



KATHY'S KREATIONS
141 East Main Street
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JUNE 2012 UPDATE

Dear Stitchers,

It's summer -- kick back, tune out, knit, crochet, relax! Stitching in the warm weather months is more colorful, more casual, and more portable. And speaking of portability, are you ready to knit in public? WWKIP (Worldwide Knitting in Public) Week is June 9 - 17 this year, and it's a great time for your own personal adventure in public knitting (or maybe a picnic / pic-knit in the park with other knitters). Most knitters would agree that "Knitting In Public" is a fun experience regardless of what's on the needles. Here at Kathy's Kreations, we are cordially inviting you to visit the shop during our three "Open Stitching" long weekends from 10 am - 2 pm on Thursday May 31, Friday June 1 and Saturday June 2; Thursday June 7, Friday June 8, and Saturday June 9, 2012; and Thursday June 21, Friday June 22, and Saturday June 23, 2012 (and any time in between!). It's fun to sit and stitch with other knitters and crocheters. Please bring your project purchased here, a snack if you wish, and a sense of humor...

Trends for summer knitwear include color blocking, subtle metallics, textured mesh openwork lace knits, "dropped" stitch patterning, loosely-fitting sweaters layered with sheer wraps, and a more relaxed silhouette. Shawlettes, scarves and vests continue to be popular projects, some worked with clever short row shaping (we can teach you how -- it's easy!). Remember, shawls are knits that do not need to be sized. There is no stress to make it fit; it simply needs to be worked in your perfect color and a fabulous yarn.

As summer gets into full swing, some knitters and crocheters might be more interested in socks and smaller projects than sweaters. Whatever your fancy, we'll help you stitch away summer in style with perennial favorites like TAHKI "Cotton Classic" and CLASSIC ELITE "Provence" yarns or quick-knitting new arrivals UNIVERSAL "Cotton Supreme" and BERROCO "Versa" in crisp, bright, beautiful shades. We have everything you need to unwind, take it easy and make the most of summer's lazy days creatively stitching in public, in the back yard or your favorite lounging spot. After all,

JUNE IS "KNIT AND RELAX" MONTH
All regularly-priced PLYMOUTH YARNS
in stock are 10% off throughout June 2012

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, AX
Private knitting, crochet, spinning, and drop spindle
instructions are available by appointment
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*** GREAT NEW STUFF ***

Summertime stitching brings with it a craving for bright, fun projects that will reward you almost instantly. Summer presents an opportunity to work with exciting yarns in easy stitches and let the yarns and colors come alive. It's time to relax and savor the pleasure of making something with love and lasting value. Unwind in a gathering of unforgettable projects to make with love, to wear, to give and to simply relax with...

Knitter's Magazine K107 (\$6.95) focuses on surface design: knits and purls, yarn-overs, twisted stitches, slip stitches, short rows and other interesting ways to incorporate texture in a knit. Sleek knits make for easy separates. Two of Kathy's designs are featured in this issue. "Blue Horizons", worked in ROWAN "Summerspun" (upper left) creates texture with twisted stitches, treating a yarn-over as texture rather than lace, and its pebbled texture creates a visual of verticality. Add a pair of buttons to the jewel neckline for a little pizzazz to counterbalance the scalloped hemline and cuffs. *Knitter's* says: "You'll garner plenty of attention in this monochromatic knit. The textured stitch and subtle button-trimmed collar add just the right details". "Retro Pinstripe" (lower right) adds a little detailing to stockinette. Turn stockinette inside out to expose the purl side, then apply crocheted chain-stitch columns in a contrasting color. *Knitter's* says: "The simple reverse-stockinette body shimmers thanks to the elegant pinstripes applied after each piece is knit. With a crochet hook, this is easy and well worth the effort. Add a contrasting neckband for a mock collar that looks a little retro".

This is a collection of "lacy day" knits, special effects with beads, and pleasing textures from simple & stunning to intricate & incredible. In his editorial, Rick Mondragon states: "A skirt, dress slacks, or jeans could accompany any of these for a day of work, celebration, or play. No matter your choice or approach, these stellar designs are testimonials to your knitting skills. Each has a detail that holds your interest as you knit and accents the finished piece. They will become mainstay wardrobe elements that always command surface attention. And that's no superficial thing!"

