

a history of hand knitting

****A History of Hand Knitting: From Ancient Origins to Modern Craft****

a history of hand knitting is a fascinating journey that weaves together culture, creativity, and practical necessity. While knitting today is often seen as a relaxing hobby or an artistic outlet, its roots stretch deep into human history, reflecting social customs, technological advancements, and even economic shifts. Let's unravel this rich tapestry to understand how hand knitting evolved from a simple craft into the beloved pastime it is today.

The Origins of Hand Knitting

Knitting, at its core, is the interlocking of loops of yarn with needles to create fabric. But where and when did this technique first appear? Unlike weaving or spinning, the exact beginnings of knitting are somewhat mysterious, largely because early knitted items were made of perishable fibers that rarely survived the passage of time.

Early Evidence and Archaeological Finds

The earliest known knitted artifacts date back to around the 11th century in Egypt. These finely crafted cotton socks, discovered in archaeological digs, showcase intricate patterns made with a technique called "nalbinding," a precursor to knitting. Nalbinding involves looping yarn with a single needle or finger, differing from the two-needle method used in modern knitting.

While nalbinding was widespread, true knitting—using two needles—likely emerged in the Middle East before spreading to Europe. The earliest European examples come from the 14th century, with knitted gloves and stockings becoming popular items. These pieces often displayed complex colorwork and patterns, indicating that knitting was already an established craft.

The Spread of Knitting Techniques Across Cultures

Knitting traveled along trade routes and through cultural exchange. In medieval Europe, knitting gained prominence, especially in regions like Spain and the British Isles. Spanish knitters were renowned for their intricate designs, influencing knitting traditions in northern Europe.

By the 16th century, knitting guilds formed in cities such as Paris and London, formalizing the craft and standardizing techniques. These guilds played a crucial role in training knitters and maintaining quality, especially as knitted items were essential for warmth and protection.

Knitting Through the Centuries: A Social and Economic

Perspective

Knitting's history is not just about technique—it's also about people and their lives. Across different periods, knitting has reflected social status, gender roles, and economic necessity.

Knitting in Medieval and Renaissance Europe

During the Middle Ages, knitting was largely a domestic craft, often undertaken by women to provide clothing for their families. Knitted stockings, caps, and gloves were everyday essentials. Wealthier classes showcased their status by wearing finely knitted garments with elaborate patterns, sometimes made from expensive wool or silk.

Knitting also became an important economic activity. In some regions, entire communities depended on knitting for income, producing goods for local markets or export. The industrialization era had yet to arrive, so hand knitting remained a vital skill.

Knitting and the Industrial Revolution

The advent of the Industrial Revolution in the 18th and 19th centuries brought dramatic changes. The invention of the knitting machine mechanized the production of knitted fabrics, making items cheaper and more accessible. However, hand knitting did not disappear; instead, it adapted.

In fact, hand knitting experienced a resurgence during this period. Patterns and knitting books became widely available, encouraging more people—especially middle-class women—to pick up the craft. Knitting circles and societies emerged, fostering community and creativity.

The Evolution of Knitting Styles and Techniques

Hand knitting is incredibly diverse, with countless styles and methods that reflect cultural identities and personal expression.

Regional Knitting Traditions

Different regions developed unique knitting styles, often characterized by specific patterns, stitches, and color palettes. For example:

- **Fair Isle Knitting:** Originating in the Shetland Islands of Scotland, this technique uses multiple colors to create intricate geometric patterns.
- **Aran Knitting:** From the Aran Islands off the coast of Ireland, this style is famous for its textured cable stitches and symbolic motifs.

- **Estonian Lace Knitting:** Known for delicate lacework with nupps (raised bobbles), creating intricate floral and geometric designs.

These regional styles not only served practical purposes but also carried cultural significance, often passed down through generations.

Innovations in Yarn and Needle Technology

Hand knitting has evolved alongside advancements in materials. Early knitters worked with locally spun wool, but today's yarns come in a dazzling array of fibers, including cotton, alpaca, silk, and synthetic blends.

Needles, too, have diversified—from traditional wooden or bone needles to lightweight metal and flexible circular needles. These innovations have expanded what knitters can create, from delicate lace shawls to cozy sweaters.

