

KATHY'S KREATIONS  
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NOVEMBER 2005 UPDATE

Dear Knitters,

Autumn is slipping into winter and the calendar commands another change of season. It's the time when settling into your favorite chair with a knitting or crochet project and a cup of tea feels like the right thing to do. We find comfort in cozy wools, toasty tweeds, and sumptuous feel-good yarns. We enjoy making beautiful garments and holiday gifts that will warm the hearts of family and friends, crafted by hand for a lifetime of beauty. Oh, and don't forget a little something special for yourself, too!

Make what you love, and love what you make. We've got the products and how-to's to help you on your knitting and crocheting journeys, bringing you some of the most beautiful and inspiring yarns in the world. This month, we are featuring a promotion to add sparkle to your projects, and provide fresh ideas for your creative spirit. We hope you'll stop by to experience the colors, textures, fibers, and accessories that are Holiday 2005 -- we've put them all together just for you...

**"GO FOR THE GLITZ"**

All regularly-priced eyelash, novelty component  
and selected metallic yarns in stock  
are 10% off during November 2005

Hours: 9:00 am - 5:00 pm Monday through Saturday  
Kathy is usually away on Wednesday, but the shop is open

We accept Mastercard, VISA, Discover/Novus, AX

Private knitting instructions are available by appointment  
Finishing services available  
Gift certificates available

Shopping at Kathy's Kreations has never been easier  
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\*\*\*\*\* GREAT NEW STUFF \*\*\*\*\*

It's the most wonderful time of the knitting year! VOGUE KNITTING Holiday 2005 adds "Glam slam" yuletide punch to your knitting wardrobe with knits inspired by the Victorian era. These will add high-impact glamour that will make you the life of the party. Looking for that perfect gift to stitch? Nine of VOGUE's favorite designers crafted pillows of their dreams. There is a lot of Gaelic going around this season with warm woolen tweeds, perfect plaids, and oh-so-fab Fair Isles. This issue will give you a warm, fuzzy feeling and the urge to pick up your sticks...

FILATURA DI CROSA introduces "Baby Too" (\$12.95), the sequel to its popular "Baby" book from last fall. There is a darling hat collection, several easy-knit sweaters, and a sweet blankie for your little bundle of joy...

'Tis the knitting and crocheting season, and FAMILY CIRCLE EASY KNITTING Holiday 2005 (\$5.99) has you covered -- in everything from sophisticated office attire to fabulously festive fashions. Romp in the snow in icy-hued cables, including Kathy's design (shown upper left). Two types of cables are integrated into the ribbing at the hem and cuffs of the crewneck cardigan, then continue on the body and sleeves. Other features include: celebrate the holidays in glamour-girl partywear, tog out your tots in tweeds, discover how easy it is to whip up a pair of socks, and shower your pals with handmade gifts (a fabulous felted bag that will earn you favored-friend status)...

We proudly announce the addition of two new magazines to our customers. KNIT IT! from Better Homes & Gardens Creative Collection is filled with super-warm hats, mittens, sweaters, quick gifts, and festive holiday accents. This gift collection has something for everyone on your list from a pretty flower brooch and handy spa facecloths to toasty socks and felted handbags. If you are eager to expand your knitting skills, learn about the versatility of mosaic and slip-stitch in an excellent article. We are pleased that one of Kathy's designs is featured (see lower right), the Men's Spice Gansey. About the design, KNIT IT says, "No doubt about it -- the man in your life will be able to fight off any chill this winter when wearing this super-warm gansey -- also known as a fisherman's sweater. Flanked by sailor's rib and ladder patterns, the center staghorn panel offers a fresh new twist on the traditional look"...

The second magazine is INTERWEAVE PRESS "Knitscene" (\$7.99) with 44 cool projects for making, living, & dreaming. Editor Pam Allen tells us that this is "a magazine for knitters who can't get enough of knitting, offering projects that are long on style, but not too long on technical know-how. If you follow trends, but go for the offbeat; if you love to knit, but aren't afraid to try a little crochet or embroidery, too; and if you like an occasional knitting challenge, but want a project that goes from start to finish in the same season, then open these pages -- you're home". Our pick is the oh-so 50s French Blue twinset with collared shrug in a classic rib stitch and a sleek shell with a wide, squared neckline...

New arrivals from FIBER TRENDS include "The Butterfly Garden Scarf, Shawl or Throw" S-2005 (\$6.00). Lace butterflies soar above a border of blossoms on these square, garter stitch lace pieces, knit from the center out in circular garter stitch lace and cast off in a simple picot edging. "Fuchsia Lace Scarves" (\$5.50) feature little lace flowers bordered by gentle scallops formed with garter stitch with a cable twist every 10 rows. The versatility and beauty of these designs ensure they will become perennial favorites...