INTERWEAVE *Knits Summer 2012* (\$6.99) features 23 summery knits with graceful lace designs for everyone (fresh or traditional), playful stripes (color, line & texture) and bright, clever quick little knits to love. Editor Eunny Jang tells us: "The things you wear should always make you feel happy. The things you make, doubly so. In that spirit, we've filled this issue with light, bright, pop-y knits for breezy, lazy days: instant-gratification accessories you can make in a weekend; mellow and modern lace pieces to layer; drapery knits adorned with beachy texture; graphic stripes of color and texture; and simple, relaxed knits for slow-moving days". Simple stitches make for striking fabrics...

Simple elegance is back as INTERWEAVE's *Jane Austen Knits Summer 2012* (\$14.99) captures the essence of Jane Austen. These garments, inspired by her narratives, can be worn with ease and comfort in our current times. Our pick is "Hetty's Sunday Cuffs", fingerless mitts with a picot border at the knuckles and a delicate lace border cuff. Knit 31 inspired projects from wraps to baby bonnets, bookmarks to socks...



*** MORE GREAT NEW STUFF ***

With LISA KNITS AC-030 "Ahead of The Curve" scarf and capelet (\$5.00, shown right), you'll be at the forefront of the latest fashion trends. Worked with short row shaping (the hottest trend in shaping this summer), the capelet is worked in machine washable BERROCO "Versa" cotton ribbon (\$8.50, 50 grams, 81 yards, 50% cotton /50% acrylic, CYCA #5). The sculpted wedges with saw-tooth lace border gracefully drape over the shoulders. The crescent-shaped companion scarf is worked with smaller wedges in NORO's colorful "Taiyo" (\$18.50, 100 grams, 220 yards, CYCA #4). Gotta knit it -- this is an accessory that you can wear practically all year 'round!



It's travel season, and the perfect accessory to take along to knit (or to wear) is CHURCHMOUSE CLASSICS "Turkish Bed Socks" (\$5.50). These little one-skein slipper-socks make great gifts too, as they are easy to fit and don't take much yarn. They are nice to wear with clogs, for around the house, or for travel (on the plane or in the car when not driving). Pick up a hank of CLAUDIA HANDPAINTED YARNS "Fingering Merino" (\$14.50, 50 grams, 175 yards, 100% extrafine merino wool, CYCA #2) in one of our newest shades like graphite, artichoke, sage paradise, blue terra cotta, whirled peas, or jungle. For the ankle edging through the heel bottom, you'll only be working with two double-pointed needles. Other excellent yarn choices are MADELINE TOSH "Tosh Sock", NORO "Taiyo Sock", MOUNTAIN COLORS "Crazyfoot", CRYSTAL PALACE "Mini Mochi" or "Sausilito", and PLYMOUTH "Stiletto" -- we've recently received new quantities of all of these...

CHURCHMOUSE CLASSICS "Before & After Bias Scarf" continues to be our #1 best selling project of the season. New shipments of CLASSIC ELITE "Silky Alpaca Lace" in solids (\$12.50) and handpaints (\$13.50) are here, but selling fast. This project takes just one ball -- the price point is part of the attraction! Other spectacular options include FIESTA YARNS "Ballerina" (\$29.95, 100 grams, 925 yards, 50% superfine alpaca/50% tencel, CYCA #1; one hank will make two scarves), MANOS DEL URUGUAY "Lace" (\$19.50, 50 grams, 439 yards, 70% baby alpaca/25% silk/5% cashmere, CYCA #1), and the deeply saturated shades of MOUNTAIN COLORS "Winter Lace Junior" (\$18.95, 50 grams, 600 yards, 50% wool/50% silk, CYCA #1)...

Merino and silk combinations are the new luxury fibers this season, with the trend continuing through fall. New from SKACEL/ZITRON is "Kimono" (\$29.95, 100 grams, 330 yards, 54% merino/46% silk, CYCA #3), a machine washable, year-round blend suitable for trans-seasonal wear, featuring a monochromatic color range. Also, in the pre-felted-look yarns, SCHOPPEL WOLLE "In Silk" \$23.50, 100 grams, 220 yards, 75% merino wool/25% silk, CYCA #4) is amazingly light weight with excellent stitch definition...