Hand Knitting in Modern Times

In recent decades, hand knitting has enjoyed a renaissance, fueled by social media, DIY culture, and a growing appreciation for handmade goods.

The Craft Revival and Community Building

Knitting today is much more than a practical skill; it's a form of self-expression and mindfulness. Online platforms like Ravelry have created vibrant communities where knitters share patterns, tips, and inspiration. Local knitting groups offer social interaction and support, emphasizing the communal roots of the craft.

Sustainability and Slow Fashion

As awareness of sustainable living grows, hand knitting aligns perfectly with slow fashion ideals. Knitters often prioritize quality, natural fibers, and timeless designs over fast, disposable clothing. This conscious approach helps reduce environmental impact and preserves traditional skills.

Tips for Those Interested in Learning Hand Knitting

If you're inspired by the rich history of hand knitting and want to start your own journey, here are a few tips:

- **Start with Basics:** Learn simple stitches like knit and purl before moving on to complex patterns.
- **Choose Comfortable Materials:** Soft yarn and smooth needles make learning easier and more enjoyable.
- **Use Tutorials:** Videos and online classes can provide helpful visual guidance.
- **Join a Community:** Connecting with other knitters can offer encouragement and valuable advice.

Knitting is a skill that grows with practice, patience, and creativity.

Why Hand Knitting Matters Today

Understanding a history of hand knitting enriches our appreciation for this craft. It's a testament to human ingenuity and the desire to create beauty and warmth by hand. Whether passed down through family traditions or discovered anew, knitting connects us to centuries of makers who found comfort and joy in the rhythmic dance of needles and yarn.

The enduring appeal of hand knitting lies in its blend of functionality and artistry. It invites us to slow down, focus, and craft something tangible in a fast-paced, digital world. Every stitch tells a story—of culture, community, and the timeless human impulse to make.

Frequently Asked Questions

When did hand knitting first originate?

Hand knitting is believed to have originated in the Middle East around the 5th century, with the earliest known knitted artifacts dating back to Egypt in the 11th century.

How did hand knitting spread across different cultures?

Hand knitting spread across cultures primarily through trade routes and migration. European countries adopted and adapted knitting techniques from the Middle East during the Middle Ages, leading to regional styles and patterns.

What materials were traditionally used in early hand knitting?

Early hand knitting used natural fibers such as wool, linen, and cotton. Wool was especially popular in colder climates for its warmth and durability.

How did the invention of knitting needles impact the craft?

The invention of knitting needles made hand knitting more efficient and versatile. Early needles were made from bone, wood, or metal, allowing knitters to create tighter and more intricate stitches.

What role did hand knitting play during wartime?

During wartime, especially in World Wars I and II, hand knitting was encouraged to produce warm clothing and accessories for soldiers. Patterns for socks, scarves, and sweaters were widely distributed to support the war effort.

How has hand knitting evolved with the introduction of machine knitting?

Machine knitting, developed in the 16th century and advanced during the Industrial Revolution, allowed for mass production of knitted goods. However, hand knitting remained popular for its uniqueness and is now often seen as an artisanal craft.

What are some traditional hand knitting techniques passed down through history?

Traditional hand knitting techniques include stranded colorwork, lace knitting, cable knitting, and Fair Isle knitting. These techniques have cultural significance and vary by region.

How did knitting guilds and societies contribute to the history of hand knitting?

Knitting guilds and societies helped preserve and promote knitting traditions, shared patterns, and provided social support for knitters. They played a key role in documenting knitting history and techniques.

What is the significance of knitting patterns in historical hand knitting?

Knitting patterns were essential for passing down techniques and designs through generations. They reflected cultural identity, social status, and sometimes contained symbolic meanings.

How has the perception of hand knitting changed in modern times?

In modern times, hand knitting has experienced a resurgence as a creative and therapeutic hobby. It is valued for sustainability, personalization, and connection to cultural heritage, contrasting with fast fashion trends.

Additional Resources

A History of Hand Knitting: Tracing the Craft Through the Ages

a history of hand knitting reveals a rich and intricate narrative that intertwines craft, culture, and innovation. As one of the oldest textile arts, hand knitting has evolved from a practical necessity to a cherished artistic expression enjoyed worldwide. This exploration uncovers the origins, cultural significance, and technological advancements that have shaped knitting's journey through centuries.