\*\*\*\*\* MORE GREAT NEW STUFF \*\*\*\*\*

Lisa Carnahan does whimsical children's hats better than any designer we know. "The Turtle Hat" (\$4.00, shown left) is her latest sensation. A cute little snapper sits on top of a solid base -- this hat will positively thrill the youngsters in your life...



KEEP IT SIMPLE designs by Barbara Selesnick has some terrific ideas for holiday gift-giving projects (\$4.25 each):

KS129 All Warmed Up -- Stay warm in style with toasty accessories flared leggings, wrist gauntlets and belt. These are quick and simple to make, and fun and funky to wear! Knitted using CLASSIC ELITE "La Gran" Mohair or any heavy-chunky weight yarn on US size 11 needles

KS130 Elegant Cabled Shawl -- Elegant and cozy, wrap yourself up in this cabled delight! Knitted using an easy to follow pattern of a simple 6-row repeat. Use with CRYSTAL PALACE "Iceland" or any bulky weight on US 11 needles

KS131 Dressed to the Nines Wine Gift Sleeves -- Show up for your next holiday party or "Knit-Nite with the girls" with a bottle of wine, dressed to the nines!

MADDY LAINE announces the birth of Maddy Baby, a series of patterns for tots that feature her expert sense of color and simplicity of design. Each pattern (\$4.25 each) is for sizes 6 to 24 months and calls for DK weight yarn. Choose from "Overall Adorable" overalls, "Baby Shapes" jumpers with heart and star shapes, "It Suits You Baby" jumpsuit, or family design "Family Cable Crossing"...

CRYSTAL PALACE YARNS "Merino Stripes" (\$8.25, 50 grams, 115 yards, 85% merino wool / 15% polyester) is a new self-striping, very soft, brushed yarn in 8 different combinations of 3 colors each. We love this yarn so much that we have included a free hat and scarf patterns for our customers to try (see pages 6 & 7)...

Discover the joys and comforts of knitting and crocheting the fun and easy way! Yup, it's *Knitting & Crocheting For Dummies* (\$20.50, kit)! This set from BOYE NEEDLE COMPANY includes the instruction booklet, 2 pairs of knitting needles, a crochet hook, point protectors and stitch markers. Finally, explanations in plain English for novices, with a dash of humor and fun...

*The Little Box of Knitted Throws* (\$19.95) is the latest addition to the 'little box' series. Make cozy throws for cuddling, or luxurious throws bursting with texture, while adding comfort and beauty throughout your home...

Finally, a project that's something more than a scarf or throw that doesn't have any increases or decreases! Designed with the scarf knitter in mind, COLINETTE YARNS "Shrug Me" (see photo lower left) is 100% garter stitch and requires no shaping. Knit from COLINETTE "Firecracker" (\$27.50) and "SilkyChic" (\$30.50), it has a stylish curve without fancy stitches. Both yarns are hand-dyed in Wales and come in a stunning array of colors that can be mixed and matched to express your own unique style. Short Shrug and Long Shrug patterns are available free with purchase of COLINETTE yarns to make this project...





\*\*\*\*\* NOW ON OUR BOOKSHELF \*\*\*\*\*

With the 2006 Knitting Pattern-a-Day Calendar (\$13.99, shown left, with fold-a-round stand), you'll be on pins and needles throughout the year! Every day features a knitted piece from the craftiest knitters in the trade. Enjoy photographs of fun and beautiful creations each day accompanied by associated patterns and measurements. You'll never be without the perfect handmade gift -- from cozy scarves and sweaters to groovy hats and bags, create hundreds of knitted novelties and discover the newest techniques and materials along the way. This also makes a great gift for knitting friends...

The companion piece, 2006 Crochet Pattern-a-Day Calendar (\$13.99, shown lower right) also has a daily pattern, ranging from scarves and pillows to afghans and shawls. Hook into today's most hip & chic designs with designer Annie Modesitt and friends! There is a wonderful variety of patterns with photos and corresponding instructions. You'll never run out of wonderful handcrafted gift ideas. This calendar is ideal for both new and experienced crocheters alike...

Hats are magical. In the twinkling of an eye, a hat can transport us to another place or another state of mind. In *Folk Hats* (\$21.95, soft cover), knitting expert Vicki Square explores the cultures of 25 countries to create contemporary hat patterns to knit. Projects range from super simple to challenging and reflect the rich colors and textures of the world...