Summer reigns supreme when warm temperatures take over, the swimming pools and beaches open, and school lets out for fun in the sun. Despite the heat, knitters and crocheters will be grabbing their needles and hooks to work with luscious, machine washable UNIVERSAL YARNS "Cotton Supreme" (\$8.95, 100 grams, 180 yards, 100% cotton, CYCA #4) to create sumptuously soft knits in style. Support pattern booklet 2 (\$12.50, shown left) is a delightful, diverse selection of stuffed toys and wearable paired with fun and funky applique to knit and crochet...





*** NEW FROM NORO ***

Painters have their oils and watercolors; illustrators, their pastels. For knitters and crocheters, the paintbox is more unique, evoked by a single name, NORO. A single skein unwinds a rich tapestry of color whose depth is matched only by its versatility. Dressy or casual, mitered or cabled, decor or men's wear, small-scale or grand statement -- cast on and knit a canvas of your own. Be mesmerized as each stitch forms and falls from your needles and hooks, expect the unexpected, crave the next color, and prepare to become enchanted. The editors of VOGUE KNITTING present the premiere issue of NORO Fall 2012 (\$7.99, shown upper left), which embraces the unique qualities of NORO yarns in its colorful designs, experimenting with shape and form, color and construction, and inspiring results. Our latest arrival, "Taiyo Sock Yarn" (\$19.50, 100 grams, 460 yards; 50% cotton/17% wool/17% nylon/16% silk, CYCA #1), is an amazing technicolor yarn that propels out-of-this-world accessories like Stephen West's "Spectra" Shawl even higher into the fashion stratosphere (sign up for the June 30 class, page 8) .

Clear some space on your bookshelf for hard cover KNIT NORO ACCESSORIES (\$24.95) and add a burst of color to your wardrobe or home with small projects, big color! Capture your creative spirit and expand the possibilities of self-striping yarns with knits that incorporate lace, cables, entrelac, felting and more...

*** AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM THE WEBMASTER ***

We inadvertently deleted all subscribers' e-mail addresses received after November 1, 2011 through May 17, 2012. Please re-subscribe at subscribe@kathys-kreations.com Thank you...

*** ASK AN EXPERT ***

Thanks to Eleanor Swogger of KRAEMER YARNS for sharing this knitting tip with us!

Q. What is a slip stitch in knitting and why does it matter how I work it?

A. A slip stitch is very easy to do. The stitch is simply moved from one needle to the other without being worked. It has many uses; it may be left unworked until a later row or it may be used to change the position of the stitch before working a decrease. (We have a number of stitch dictionaries with fantastic slip stitch patterns on our bookshelves).

A stitch is usually held on the needle with the right side of the stitch in the front position. To keep a slip stitch in the same standard position, slip the stitch purlwise. This means to transfer the stitch to the right needle by placing the right needle into the stitch as if to purl. Unless told to do otherwise in a pattern, **always slip as if to purl.**

If you want to change the position of the stitch, you will slip the stitch as if to knit. Working an SSK decrease is the most common example of this. SSK is done as if to knit. One stitch at a time, slip the first stitch as if to knit, then slip the second stitch as if to knit. Place the left needle into the fronts of both stitches and knit the two stitches together. The decreased stitch will slant to the left. Note that each stitch is slipped separately.

If you choose to slip a stitch differently than instructed, study the resulting variation. If you are pleased with the look, work the same variation on the entire garment.

And a big thank you to Lisa Carnahan of LISA KNITS for sharing this knitting trick:

--- When working a p2tog-tbl (purl 2 sts together through the back loops), slip 1 stitch purlwise, slip 1 knitwise, pass both stitches directly back to the left needle, purl the two stitches through the back loops. This method keeps the stitches flat, not twisted and easier to maneuver.

*** KNITSCENE TRENDS FOR SUMMER 2012 ***

Here are four main fashion stories for the sizzling summer of 2012 from the pages of INTERWEAVE *Knitscene* magazine to provide direction for your knits...

