

## Brioche Stitch Knitting (K1b)

Presented by Chris Underwood

### Summary

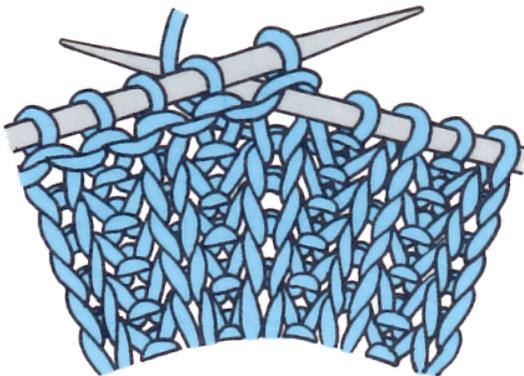


"Knitting into the stitch below has been overlooked as a design element, appearing only sporadically in projects and in a few stitch dictionaries. In fact, many knitting glossaries neither mention the k1b stitch, nor do they assign a symbol or abbreviation to it."

"This novel stitch will appeal to knitters who love color work and to those who enjoy learning new techniques." "I have often been asked how I came up with this idea. Did I just think it up one fine day? It wasn't quite like that. A while back, I was working on some socks with two contrasting colors of yarn, experimenting with slipping and stranding to mingle the two colors, but the fabric was turning out tight and stiff. I tried knitting into the stitch below and noticed that the stitch had become a bit wider and looser; at the same time, the color from the previous row had been drawn upwards and the color on my needle had fallen out of sight to the back of the fabric. As I alternated the k1b stitch with a regular knit stitch, the colors started to build vertical columns, and before I knew it, I had made my first pair of k1b socks!"

*Quotes from Elise Duvokot, "Knit One Below" - Photo from Picasa Web Albums, Jennifer Hartwell's Gallery*

**Instructions** Insert the right hand needle into the next stitch but in the row below the stitch on the left hand needle. Then knit the stitch as normal. Alternate K1, K1b stitches.



### Resource List

#### Books

[Knit One Below](#), Elise Duvokot

[The Essential Guide to Color Knitting Techniques](#), Margaret Radcliffe

[A Treasury of Knitting Patterns](#), Barbara Walker

[The Ultimate Source Book of Knitting and Crochet Stitches](#), Readers Digest

[The Knitting Directory](#), Alison Jenkins

*Illustration from Learn2Knit*

### Online

- Ravelry – search on [Brioche knit one below](#) or [kib](#) to see the variety of patterns available.
- Maggie's Rags: [http://www.maggiesrags.com/tips\\_knit\\_below.htm](http://www.maggiesrags.com/tips_knit_below.htm)
- The [Brioche Stitch](#) online – helpful how to videos - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8ewQ06ine1M>

## Double Knitting

Presented by Abbott Smith

Double Knitting can be confusing because it refers to three different things in knitting; a yarn weight and two very different techniques.

### DK Yarn

DK weight yarn, also called Sport weight, is a weight between Fingering and Worsted weights and consists of roughly 8 plies. It is typically knit on US #3-6 needles at a stitch count of 5-7 spi. Many traditions use this weight for heavier colorwork garments such as Norwegian sweaters or large colorwork such as blankets. Baby garments are often made in DK weight yarn as well.

### Double Knit Colorwork Ribbing



Double knitting also refers to a form of reversible colorwork knitting based on two color 1x1 ribbing. Double knit ribbing uses a technique where both yarns are brought to the working side of each stitch through the gutter. On knit stitches the yarns are both behind the working face and on the purl stitches both yarns are in front of the working surface. (This differs from the Corrugated Ribbing used in stranded techniques such as Fair Isle knitting where the yarn not in use always stays behind the working surface.) Double knit ribbing creates a fabric where the yarn not being used on the current stitch creates a one stitch float that masks the color used on the back surface of the garment. As the rows of stitches move away from the needles, the tension in the ribbing draws the stitches closer together and reveals the decorative colorwork pattern on both sides of the garment. The simplest form of Double Knit colorwork creates a two sided decorative motif where the sides are inverse colorways of the same pattern. But it is possible to create garments with different motifs on the two sides or with more than two colors. Double knit colorwork can be knit in the round but it really shines in flat knitting. Due to its nature as a form of ribbing, the fabric is perfectly flat right off of the needles and has no tendency to curl. This makes it wonderfully suited to things like scarves, blankets, placemats and hot pads. Like Brioche knitting, Double Knit colorwork has its own gauge. Typically you will want to start with a needle two sizes smaller than the needle size recommended on the yarn label in order to achieve the same finished gauge.