Origins and Early Evidence of Hand Knitting

The precise beginnings of hand knitting remain somewhat elusive due to the delicate nature of yarn and fabric, which rarely survive over long periods. However, archaeological findings suggest that knitting emerged sometime between the 5th and 10th centuries, possibly in the Middle East. Early knitted artifacts, such as socks found in Egypt dating back to the 11th century, exhibit complex techniques like the "navy toe" and "purl stitch," indicating an advanced understanding of the craft at that time.

Knitting likely developed as a practical skill designed to create warm garments in regions with colder climates. Unlike weaving or spinning, knitting produces a fabric with elasticity and resilience, making it ideal for clothing that conforms to the body while providing insulation. This functionality contributed to knitting's spread across Europe and beyond.

The Spread of Knitting Across Europe

By the late Middle Ages, hand knitting had become firmly established in Europe. Historical records from the 14th century mention knitters in Mediterranean countries, and guilds specifically dedicated to knitting emerged in regions like Spain and France during the 15th and 16th centuries. These guilds regulated the quality and methods of production, reflecting knitting's significance as both an economic and social activity.

In the British Isles, knitting took on cultural dimensions, notably with the intricate Aran sweaters originating in Ireland. These sweaters are celebrated for their distinctive cable patterns and symbolism, representing a blend of artistry and local identity. Similarly, Shetland knitting in Scotland is renowned for its delicate lacework, which requires exceptional skill.

Technological Advances and the Industrial Impact

While hand knitting remained a domestic craft for centuries, the Industrial Revolution introduced mechanization that transformed textile production. The invention of the stocking frame knitting machine by William Lee in 1589 marked a pivotal moment. Although the machine initially produced only flat pieces, it significantly increased output and laid the groundwork for modern machine knitting.

Despite mechanization's rise, hand knitting persisted, especially in rural communities and among

artisans. The tactile, customizable nature of hand knitting contrasted with mass-produced textiles, offering unique value. In the 19th and 20th centuries, hand knitting experienced revivals fueled by both necessity—such as during wartime rationing—and fashion trends favoring handmade items.

Hand Knitting in the Modern Era

Today, hand knitting occupies a multifaceted role. It is simultaneously a hobby, an art form, and a means of cultural preservation. The global knitting community has expanded dramatically, supported by online platforms that facilitate the sharing of patterns, techniques, and inspiration. Contemporary knitters experiment with diverse fibers, colors, and designs, pushing the boundaries of the craft.

The resurgence of interest in sustainable and slow fashion has also elevated hand knitting's profile. Unlike fast fashion, hand knitting encourages mindful production and consumption, often emphasizing natural yarns and local materials. This ethical dimension aligns knitting with broader movements toward environmental responsibility.

Technical Features and Cultural Significance

The technical aspects of hand knitting are as diverse as its history. From basic knit and purl stitches to complex cables, lace, and colorwork, knitting encompasses a wide range of techniques requiring varying levels of expertise. The adaptability of knitting allows for garments, accessories, and even art pieces that can be tailored to individual preferences and needs.

Culturally, knitting has served as a social connector and a medium for storytelling. In many communities, knitting circles provide spaces for social interaction, skill transmission, and emotional support. Traditional patterns often carry symbolic meanings, linking knitters to their heritage and identity.

- **Economic Impact:** Historically, knitting contributed to local economies through guilds and cottage industries.
- **Gender Roles:** Once predominantly associated with women, knitting today is embraced by a diverse demographic.
- **Therapeutic Benefits:** Hand knitting is recognized for its calming effects and mental health benefits.

Challenges and Considerations

While hand knitting offers numerous advantages, it is not without challenges. The time-intensive nature of the craft can be a barrier in fast-paced societies. Additionally, sourcing high-quality yarns

can be costly, and achieving mastery requires patience and practice. Nevertheless, these challenges often enhance the value and satisfaction derived from completed projects.

