

Everything you need to know plus 18 projects!

Knit

I CAN'T BELIEVE I'M Loom Knitting!

by Kathy Norris

INCLUDED:

- Easy step-by-step instructions
- Full-color close-up photos
- For beginners and beyond



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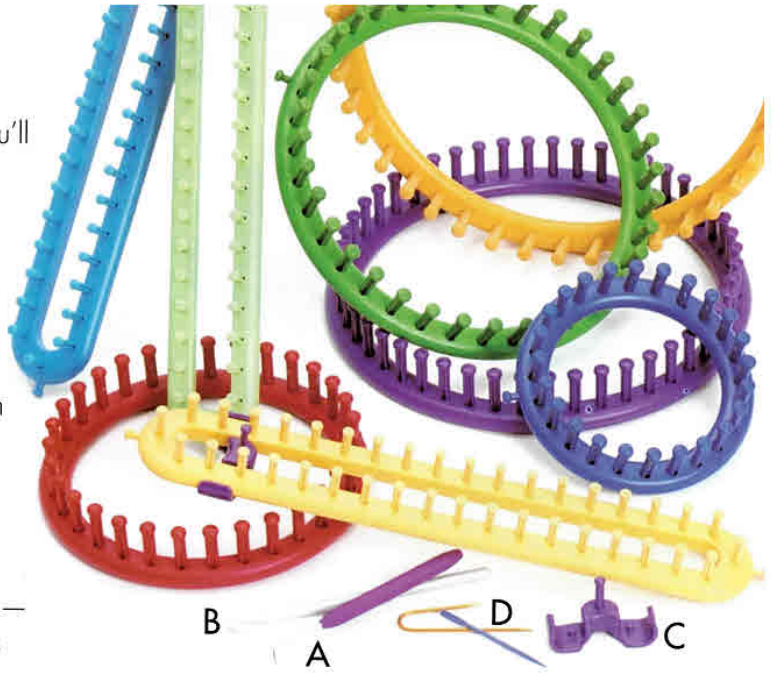
TOOLS

Knitting looms are called by many names. And you'll be surprised at how versatile they are, no matter their shape.

Round Loom—also known as a “round wheel, knitting wheel, spool, or reel.” It can be made of nylon, wood, or plastic. Round looms come in many sizes, and the five that we used for our projects had 24, 31, 36, 41, and 48 pegs. With round looms, you can make a tubular shape that works great for a hat or a flat shape that's perfect for a scarf.

Straight Loom—also known as “straight wheel, rectangle loom, a knitting board, and infinity rake” — can be made out of nylon or wood. Straight looms come in different lengths ranging from 9½" to 60" (24 cm to 152.5 cm). They can be used for a variety of projects. We used three sizes that have a peg on each end in addition to the usual side pegs. These looms had 38, 50, and 62 pegs, allowing us to make large flat items such as a tote, pillow, shawl, vest, and even a baby blanket. Straight looms can also be used for circular knitting to make hats and gloves.

- A. **Knitting loom tool**—A special tool to help you lift the bottom loop on each peg over the top loop or working yarn. Some looms come with the tool or it can be purchased separately. A yarn needle, knitting needle, or even a nut pick can be substituted for the tool.
- B. **Crochet hook**—Some of the projects require a crochet hook to work the cast on or bind off row. A hook is also used to attach an I-Cord Edging to an afghan. Use size K (6.5 mm) or any size large enough to catch the strand(s) of yarn.
- C. **Loom clip**—A loom clip is a plastic bridge that clips onto the bottom of a straight loom. It provides an extra peg in the center of the loom so that small tubes can be made, such as fingers for gloves.
- D. **Cable needle**—When making cables, stitches are removed from the pegs and placed on a cable needle while other stitches are being worked. We used a U-shaped cable needle.



GETTING STARTED

The best way to learn how to knit on the knitting loom is to jump right in and make a hat. By following the steps on pages 4-7, you will make your first hat while learning the basics. You can continue gaining more experience and learning additional techniques while you make two more hats by following the steps on pages 8-13. Your hats can be any size; the yarn, the size of the loom, and how loose or tight you form the stitches determines the finished size. Use the hat sizing information below as a guide when choosing a loom for the three beginner hats. As you become more at ease with the techniques, you should be able to achieve the gauge called for in each project (*see Gauge, page 26*), so that your projects will be the proper size.