Unlike most forms of knitting, Double knit colorwork does not appear to arise from an ethnic tradition. Instead it appears to have developed from the industrialization of knitting. Late in the Baroque period, an English minister, Reverend William Lee, developed the knitting frame. This ultimately led to the development of modern knitting machines during the Age of Enlightenment and the Industrial Revolution. Hand worked Double knit colorwork appears to be a reverse engineering of the techniques used by mechanical ribbers. It has always been a fairly

esoteric technique. Tough to get excited about a technique where the most notable cultural reference is double knit polyester! Many knitters are also turned off by the fact that the entire garment is ribbing and that the movement can be awkward for English style throw knitting. But it is very rewarding and the garments can be stunning.

## Royce Double Knitting

The third form of knitting to go by the moniker, Double knitting, is a series of related techniques developed in the 20<sup>th</sup> century by American knitter, Beverly Royce. Ms. Royce hated knitting tubes with double point needles and the primitive circular needles that were available during the 1950's. So she developed a slip stitch technique with the fabric inside out that enabled her to knit seamless tubes on two straight needles. She called her technique Double Knitting. These techniques are particularly valuable for knitting small diameter tubes such as the appendages of stuffed animals and the fingers of gloves. But they can be used for any size tube.

## Resource List

### Books

Baber, M'Lou. **Double Knitting: Reversible Two Color Designs**. Schoolhouse Press: 2008.  
Royce, Beverly. **Notes on Double Knitting**. Schoolhouse Press: 1994 (expanded edition).

### Online

#### Ravelry

Search Double Knitting under Patterns for multiple examples

The Double Knitting group is an excellent starting point.

*Fallingblox* is the user name of designer Alasdair Post-Quinn, the moderator of the Double Knitting group.

Fallingblox.com is Alasdair's blog.

Youtube.com has a number of tutorial videos including three that Alasdair created in 2009 for the Twist Collective that I highly recommend. Alasdair's cast on works very well.

## Entrelac Knitting

Presented by Betts Lampers



### Summary

"Entrelac is a knitting technique used to create a textured diamond pattern. While the end result resembles basket-woven strips of knitted fabric, the actual material comprises interconnected squares on two different orientations.

Unlike many textured knitting techniques, Entrelac allows for colorwork as well. Though single-color entrelac is the norm, it is often used to create colored patterns. The use of variegated yarn with long color repeats for entrelac has become commonplace, since careful use can create distinct squares of color with only one yarn. Entrelac can be knit flat (back-and-forth) or in the round for a cylinder. However, unlike typical round knitting, the knitting is turned after a full round of squares so the next set is knitted in the opposite direction." [Wikipedia](#)

*Entrelac Sweater by Betts Lampers*

### General Entrelac Instructions

- Do not cut yarn at any time.
- # sts in base triangle = the # of sts in each rectangle; # base triangles X # pattern sts per rectangle = # of CO sts; For example: 3 base triangles X 8 sts per rectangle = 24sts.
- The photos represent an entrelac swatch starting with 2 base triangles rather than the 3 listed in the instructions below.



### Step 1: Base triangles

Cast on 24 sts, placing markers at 8 stitch interval.

(WS): P2; turn; k2; p 3 (taking 3<sup>rd</sup> st from CO on LH needle); turn; k3; continue in this manner, always working one additional stitch each WS row until 8 sts are on RH needle. 1<sup>st</sup> triangle complete. Do not turn. Work the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> as you did the first.



