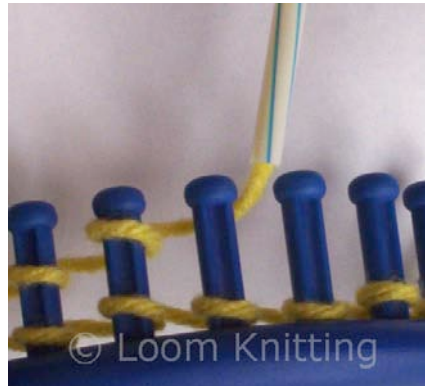
While it's easy to say, “wrap loosely,” it isn't always so easy to do. There are several things you can try.

- Make sure there is plenty of slack between the skein of yarn and the loom. If you are trying to extract the yarn from the skein at the same time as you are wrapping the loom, the tension in the yarn will pull your stitches tighter. Keep a little puddle of yarn in your lap or next to you.
- When wrapping the loom, hold the yarn on the previous peg with one hand while wrapping the current peg with the other hand. That will limit how much you stretch the yarn.



- You can also wrap and knit off each peg before going on to the next peg instead of wrapping the whole loom then knitting off all the pegs.

- Try threading the yarn through a 3-4" length of a drinking straw, and hold the straw to wrap the yarn. This can help give an even tension when you are wrapping the pegs.



- When you pick up the loop from the peg to knit off, pull it out away from the loom a little, then lift it up and over. Use your hook tool to push the remaining loop down to the bottom of the peg to increase the distance between that loop and the loop that gets wrapped on the next peg.



## Knitting With Multiple Strands

Instead of using a bulky weight yarn on a large gauge loom, you can use two strands of less expensive and more readily available worsted weight yarn. You don't even need to buy two skeins; you can use both ends from the same skein.

Another reason to use two yarns is to combine two different textures, especially with one being a fun fur or eyelash type yarn. Do be sure that you wrap both strands, and knit off two strands. It is easy to inadvertently wrap or knit off only one strand, or for one of the remaining loops to slip off the peg.

When you knit with two strands, the strands tend to twist together between the skein and the loom. This is because of the wrapping motion of the e-wrap stitch. It does not detract from the beauty of your knit piece. When knitting with a fur type yarn, the worsted weight yarn gives the piece shape and stability, while the fur gives it texture, and having the two yarns wrapped around each other is not a problem at all.



But what if you don't want the yarn strands twisting around each other when you wrap the loom? You have several options.

Keep one skein of yarn on one side of you, and one skein on the other side. This will force you to have enough slack in the yarns that you will be able to keep the inevitable twisting far enough down that you don't have the twisted yarn on the loom. You'll need to turn the loom a few times with each row to untwist the working yarn before it gets to the loom, but you'll be able to easily see when it needs to be done.

You could wrap the entire loom with one strand, then wrap the loom with the other. This is similar to doing a two-over-two stitch, and makes a wonderful striped pattern if your two strands happen to be different colors.

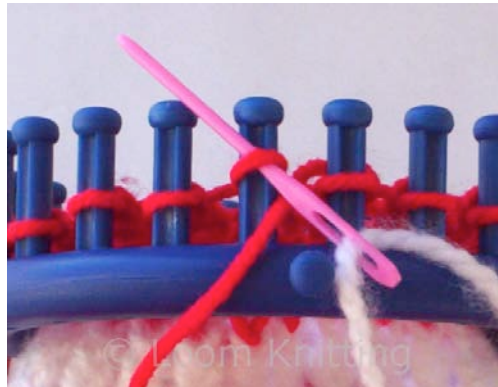
You can wrap one peg, knit it off, then wrap the next peg and knit it off. This helps control how the two strands of yarn lay on each peg.

## Gather removal method

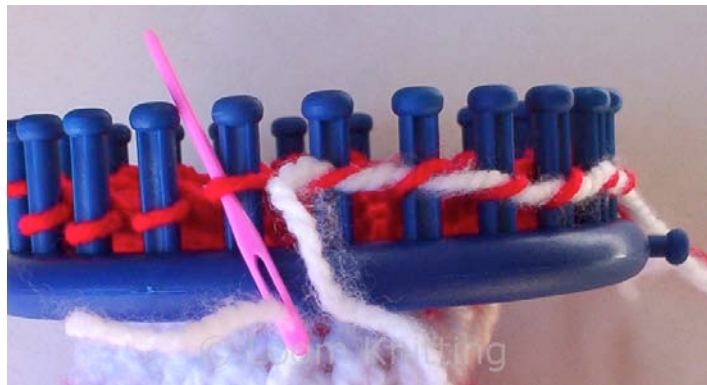
To remove a tube from the loom, you will run a strand of yarn through the loops on all the pegs, remove the loops from the pegs, and pull the ends of the yarn strand tight.

When your tube is the length you want it to be, knit off until you have a single loop on each peg. Cut your working yarn, leaving a 6" tail. Cut a length of yarn that is a little more than twice the diameter of your loom. (You can wrap it around the outside of the pegs twice, then add about 6" more.) Thread this yarn onto a blunt end tapestry needle.

Starting at the first peg, bring the needle through the loop, the same way as you did with your hook tool. Instead of lifting the loop up and over, pull the needle and the yarn through the loop. Make sure to keep about a 6" tail hanging below the first peg. Leave the loop on the peg.



Now bring the needle through the loop on the second peg, and pull the yarn through as well. Continue all the way around the loom until you have reached the last peg.



Now bring the needle through the loop on the first peg again. Leave the needle on the yarn strand.



Remove the loops from all the pegs. Turn your piece inside out.

Let the tail of the knitting piece dangle out of the way. Pull on the two ends of the gathering yarn until the opening of the tube is cinched closed.