*Puppyknits* (\$13.95, hard cover) features 12 upbeat knits to dress today's pups in style. Cute everyday sweaters and ritzy doggie-diva's-day-out designs all knit up in a jiffy. This spirited collection includes colorful pullovers, adorable jackets, a puppy-soft collar cuff, and even a tie-on hat. This is a must-have for any dog lover...

*Hats, Gloves, Scarves* (\$17.95, soft cover) by Louise Harding has 20 original designs for stylish hats, gloves and scarves for the whole family. You can keep it simple or embellish with ribbons, beads and embroidery for special occasions. Every accessory can be knitted in just a few hours...

*Chicks with Sticks (It's a Purl Thing)* \$15.99 is a cute, funny, entertaining novel written from a knitter's -- or any teen's -- point of view. It's for anyone who's ever found friends in the most unlikely place -- or wanted to. Sometimes you just need some string and sticks -- with some hot chocolate on the side -- to get you there...

Make the leap from knitting basic scarves to creating striking sweaters. *Saturday Sweaters* (\$24.95, soft cover) are easy to knit, easy to wear. With their cozy, built-in comfort, they're the figure-flattering sweaters you'll reach for first, day in and day out. Get just the right fit with multi-sized patterns...

Christmas, Hanukkah, Winter Solstice -- just about everyone has something to celebrate in December. *Handknit Holidays* (\$27.50, hardcover) was created with these occasions in mind. This eclectic collection brings fresh ideas and new traditions to these special days and provides year-round inspirations for knitters of all levels...



\*\*\*\*\* BUTTON UP \*\*\*\*\*

Here's how to work a self-reinforcing buttonhole. Our resource is Barbara Walker's *Second Treasury of Knitting Patterns* (if you don't own a copy, you really should). Find a quiet place and try it. This method works on any suitable buttonband pattern -- ribbing, seed stitch, box stitch, etc.

1. Work desired number of stitches to buttonhole placement.
2. Bring yarn to front, slip 1 stitch from left-hand needle {LHN} to right-hand needle {RHN}, pass yarn to back or work between needles and leave it hanging there (not in use until step 5)
3. \*Slip another stitch from LHN to RHN, and pass the first stitch over it (one stitch bound off). Repeat from \* until desired number of stitches bound off for buttonhole.
4. Slip the last bound-off stitch back to LHN; turn work.
5. Pick up yarn left hanging at end of step 2 and pass it between needles to back. Cast on the same number of stitches that were bound off for buttonhole *plus* one more, using cable cast on (see below). Before placing the last loop on the LHN, bring yarn through to the front, to form a dividing strand between the last stitch and the next-to-last stitch. Turn work.
6. Slip the first stitch from LHN to RHN, then pass the last, extra cast on stitch over it to complete the buttonhole.

\*\*\*\*\* CABLE CAST ON \*\*\*\*\*

Here's how to do the cable cast on. The first row following this method is a right side row. This forms a good foundation for yarns with little resilience, like cotton or rayon. Technique: make a slip knot on the LHN. With RHN, make a knit stitch and place in back onto the LHN. \*Insert the RHN *between* the first and second stitches on LHN, and draw through a loop. Place this loop onto the LHN (a new first stitch). Repeat from \* until the desired number of stitches have been cast on.

\*\*\*\*\* BASKETWEAVE SCARF \*\*\*\*\*

This pattern is compliments of Lisa Carnahan and LISA KNITS, just in time to ward off winter's chill. Lisa worked our display model garment (see stitch detail lower right) from S.R. KERTZER / JAMES C. BRETT, "Marble" (\$5.50, 100 grams, 238 yards, 100% acrylic, worsted weight), another new self-stripping yarn. This is a wonderful yarn for accessories, garments, or afghans. Thank you, Lisa, for sharing your pattern with us!

MATERIALS: One skein "Marble"; US size 7 knitting needles

GAUGE: 24 sts = 5" in basketweave pattern

FINISHED MEASUREMENTS: approx. 5" wide X 60" long

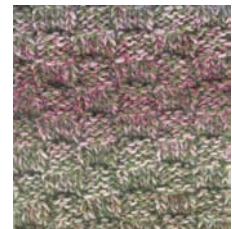
DIRECTIONS: Cast on 24 sts.

Rows 1, 2, 3, & 4: \*K4, P4; repeat from \* to end.

Rows 5, 6, 7, & 8: \*P4, K4; repeat from \* to end.

Repeat rows 1 - 8 until piece measures approx. 60" long, ending on row 3 or 7 of pattern. Bind off all sts in pattern.