In comparison to machine knitting, hand knitting allows for greater creative control but lacks the efficiency and uniformity machines provide. This trade-off underscores the distinct roles that hand and machine knitting play in today's textile landscape.

The ongoing evolution of hand knitting illustrates a dynamic balance between tradition and innovation. As knitters continue to explore new techniques and materials, the craft remains a vibrant and meaningful pursuit, deeply rooted in history yet ever-adapting to contemporary contexts.

[A History Of Hand Knitting](#)

a history of hand knitting: A History of Hand Knitting Richard Rutt, 1987 This reference provides a full history of hand knitting by tracing the development and refinement of the craft. With special attention to the social aspects of knitting, it examines the changes in tools and techniques within different regions. Examined in detail are the history of European knitting before 1500, knitting in Britain from Henry VIII to the Commonwealth, from the Restoration to 1835, during the 19th century, and during World War I and after. Further explorations consider local traditions in the British Isles, knitting as practiced east of the Adriatic, and developments in the Americas. Absorbing reading for knitters and nonknitters alike, this book also defines knitting in relation to other yarn crafts such as crochet and nalbinding and offers a historical glossary and a transcription of the earliest known English knitting pattern.

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a history of hand knitting: *History of Knitting Before Mass Production* Irena Turnau, 1991

a history of hand knitting: *Knitting America* Susan M. Strawn, Melanie Falick, The patterns and fabrics of American knitting are an intricate, and intimate, part of the nation's history, reflecting the styles and the interests, the concerns and the comforts that touched every homebody, every newborn and newlywed, every homesick patriot in the field. This is the history that Knitting America celebrates. The first fully detailed, full-color, comprehensive history of knitting in America from colonial times to the present, the book conveys the social and historical realities that the craft embodied as well as the emotional narrative that unfolded at the hands of the nation's knitters. With vintage patterns and designs typical of each era, Knitting America comprises a knitted history of American society. Here are the trends and the shortages, the historical happenings and the social movements, the advertising and economic developments that affected knitting and style. Also included are 20 historic knitting patterns for today's knitters. Beautifully illustrated with vintage pattern booklets, posters, postcards, black-and-white historical photographs, and contemporary color photographs of knitted pieces in private collections and in museums, this book is a treasure of history and craft, an exquisite view of America through the handiwork of its knitters.

a history of hand knitting: "Knitting by the Fireside and on the Hillside" Linda G. Fryer, 1995

a history of hand knitting: *The History of Knitting Pin Gauges* Sheila Williams, 2006 'The History of Knitting Pin Gauges' is a comprehensive study of the most collectable of knitting tools - the gauge. Succinct wording, careful attention to detail and a myriad of photographs ensure a

commendably concise yet absorbing history of an attractive and useful little knitting tool.

a history of hand knitting: Knitting Through the Ages: A History of American Handcraft

Pasquale De Marco, 2025-05-22 Journey through the captivating history of knitting in America, unveiling its profound impact on individuals and communities across time. This comprehensive guide explores the cultural, social, and personal dimensions of knitting, delving into its role as a necessity, a pastime, a symbol of resilience, and a source of connection. From the colonial era, when knitting was a vital skill for survival, to the Victorian age, when it became a cherished symbol of feminine virtue, knitting has played a significant role in shaping American history. During wartime, it provided comfort and warmth to soldiers, while on the home front, it served as a source of unity and purpose. In the modern era, knitting has undergone a renaissance, embracing new technologies and artistic expressions while preserving its traditional roots. Today, knitters gather in vibrant communities, sharing their passion for the craft and creating a tapestry of diverse and innovative designs. This book celebrates the enduring legacy of knitting in America, showcasing its enduring appeal and timeless relevance. It explores the therapeutic benefits of knitting, its role in promoting mindfulness and well-being, and its ability to connect people across generations and backgrounds. Through captivating narratives and insightful analysis, this book unravels the fascinating tale of knitting in America—a story of creativity, resilience, and the enduring power of human connection. Whether you are a seasoned knitter, a curious beginner, or simply someone who appreciates the beauty and artistry of handmade creations, this book offers a captivating exploration of the world of knitting. Embark on a journey through the ages, discovering the rich history and cultural significance of knitting in America. This book is an invitation to appreciate the timeless beauty and enduring relevance of this cherished craft. If you like this book, write a review on google books!