HAT SIZING

Pegs	Size	Head Circumference
24	preemie	9-14" (23-35.5 cm)
31	infant	14-18" (35.5-45.5 cm)
36	child	18-20" (45.5-51 cm)
41	adult	20-24" (51-61 cm)

CABLES

Cables are used in the Sampler Afghan, page 28, and also in Robin's Hood, page 54.

There are many variations of cable patterns, but all are based on switching the position of stitches on the pegs. The Left Cross and Right Cross cables are made up of 4 knit stitches surrounded by 2 purl stitches on each side, so that the cables rise above the fabric. A **cable needle** is used to hold 2 of the stitches in the cable while the other 2 stitches are moved to the newly vacated pegs.

The direction in which the top stitches lean is dependent on which group of stitches are placed on the cable needle—the first group or second group. These cables are worked on a **right to left** row.



Left Cross Cable



Right Cross Cable

To learn how to make cables, you can make the following sample. Cables use knit stitches ([page 6](#)) and purl stitches ([page 12](#)).

Using any round loom, chain cast on 8 pegs **clockwise** ([Fig. 5e, page 11](#)).

Rows 1-3: Purl 2 pegs, knit 4 pegs, purl 2 pegs.

Row 4: Purl 2 pegs, work either Left Cross Cable ([see below](#)) or Right Cross Cable ([page 19](#)), purl 2 pegs.

Repeat Rows 1-4 until you are comfortable making cables.

LEFT CROSS CABLE (uses next 4 pegs)

Bring the working yarn to the inside of the loom, across the next 2 pegs (pegs A & B), then back to the outside ([Fig. 11a](#)) and **loosely** knit the next 2 pegs (pegs C & D), then place them onto a cable needle ([Fig. 11b](#)) and let it hang at the inside of the loom.



Fig. 11a



Fig. 11b

Bring the working yarn to the inside of the loom, and across all 4 pegs (pegs A-D), then to the outside before the first skipped peg (peg A) (**Fig. 11c**). Knit the 2 skipped pegs, then use the tool to move them to the empty pegs, keeping them in the same order (**Fig. 11d**). Place the stitches from the cable needle onto the newly vacated pegs, keeping them in the same order (**Fig. 11e**). Tighten the stitches to prevent elongated stitches.

Fig. 11c



Fig. 11d



Fig. 11e

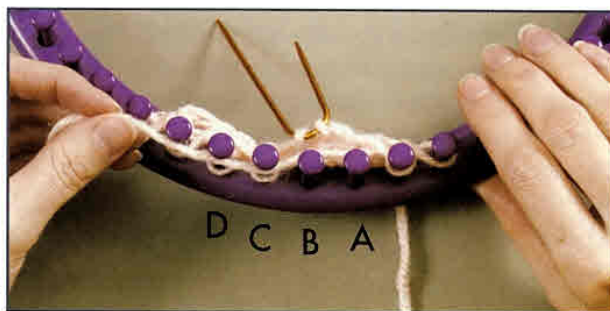


The stitches should always be worked **loosely**, allowing them to be easily moved. If the stitches are tight, try knitting them by wrapping the yarn twice around the pegs, then lift the bottom loop over both loops. Once the cable stitches have been moved, take up the slack of each stitch by gently tugging on the yarn.

RIGHT CROSS CABLE (uses next 4 pegs)

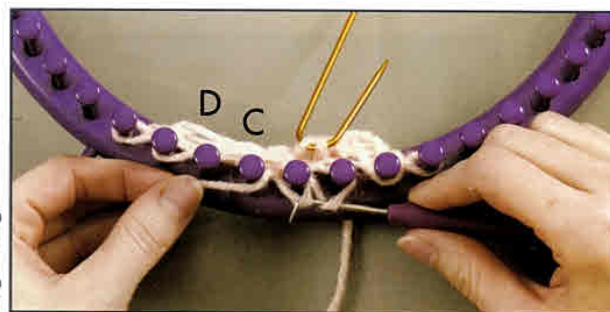
Place the stitches from the next 2 pegs (pegs A & B) onto a cable needle and let it hang at the inside of the loom. Bring the working yarn behind the 2 empty pegs and to the outside of the loom (**Fig. 11f**).

Fig. 11f



Knit the next 2 pegs (pegs C & D), then use the tool to move them to the empty pegs, keeping them in the same order (**Fig. 11g**). With the working yarn outside the loom, place the stitches from the cable needle onto the newly vacated pegs, keeping them in the same order, and knit them. Tighten the stitches to prevent elongated stitches.

Fig. 11g



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