### Step 2: Right-side Triangle

NOTE: All increases are made by knitting into the front and back of the first stitch.

(RS): K2; turn; p2; turn; inc 1 st, k1, SSK (with last st on RH needle and first st on LH needle); turn; p3; turn; inc 1 st, k2, SSK; turn; p4; continue in this manner, inc 1 st at right edge and SSK at left edge until all the 8 sts of the first base triangle are "eaten up".

### Step 3 Right to Left Rectangles



RS Facing: Pick up 8 sts along the left edge of the base triangle ( or rectangle); turn; p8; turn; k7; SSK( last st on RH needle and first st on LH needle (2<sup>nd</sup> triangle); turn; p8; turn; k7, SSK; turn; continue in this manner until all the stitches from the second base triangle are gone. Repeat this step with the 2nd base triangle, leaving you with 2 rectangles.

### Step 4 : Left-side Triangle



(RS): Pick up and knit 8 sts along the left side of the last triangle or rectangle; turn; p2 tog, p6; turn k7; turn; p2 tog, p5; turn continue in this manner decreasing first st every WS row until 1 sts remains on RH needle (WS facing) Don't turn.

**Step 5: Left to Right Rectangles:**



(WS) Facing: pick up and purl 7 sts; turn; k 8 sts; turn; p7, p2 tog (with last st on RH needle and 1<sup>st</sup> st on LH needle; turn; k8; turn; p7, p2 tog; turn continue in this manner until all sts from adjacent triangle have been worked, ending with WS facing.

Repeat instructions for Step 5 until right to left rectangles have been completed across work.

At this point you can now continue using Steps 2 through 5 until the desire length ending with a left-side triangle completed.



**Step 6: Finishing Triangles:**

WS Facing: pick up 7sts down side of left sided triangle; turn; k8; turn; p7, p2 tog with last st on LH needle and 1<sup>st</sup> st on RH needle; turn; k6, k2tog; turn; p 6,p2tog; turn; k5, k2tog, turn continue in this manner until 3 sts remain;(WS facing, there should be 2 sts on RH needle and 1 st on LH needle, sl st from LH needle to RH needle as if to purl; turn; (RS) [Sl 2-k1-p2sso] Sl 2 sts to RH needle as if to knit, k1, pass 2 sts over last st, leaving the center st on top. Repeat across the top in this manner until the end, pulling the yarn through on the last st.

## Design Considerations

- The technique of knitting back backwards is a real benefit when knitting an Entrelac pattern. It eliminates the constant turning.
- Rectangles have twice as many rows than stitches.
- If you have an extra stitch in centering a pattern within the rectangle, place extra stitch at end of first row/beginning of joining row.
- In order to avoid a "ruffled" effect, try not to place cable crosses too close to the beginning or end of the rectangle. For balance, have similar type patterns ( ie, cable, strong verticals, bobbles, etc) go in opposite directions.

## Resource List

### Books

Entrelac: The Essential Guide to Interlace Knitting by Rosemary Drysdale

Entree to Entrelac: The Definitive Guide from a Biased Knitter by Gwen Bortner, Elaine Rowley and Alexis Xenakis

The Essential Guide to Color Knitting Techniques by Margaret Radcliffe

Mastering Color Knitting: Simple Instructions for Stranded, Intarsia, and Double Knitting by Melissa Leapman

Enjoy Entrelac Knitting by Brenda Horne

The Great American Afghan by XRX Books, Square #12 by Betts Lampers and Square # 19 by Barbara Venishnick

Vogue Knitting on the Go Pillows Entrelac Pillow by Betts Lampers Pg 42.

Knitter's Magazine # 44 Fall 1996 Skill-building Entrelac by Betts Lampers, pg. 84.

### Online

Knitting Help, advanced techniques: <http://www.knittinghelp.com/videos/advanced-techniques>

[Videos on YouTube](#) (search on "entrelac")

[Ravelry search](#) ("entrelac")