



# Knit Wits

Monthly Newsletter



Children's Knook

## From the Owners

Baby animals, flowers blooming, warm breezes, Easter – all signs of Spring, which begins this month! It is a refreshing time that we look forward to every year. We're excited to add more yarns and patterns to prepare for the warm weather. New classes, new projects, and lots more fun! Can't wait to see you!

## Instructional Class Information

*Pre-registration is required.*

### Beginning Knitting

Class Cost: \$50/4 sessions or \$15/1 session

Class Time: Tuesday 10-11:00am *OR*

Thursday 6-7:00pm

### Class Description:

This beginning knitting series begins with the basics and progresses each week to include exploring various stitches, finishing your work, and fixing mistakes. Call us for a complete description of all 4 classes – even if you are already a knitter, one of the later classes in the month may appeal to you!

### Beginning Crochet

Class Cost: \$40/4 sessions or \$12/1 session

Class Time: Tuesday 6-7:00pm *OR*

Thursday 10-11:00am

### Class Description:

Begin with basic stitches and then each week we will advance to common patterns such as granny squares, shells, fans, and ripples. Also, learn techniques for finishing your projects. Please contact us for a complete description of all the classes.

## Day at The Knook

The project of the month is Badia, a scoop neck tank. The pattern is fun with an interesting braided cable and easy diagonal lace in the center panel. It is perfect for the warm weather that is just around the corner. Made with Bonsai, this tank will be elegant and easily 'dressed up' or 'dressed down'. Come to get the pattern started on March 15<sup>th</sup>.

March's  
Featured  
Yarn is...  
Bamboo



### Bamboo Positives:

- Environmentally friendly – Bamboo is a renewable source that is harvested without killing the plant, which can be harvested every couple months. It is biodegradable with not mixed with unnatural fibers.
- The fiber is naturally antibacterial – even after 50 washes – which makes it a great choice for hospital attire.
- Bamboo has ultra-violet protective properties and wears well.
- Breathes wonderfully – The molecular structure allows water to be absorbed quickly *and* evaporate quickly.
- The drape and luster make projects beautiful.
- It is strong, flexible, and can be extremely soft.

### Bamboo Fiber:

- The yarn is spun from the cellulose in the bamboo stalk.
- It is often blended with other fibers

### Bamboo Care:

Usually hand wash.

### Bamboo Tips:

- If the antibacterial features appeals to you, use a yarn that has at least 70% bamboo.
- Knit slowly at first with dull pointed needles, (such as bamboo!), to avoid splitting the yarn

### Bamboo Yarns at J.J.'s Knitting Knook:

We have a variety of blended bamboo yarns. From Berroco, we have Bonsai, a bamboo (97%) nylon (3%) blend. We also carry Prima from a Debbie Bliss, which is bamboo (80%) and wool (20%). Love from South West Trading is a bamboo (70%) and silk (30%) blend. Also, check out Pagewood Farms and Trekking Pro Natura – two sock yarns that are bamboo blends!

## March Free Pattern

### Amulet Pouch

(Intermediate skill level)

#### **Materials:**

Small amount of leftover sock yarn  
Double pointed needles size US 1 or 2  
small crochet hook



#### **Gauge:**

24 sts = 4" / 10cm

#### **Pattern:**

Cast on 36 stitches. Divide evenly between 3 needles. Join, and work in k2, p2 ribbing for 3 rounds.

Round 4: \*K3, yo twice; rep from \* around.

Round 5: K around, dropping the second yo; 16 sts on each ndl.

Work even in stockinette until bag measures about 2 ¼".

Decrease for bottom:

Round 1: \*K6, k2tog; rep from \* around; 14 sts on each ndl.

Round 2, 4, 6: Knit.

Round 3: \*K5, k2tog; rep from \* around; 12 sts on each ndl.

Round 5: \*K4, k2tog; rep from \* around; 10 sts on each ndl.

Round 7: \*K3, k2tog; rep from \* around; 8 sts on each ndl.

Round 8: \*K2, k2tog; rep from \* around; 6 sts on each ndl.

Round 9: \*K1, k2tog; rep from \* around; 4 sts on each ndl.

Round 10: K2tog around; 2 sts on each ndl.

Cut yarn leaving an 8" tail. Thread through rem sts with yarn needle, pull tight and fasten on the inside.

Cord: Crochet a chain approx. 36" long. Thread through the eyelets on the pouch and knot the ends on the inside.

*Fill with lavender, scented herbs, little stones, secrets, and well wishes!*

*This pouch is the perfect size to fill with a small Easter gift!*

*Or, save yourself a pinch and make it green for Saint Patrick's Day!*

"Every word of God is flawless; He is a shield to those who take refuge in Him."  
Proverbs 30:5

## Specialty Classes

Class Cost: \$10/person

These classes are held each Saturday morning and vary each week. When you attend a Specialty Class, you receive a **10% discount** for your purchases that day! Here is a list for March:

### March 8: How To Alter Patterns

*Time: 9-10:30am*

Learn how to make changes to your pattern to fit yourself of the lucky one you're knitting for. Information you can't do without!

### March 15: Knitted Felted Project

*Time: 9-10:30am*

Today you will choose and start a project that we will felt together. With the variety of projects to choose from, you'll be sure to find something perfect just for you! Make sure you're finished with your project for the class on March 29<sup>th</sup>. This is going to be a BLAST!

### March 22: Crochet Felted Project

*Time: 9-10:30am*

Choose and then get assistance starting your crocheted project, and return to felt your finished item on March 29<sup>th</sup>. We will be joining with those participating on March 15<sup>th</sup> to finish our felting!

### March 29: Felt Your Project

*Time: 9-11:30am*

It's time to get felting and have some fun! In addition to your **finished project** (from one of the last 2 classes), bring an **old pair of jeans**.

## Tips and Tricks

1. Place your garment in a zippered pillowcase or garment bag. This will save your washer as most are not designed to handle the fibers the garment will shed.
2. Placing a pair of old tennis shoes, old jeans, or tennis balls in the washer will help the agitation.
3. Do NOT let the washer rinse and spin.
4. In addition to the detergent in the water, add ¼ cup of baking soda.
5. Test felt a swatch before felting. After working a piece, trace it on paper. When complete, retrace the felted piece. You can measure exactly how much you yarn will shrink. Every yarn felts differently.