If you used a bulky yarn, there may still be a small hole. With the still-threaded tapestry needle, sew across the opening a couple times to pull it tighter.

Tie the two ends of the gathering yarn together. Pick up the knitting tail and include it when tying the ends.

Weave the ends into the knitting, or cut the yarn about 1/2" from the knot.



## Flat Removal Method Without a Crochet Hook

Removing a knit piece from the loom with a flat method means the ending edge of the piece stays the same width or diameter as the rest of the knitting. Don't confuse it with knitting a flat piece. The flat removal methods work for both flat pieces and tubes.

Knit off all pegs until there is one loop left on each peg. Your working yarn should be at the last peg of the row. You will start the removal with the first peg, and work toward the working yarn.

Remove the loop from peg 2 and put it onto peg 1 (diagram). Knit off peg 1. Move the loop to peg 2.



Remove the loop from peg 3 and put it onto peg 2. Knit off peg 2 (diagram). Move the loop to peg 3.



Remove the loop from peg 4 and put it onto peg 3. Knit off peg 3. Move the loop to peg 4.

Continue in this manner until there is one loop left on the loom. E-wrap that peg, and knit it off. Cut the working yarn, leaving a 6" tail.

E-wrap the peg again, and knit it off. Remove the loop from the peg. Pull the loop until the end of the yarn comes through. Gently pull it snug against the knit piece. Weave the tail in.

## Crochet Removal Method

This method produces a finished edge identical to the flat removal without a crochet hook.

If you are using a worsted weight or similar weight yarn, you will need a size J or K crochet hook. If you are using a bulky weight yarn, you will need a size ??? crochet hook. This method works for both tubes and flat knit pieces.

Knit off all pegs until there is one loop left on each peg. Your working yarn should be at the last peg of the row. You will start the removal with the first peg, and work toward the working yarn.

Remove the loop from peg 1 and put it on the crochet hook.



Remove the loop from peg 2 and put it on the crochet hook. Pull loop 2 through loop 1, leaving just loop 2 on the hook.



Remove the loop from peg 3 and put it on the crochet hook. Pull loop 3 through loop 2, leaving just loop 3 on the hook.

Remove the loop from peg 4 and put it on the crochet hook. Pull loop 4 through loop 3, leaving just loop 4 on the hook.

Continue in this manner until all the loops are removed from the loom and there is one loop left on the crochet hook. Cut the working yarn, leaving a 6" tail.

Wrap the working yarn around the crochet hook. Pull that loop through the loop already on the crochet hook. Pull the loop until the end of the yarn comes through. Gently pull it snug against the knit piece. Weave the tail in.

## Single Chain Removal Method

This method produces a finished edge with more stretch than the other flat removal methods. There is a single chain stitch made between each loop that comes off the loom.

If you are using a worsted weight or similar weight yarn, you will need a size J or K crochet hook. If you are using a bulky weight yarn, you will need a size ??? crochet hook. This method works for both tubes and flat knit pieces.

Knit off all pegs until there is one loop left on each peg. Your working yarn should be at the beginning of the row. You will start the removal with the first peg.

Remove the loop from peg 1 and put it on the crochet hook.



Wrap the working yarn around the crochet hook. Pull the new loop through the loop that came from the loom, leaving just one loop on the crochet hook.

Remove the loop from peg 2 and put it on the crochet hook. Pull that loop through the loop already on the crochet hook from the working yarn. You should now have just one loop on the hook, which came from the loom.

Wrap the working yarn around the crochet hook. Pull the new loop through the loop that came from the loom, leaving just one loop on the crochet hook.

Continue in this manner until you get to the last peg on the loom. Put it on the crochet hook. Pull it through the loop already on the hook from the working yarn.

Wrap the working yarn around the crochet hook. Pull the new loop through the loom that came from the loom, leaving just one loop on the crochet hook. Cut the working yarn, leaving a 6" tail.

Wrap the working yarn around the crochet hook again. When you pull this loop through, pull it all the way until the end of the yarn comes through.

Gently pull it snug against the knit piece. Weave the tail in.

## **Project Ideas For Knitting in the Round**

**Hats!** With a cuffed brim, or a rolled brim. Use variegated yarn for a unique self pattern. Make vertical stripes, horizontal stripes, or both. Make them extra long to wrap around the neck as a scarf also. (Many charities accept hats. So do hospitals, especially hats for premies and newborns, and chemo caps.)

**Scarves!** Use a fun fur and knit a long tube. Add a strand of worsted weight yarn to make it even warmer. Leave the ends open and add fringe. Or gather the ends closed and add tassles.

**Cozies!** With a small loom, make cozies for water bottles, wine bottles, soda cans, coffee cups, dish soap bottles, anything you can think of!

**Soap mitts!** Lather and scrub all in one step. Use a cotton yarn, gather up one end, slip in a bar of soap and gather up the other end.

**Skirts!** Use a large loom to make a skirt for a small girl. A long tube is all you need to knit. Fold down an edge for a waistband, sew in some elastic, and you're done!

**Tube socks or stockings!** A long skinny tube, gathered at the toes to keep your tootsies warm!

**Leg warmers!** Add some elastic thread to the tops to help them stay up.

**Mittens!** Make them as long as you want to keep your wrists warm too.

**Winter holiday decorations!** Knit a white tube on a small loom, stuff with balls or fiberfill, and you have a snowman. Add some buttons for a face, braid a scarf, and don't forget to add a loom knit hat! Use red yarn to make Santa. Fun fur would make a great beard.

**Easter decorations!** Knit a hat shape as a cover for an Easter basket. A very tiny cap would make a little basket to keep a colored egg safe.