Leaf: Leaf stitch patterns and motifs can be found in all-over or singular patterning, in both garments and accessories. They can be traditional, innovative, or purely abstract. The look is the whimsical woodland girl of summer.

Southern Comfort: Think tanks, tees, and accessories for those humid southern summers (which seemed to have moved to the mid-Atlantic recently). Crisp cottons, whites and brights, patch pockets, racerbacks, sweet details like pleats, ruching, and gathering combined with a tough Americana vibe and patchwork elements. Lemonade and cutoffs optional.

Slant Rhyme: Play with asymmetry in simple garments. Think about asymmetry in terms of silhouette, rather than patterning. Experiment with necklines, sleeves and hemlines to knit a wearable, simple summer top that really *gains* something from its asymmetry. The look is minimalist, beachy, and monochromatic (the main story in colorwork options). Think beach house at the end of the day.

The Sweatshirt Sweater: Loose, easy-wear, comfortable, in cottons, linens, and blends with casual, girly-tough layers for evening strolls, for the cookout, for the surfer in all of us.

*** CROCHET FOR BABY BLANKET ***

This crochet blanket designed by Judy Head for KRAEMER YARNS features a dense stitch that will keep your baby warm. Thanks to KRAEMER for sharing it with us!

FINISHED MEASUREMENTS: 34" X 38"

MATERIALS: KRAEMER "Perfection Worsted" 6 skeins (225 yards each) plus 1 skein contrasting color for border; Us size I (5.5 mm); small pins; tapestry needle for finishing

GAUGE: 13 sts / 14 rows = 4" in stitch pattern

NOTES: The stitch pattern is a double crochet (dc), single crochet (sc) repeat. The row always ends with a dc. As you are working the row, a sc stitch always goes into a dc stitch in the row below. A dc stitch in the row you are working always goes into a sc stitch in the row below.

DIRECTIONS: Chain 107 stitches (sts).

Row 1: Beginning in the 3rd stitch from the hook *dc, sc, repeat from * across row. End with a dc, chain 1 and turn.

Row 2: Skip the first stitch, *dc, sc; repeat from * across row. End with a dc, chain 1 and turn.

Repeat row 2 until blanket measures 37" long. Break off yarn.

Work Shell Border around the edges as follows: Join contrasting color yarn at the upper right corner of the blanket, and chain 3 sts. Work 2 dc in the same stitch; *skip 2 sts, 3 dc in next stitch; repeat from * across the top of the blanket. To turn the corner, place a shell (3 dc) in the corner st, chain 1, work another shell in the same stitch. To begin the long edge, lay the blanket on a flat surface and use the pins to mark 1" increments. Place a shell every inch along the long edge of the blanket. Turn the corner and work the chain edge of the blanket the same as the top edge. Turn the third corner and mark and place shells along the remaining long edge. Be careful to match the number of shells to the opposite long edge. Complete last corner and join the border together with a slip stitch. Break off yarn.

Finishing: Weave in ends and block if needed.



*** KNIT BOOTIES FOR BABY ***

Let's see, you've got the yarn ... your bag is filled with all your notions ... and now your fingers are ready for some fun. These baby booties designed by Judy Head are well-suited for gift giving and community knitting projects. One skein of Tatamy DK will make 3 pairs of booties. Thanks to KRAEMER YARNS for sharing it with us!

SIZE: small (3.5" foot); medium in parentheses (4.5" foot)

MATERIALS: KRAEMER YARNS Tatamy DK 1 skein (3.5 oz., 250 yards 45% cotton / 55% acrylic); US 5 (3.75 mm) straight knitting needles; tapestry needle for finishing; 1 yard 1/2" satin ribbon (see note below about attaching to back seam)

GAUGE: 5 sts / 7 rows = 1" in stockinette stitch

Abbreviations

KFB - increase by knitting into the front & back of the stitch

W/T on right side: yarn to front; slip stitch from left needle to right needle; yarn to back; slip stitch from right needle back to left needle; turn.

W/T on wrong side: yarn to back; slip stitch from left needle to right needle; yarn to front; slip stitch from right needle back to left needle; turn.