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\*\*\*\*\* KATHY'S SUGAR OR SPICE SCARF AND HAT \*\*\*\*\*

Self-striping yarns received their first notoriety for sock knitting, but now have moved into the mainstream of knit and crochet in a big way this season. They offer a great "WOW" factor without the effort of intarsia or Fair Isle techniques. The wool, alpaca, and mohair blends are fun for felted items (don't miss Tracey's class on November 12!)



Made with our newest self-striping yarn, CRYSTAL PALACE YARNS "Merino Stripes", Kathy's latest patterns are suitable for guys or gals. You choose the color -- a soft pinky-hued watermelon (sugar for her), or brighter tones like chili and chocolate (spice for him). Kathy used color #027 curry and spice for our scarf model (pattern stitch shown upper right, pattern on page 7). Isn't it fun to have so many choices? Sweeten (or spice up) your wardrobe today with some gorgeous hand-knitted accessories, just in time for the colder weather and holiday gift-giving...

TEXTURED PATTERN STITCH (multiple of 2 sts, see note)

Row 1 (right side): Purl.

Row 2: \*K1, (K1, P1, K1) into next stitch; repeat from \* across.

Row 3: \*K3, P1; repeat from \* across.

Row 4: \*K1, P3tog; repeat from \* across.

Row 5: Purl.

Row 6: \*(K1, P1, K1) into next stitch, K1; repeat from \* across.

Row 7: \*P1, K3; repeat from \* across.

Row 8: \*P3tog, K1; repeat from \* across.

Repeat rows 1 - 8 for pattern.

NOTE: Stitch count varies after rows 2, 3, 6 & 7. Count your stitches on rows 1, 4, 5, or 8.

THE SUGAR OR SPICE HAT

SIZES: Toddler (child's / teen - adult's small - adult's large in parentheses)

FINISHED HEAD CIRCUMFERENCE: 16" (18" - 20" - 22" in parentheses)

MATERIALS: "CRYSTAL PALACE "Merino Stripes" 1 (1 - 2 - 2) balls; knitting needles US sizes 9 & 11 OR SIZE NEEDED TO OBTAIN GAUGE; tapestry needle for finishing

GAUGE: With larger needles, 3 sts / 4 rows = 1 in pattern stitch

DIRECTIONS: With smaller needles, cast on 47 (53 - 59 - 65) sts. Work in K1, P1 ribbing for 1" (1.5" - 1.75" - 2"), end WS, increasing 1 st at end of row: 48 (54 - 60 - 66 sts).

Change to larger needles and work in pat until piece measures approximately 5" (6" - 6.5" - 7"), end on WS with row 4 or 8 of pattern stitch.

Shape crown:

Row 1: \*P4, P2tog; rep from \* across.

Row 2 & all WS rows: P.

Row 3: \*P3, P2tog; repeat from \* across.

Row 5: \*P2, P2tog; repeat from \* across.

Row 7: \*P1, P2tog; repeat from \* across.

Row 9: \*P2tog; repeat from \* across.

FINISHING: Cut yarn, leaving a 6" tail. Thread tail through tapestry needle and weave through remaining sts. Pull through sts, and draw up firmly. Sew back seam. Weave in ends.

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\*\*\*\*\* THE SUGAR OR SPICE SCARF \*\*\*\*\*

FINISHED MEASUREMENTS: 6.5" X 60"

MATERIALS: CRYSTAL PALACE "Merino Stripes" two balls\* (50 grams, 115 yards, yarn classification 5); knitting needles US size 11 OR SIZE NEEDED TO OBTAIN GAUGE; tapestry needle for finishing

GAUGE: With US size 11 needle, 3 sts / 4 rows = 1" in pattern stitch

DIRECTIONS: Cast on 20 sts. Knit 5 rows for garter edge. Work in textured pattern stitch (see page 6) until piece measures approximately 59" or desired length, ending with row 1 or 5 of pattern stitch. Knit 5 rows for garter edge. Bind off all sts loosely as if to knit. Weave in ends. Add fringe, if desired.

\*If fringe is desired, purchase an additional ball of yarn.

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\*\*\*\*\* INQUIRING KNITTERS WANT TO KNOW \*\*\*\*\*

Susan Wilson recently called with a felting question. Susan worked a pair of felted clogs from a variety of "stash" wool yarns and a novelty carry-along component. One slipper was shorter than the other. What happened?

We went to our resident felting guru, Tracey Earhart, with this dilemma. Tracey has gleaned a wealth of information from a variety of resources and her own experiences. She will be teaching a "Fearless Felting Seminar" for us on Saturday, November 12, 2005, 10 am - 12 noon (see page 8 for details). She tells us that sometimes an uneven felting can occur, particularly if different yarns are used in combination (double strand worsted with single strand bulky, twisted yarns with single ply unspun, accent novelty embellishment, striped sections, etc.).

