



Merry Christmas

The 12 Knits of Christmas: Week Two

Howdy, friends!

So? How'd you do? "Big City, Small Town" was probably the project in this series that requires the smallest needles and the most amount of knitting. Thought I'd hit you first with that one, just in case it took some of you a liiiiiittle more time. Smooth sailing from here on out, right? :)

This week's knit is a lovely cowl that you can dress up or down. Wear it tucked under your Sunday coat for a bit of shine, or in the office, layered with a scoopneck cardigan and jeans. It's knit with 100% silk, which is both luxurious and practical--well, by practical, I mean that it's a good gift for those on your list with sensitive skin! And as you can see, it coordinates perfectly with last week's hat pattern. (That was intentional, of course. Next week, there'll be another pattern to complete the "set"!)

If you've done this before, scroll down to reveal the pattern and yarn of the week. If you're new to the program, here's the deal: Every Thursday afternoon (or into the evening!), you'll receive a FREE pattern--either an Inish Knits original creation or from another clever online crafter--that we've deemed "do-able" within the course of a week. These patterns are super simple, and there's a reason. You've got kids. Sports. Dogs. You're working 40-plus hours a week. We want you to feel like you can actually get something done during these crazy weeks leading up to the holidays. (Sorry--there's nothing we can do about the 17 batches of plum butter you've got on the list!)

And that's not all. The yarn that's featured in each week's project is available at **20% OFF for the entire week***, so the projects are as easy on your wallet as they are on your brain. With 12 full weeks ahead of us, if you try your best to keep up, you'll have a nice collection of gifts come December 25th.

Feel free, too, to pick and choose patterns that you like--you may find you like some more than others. Or, stick with one pattern and knit 12 of those. No rules here--just fun. It's yarn, remember?

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Leaf Lace Cowl

Lace is not just for superfine yarn! This beautiful, lacy cowl features a luxurious yarn and a deceptively simple leaf pattern. Just a four-row repeat, this one-skein project can be knit in an evening or two.

Yarn: Louisa Harding Mulberry (100% silk; 136 yd/50 g)-one ball.

Gauge: 5 sts per inch in St st on size 6 or 7 (5.5 mm), 16" circular needles.
Adjust needle size if necessary to achieve gauge.

Pattern

Cast on 94 sts. Place marker and join to work in the round, being careful not to twist sts.

Row 1: Knit.

Row 2: K3, *yo, k2, ssk, k2tog, k2, yo, k1; repeat from * to last st, k1.

Row 3: Knit.

Row 4: K2, *yo, k2, ssk, k2tog, k2, yo, k1; repeat from * to last 2 sts, k2.

Repeat rows 1-4 until piece measures 10", or until you've run out of yarn.

Bind off all sts.

Abbreviations

k-knit

k2tog-knit two stitches together

St st-stockinette stitch

sts-stitches

yo-yarnover

Another tip for those of you who've got archaic printers like mine, or eyes that have a hard time seeing small print: instead of printing this email as you see it, **try copying and pasting the text into a Microsoft Word document.** That way, you can enlarge the font and change the color as you see fit. Life made easier.

The "regular" email newsletter didn't make it on this week's List--I've been busy preparing for a booth at the [Leland Fiber Festival](#), tomorrow from 5-8 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Old Art Building in downtown Leland. It's a fun event and a great way to showcase fabulous fiber arts in Northern Michigan. There's a group of fiber lovers that always congregates at the Bluebird for cocktails and dinner after the event. Consider yourself invited. (Yes. That means YOU!)

Enjoy your week, friends. For those of you who've finished the first project and are moving on to week number two, I hope you're basking in the glory of having finished at least one holiday gift. Cheers!

Melissa

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