Sole of bootie: Cast on 26 (36) stitches.

Row 1 (right side): K (knit).

Row 2 & all wrong-side rows: P (purl).

Row 3: K1, KFB, K 9 (13), KFB, K2, KFB, K9 (13), KFB, K1.

Row 5: K1, KFB, K 11 (15), KFB, K2, KFB, K 11 (15), KFB, K1.

Row 7: K1, KFB, K 13 (17), KFB, K2, KFB, K 13 (17), KFB, K1.

Side of Bootie:

Row 9 (right side): P.

Rows 10 & 11: K.

Rows 12 & 13: P.

Row 14: K.

Top of Bootie:

Row 15 (right side): K 22 (26), W/T.

Row 16: P6, W/T.

Row 17: K7, W/T

Row 18: P8, W/T.

Row 19: K9, W/T.

Row 20: P10, W/T.

Row 21: K11, W/T.

Row 22: P 12, W/T.

Row 23: K 13, W/T.

Row 24: P 14, W/T.

Row 25: K 15, W/T.

Row 26: P 16, W/T.

Row 27: K to end.

Row 28: P.

Row 29 (eyelet row): K1; *K2, yarn over (yo), K2tog; repeat from *, K1.

Row 30: P.

Cuff: K1, P1 for 2". Bind off loosely. Seam bootie along back of leg and bottom of foot. Block lightly if needed. If desired: Cut 2 pieces of ribbon 16" long, thread through eyelets, attach securely by sewing with thread to back seam to prevent a choking hazard, and tie in a bow as shown in photo.





*** WHERE'S KATHY? ***

June 23, 2012: The National Needlework Association trade show in Columbus, OH. Kathy will be the featured designer at a Meet and Greet Saturday afternoon 2 pm - 4 pm at the KRAEMER YARNS booth. Kathy will be autographing pattern booklets of her 13 KRAEMER designs, including the Double Zigzag A-Line Aran Jacket in "Perfection" worsted yarn which will be part of the Fashion Show. Kathy's pattern booklets will be available for purchase at Kathy's Creations in early July.

August 9 - 12, 2012: Kathy will be teaching once again at Stitches Midwest in Schaumburg, IL. Class schedule is available at <http://www.knittinguniverse.com> (Knitter's Magazine website). Class topics include Knit to Fit; Ruffles, Scallops and Frills; Intro to combining Lace and Cable and Slip-Stitch Savvy.

August 22, 2012: Kathy will be the featured instructor for the Pittsburgh East Knitting Guild in Monroeville, PA. Kathy's program, "Textures & Cables Fingerless Mitts" (shown upper left), is an original design for KRAEMER YARNS, featured in Kathy's upcoming pattern collection.

September 7 - 8, 2012: Kathy will be a featured teacher at Knitter's Day Out in Summerdale, PA, at Central PA College and Donna Dunlap will be manning Kathy's market booth; details coming soon at <http://www.knittersdayout.org>. Class topics are Brioche Basics, Getting the Most out of Self-Striping Yarns and Holes on Purpose (lace knitting basics),

September 21 - 23, 2012: Kathy and Carol Smith will host the 3rd Annual Fall Workshop at the Ramada Inn in historic Ligonier, PA with guest teacher Eleanor Swogger.

Registrations are now being accepted but space is limited (already over half-filled)

October 4 - 7, 2012: Kathy will be the featured instructor at a "Knitting Superstar" weekend for the Atlanta Knitting Guild; Atlanta, GA

*** FALL FLING WORKSHOP ANNOUNCEMENT ***

Kathy's Creations invites you to join us for a "Fall Fling" knitting workshop weekend, hosted by Carol Smith and Kathy Zimmerman. Accomplished knitter, instructor, and Merchandise Manager for Kraemer Yarns of Nazareth, PA, Eleanor Swogger, will teach a two-day workshop at the Ramada Inn in historic Ligonier, PA. The hands-on classes will be a "Getting Started With Bead Knitting", a purled I-cord simple spiral bracelet project; "Lace & Beads" fingerless mitts, and "Playing with Mitered Knitting". In the beading classes, you will learn two different methods for incorporating beads into your knitting, as well as basic lace techniques in the mitt class. In the mitered knitting class, you will learn the how-to's to create the basic garter stitch square and how to customize your look to create the desired fabric. For skill levels beginner, intermediate and beyond, students must be able to knit and purl.