Tracey recommended that Susan try "spot felting". Re-wet the item in hot, soapy water and rub the affected area of fabric vigorously by hand over an old-fashioned washboard if you can locate one, plastic bubble wrap (the type with the smaller bubbles), or a microwave bacon rack (the rippled kind). This will give more control over the felting process, and can be used for just one problematic section. We hope you will sign up for Tracey's seminar to learn more about this fun technique...

From Patty Steffey: "I love my cardigan, but the buttonband seems to scallop around the buttonholes. Is there any way to remedy this"?

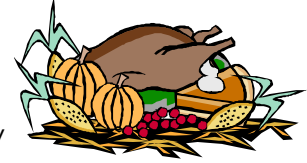
Space buttonholes evenly no more than 2" apart. Work self-reinforcing buttonholes, placing them closer to the inside of the body rather than directly in the middle of the buttonband (ex., if working 8 rows of band, work the buttonhole on row 3 instead of 4). Directions for working a self-reinforcing buttonhole are on page 5...

From more than one knitter: "I was interrupted when I was working on my project, and I'm not sure where I left off. How can I find where I stopped?" Tracey Earhart has an excellent suggestion. Always keep post-it notes handy in your knitting bag. Place a post-it note where you end, so you will know where to begin when you are ready to begin knitting again. Use these post-its to make helpful notes to yourself.

Another handy guide are BRYSON's coilless knitter's pins (small safety pins without the coil) and CLOVER's locking stitch markers. Use these to mark a place as a "lifeline" -- a point you can recognize at the end of a pattern repeat, or a row of knit where yarn can safely "unknit" to and start again with confidence...

**\*\*\*\*\* READER'S KNIT NIGHT \*\*\*\*\***

Join Kathy and Tracey for an evening of knitting on **Monday, November 7, 2005, from 7:00 - 8:30 pm** at Barnes & Noble, Route 30, Greensburg. There will be a display of books featuring holiday gift ideas. All skill levels are invited, and volunteers are available to help with questions and how-to's, including learn to knit instructions for beginners.



**\*\*\*\*\* CALENDAR OF EVENTS \*\*\*\*\***

**"Funky Patchwork Sweater" with instructor Nancy Premoshis Saturday, November 5, 2005, 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm; \$20.00 pre-registration requested, class size limited**

This is our most-requested, most repeated class of all time. Learn the how-to's of this striking, one-of-a-kind garment (Nancy's patchwork cardigan shop model on display) using a variety of yarns in a garter block technique with embellishments.

**"Knit Knite" at Kathy's Creations: Tuesday evening, November 8, 2005, 7 - 9 pm**

All skill levels welcome -- come, sit & knit!

**"Fearless Felting Seminar" with instructor Tracey Earhart Saturday, November 12, 2005 10 am - 12 noon; \$10.00 pre-registration requested, class size limited**

Tracey will cover felting tips, tricks, techniques, problem solving, patterns, and yarns. Methods of wet and dry felting will be discussed. Felting is fun and now is the time to build your confidence. Bring your questions, curiosities, and assorted markers, post-it notes, knitters pins, kacha-kacha (row counter), highlighters and/or colored pencils.

Private knitting, crochet and hairpin lace lessons available by appointment. Students may pre-register for classes by calling Kathy's Creations at 724-238-9320 or e-mail at [kathy@kathys-creations.com](mailto:kathy@kathys-creations.com)

**FUN FRIDAY with instructor Joyce Bischoff Friday, November 18, 2005, 10 am - 2 pm**

Join Joyce for a fun-filled day of knitting comradery, and tips for finishing your holiday projects. There is no charge to attend, but please call ahead to let us know you will be coming. Please bring your knitting, a snack or lunch if you wish, and your sense of humor. This is a hectic season, and you deserve to escape for a knitting break...

**HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE: Friday and Saturday, November 25 and 26, 2005**

Open House weekend with a "swatch party" of new yarns from Classic Elite -- bring your knitting needles, sit down and sample our newest yarns; freebies, goodies and door prizes, too! Stay tuned for news about our "Bunny Blast" (aren't you curious?).

**Town-Wide Open House with over 40 participating merchants: Sunday December 4, 12 - 5 pm**

**Festival of Lights: more than 50 decorated trees & wreaths December 3 - 11, 2005**

**Ligonier Library Gallery**

**Enjoy two hour free parking every Saturday Thanksgiving to Christmas!**

Many of our customers make visiting Ligonier a holiday tradition -- it's a welcome getaway from the hectic pace of the season. Happy Thanksgiving! KEEP KNITTING!

Kathy