The weekend package includes an after-hours "soup and sliders" party and special shopping time at Kathy's Creations (Friday evening); coffee breaks and two lunches at the Ramada; classes Saturday and Sunday; free time to shop in the pretty little town of Ligonier and goodie bags. The "early bird" price is \$175 per person before August 1, 2012 and \$200 per person after August 1, 2012. Overnight lodging is not included, but the Ramada has set up a special rate for us, so please make your own reservations by calling 724-238-9545. Space is limited on a first-come, first-served basis, so please e-mail or call 724-238-9320 (already over half-filled). KATHY'S CREATIONS will be open on Sunday, September 23, 2012, from 12 noon - 4 pm. Attendees will receive a 10% discount on all regularly-priced knitting supplies and yarn all weekend...



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

Join the "First Mondays" Club for an evening of knitting, crochet and fellowship, at Panera Bread Greengate; Greensburg, PA. Meeting dates are **June 4, 2012, and July 2, 2012, 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm**. All skill levels of knitters and crocheters welcome!

***** "KNIT KNITE" AT KATHY'S KREATIONS Tuesday evenings, June 12, 2012, and July 10, 2012; 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm (rsvp please) *****

Join Laurel Highlands Knitting Guild members for an evening of stitching & lots of fun conversation. All skill levels of knitters & crocheters are welcome to come, sit & stitch! In the event of nasty weather, please call ahead to make sure we are meeting...

***** FUN FRIDAYS, June 15, 2012 and July 20, 2012; 10 am - 2 pm *****

All knitters & crocheters welcome! Our instructor Joyce Bischoff is available for help with your questions, skill building and how-to's for projects purchased here. Please call ahead to let us know you will be coming, as space is limited.

***** RAVELRY GROUP MEET AND GREET *****

Members of the "We Love Kathy's" Ravelry group will be gathering at Kathy's Kreations on Saturday mornings **July 14, 2012; 10:00 am - 2:00 pm (no meeting in June due to Antiques On The Diamond)**. Please bring your knitting, crocheting and any projects to show and share. We meet on the second Saturday of every month. All group members will receive a 10% discount on regularly-priced merchandise purchases on this "Meet and Greet Day". Not a member? Ask us how you can join!

***** SAVE THE DATE *****

You are cordially invited to our three "Open Stitching" long weekends **Thursday May 31, Friday June 1 and Saturday June 2, 2012; Thursday June 7, Friday June 8, and Saturday June 9, 2012; and Thursday June 21, Friday June 22, and Saturday June 23, 2012**. Simply come, sit and knit / crochet to your heart's content from 10 am - 2 pm on these dates. Please bring a chair, a snack to share if you wish, your project purchased here, and call ahead to let us know you are coming. Join in the fellowship of other knitters & crocheters -- it's a great escape!

***** "SPECTRA SHAWL" KNITTING CLASS with instructor Marilee Roney; Saturday, June 30, 2012; 9:30 am - 12:30 pm; \$25.00 registration (includes pattern)*****

The Spectra Shawl by Stephen West (upper left) is one of our most popular projects. Marilee will instruct you in the how-to's for this unique, lightweight scarf featuring two fingering weight yarns. Short row shaping creates a dramatically curved edge that coils and playfully drapes. Basic intarsia technique entwines two strands of yarn, creating seamless wedges that resemble a rainbow or color wheel. Student supplies include 420 yards fingering weight yarn (color A), 230 yards fingering weight (color B) and US size 5 straight knitting needles. Supplies available to purchase on class day.

Private knitting, crocheting, felting, drop spindle, and spinning lessons available by appointment. We would be glad to do a specific class for groups of 4 or more. Kathy's Kreations has been the helpful hands of experienced knitting for over 32 years !

Ease up and enjoy life's simple pleasures -- it's time to relax!

KEEP KNITTING AND CROCHETING! Kathy