a history of hand knitting: Knit Couture Gail Downey, Henry Conway, 2007-12-26 A collection of twenty unique hand-knit designs from Weardowney features detailed patterns, full-color photographs, and step-by-step instructions for an array of one-of-a-kind cardigans, skirts, tunic dresses, sweaters, and tops.

a history of hand knitting: Knitting America Susan M. Strawn, 2011-05-13 Enhanced with more than three hundred images, a comprehensive history of knitting in America includes twenty historical knitting patterns.

a history of hand knitting: The Knitting Answer Book Margaret Radcliffe, 2005-01-01 Discusses subjects ranging from needle sizes and yarn weights to curling edges, chart reading, tight ribbing, and dropped stitches, in a question-and-answer format.

a history of hand knitting: Classic Knits of the 1980s Sandy Black, 2021-01-25 Written by a pioneer of modern fashion knitwear, *Classic Knits of the 1980s* describes the principal fundamentals of knitwear design and features original, colourful, textural and fun knitting patterns that capture the fashion zeitgeist of the 1980s designer knitwear boom. As well as selling ready-made knitwear to stores, several designers made their patterns available as home knitting kits. *Classic Knits of the 1980s* features a range of innovative designs from Sandy Black knitting kits, many published here for the first time. The patterns are suitable for a broad range of knitting skills, from those with good basic knowledge of knitting to the more experienced knitter. Made up of two parts: Part 1 establishes the fashion and knitwear context of the period and its influence on the development of the designs, examining the entire creative process from inspiration to final pattern. Lavishly illustrated with photographs, diagrams and charts, special features include patchwork (modular) designs and intarsia or colour-block knitting, with techniques and tips for pattern calculations, working from charts and handling several colours. Part 2 then offers twenty-one original patterns and designs, grouped into themes of textural, graphic, heraldic and ornamental, plus the unique Siamese cat, leopard and tiger accessories. Contemporary photography, together with original images from the 1980s, illustrates the designs' timeless appeal, with close-up images of intricate pattern details and suggested design variations to aid creative knitters inspired by this pivotal decade.

a history of hand knitting: Knitter's Life List Gwen W. Steege, 2025-05-01 Knit a traditional

gansey sweater with indigo yarn. Tour a spinning mill. Discover five ways to cast on for socks. Meet your personal knitting hero. The Knitter's Life List is a richly illustrated compilation of 1,001 experiences and adventures that devout knitters won't want to miss. You'll find classic techniques to master, time-honored patterns to try, unusual yarns to work with, museums to see, books to read, and much more. Get inspired and live the knitting life of your dreams!

a history of hand knitting: *Translating Between Hand and Machine Knitting* Vikki Haffenden, 2018-08-17 Knitting is an enduringly popular and creative craft, but many associate the techniques primarily with hand knitting, believing machine knitting to require arcane knowledge. However, machine knitting is formed from the same stitch structures and is equally versatile. *Translating between Hand and Machine Knitting* rediscovers the potential of domestic machine knitting to open up new possibilities for dedicated knitters, offering an equally creative yet timesaving method of crafting new designs. With over 500 images, this comprehensive guide offers detailed step-by-step explanations of techniques in both hand and machine knitting, whilst also offering inspiration and design advice. Dr Vikki Haffenden, a highly experienced knit designer, technical knitter and educator, shares the knowledge and understanding she has accumulated over a career designing for the knitted textile and knitwear industry and as a lecturer in knitted textile design. Topics covered include: Illustrated step-by-step instructions of hand and machine knitting techniques; Qualities and behaviours of fibres and yarns and their suitability for knitting; Equipment requirements and advice; Basic stitches and stitch constructions of hand and machine knitting; Combining stitches to make surface texture and colour patterns; Shaping and knitting 3D shapes; Calculating garment shape and size from tension swatches. Superbly illustrated with 397 colour photographs and 130 line artworks.

a history of hand knitting: *"Women and the Material Culture of Needlework and Textiles, 1750-1950"* Maureen Daly Goggin, 2017-07-05 Rejecting traditional notions of what constitutes art, this book brings together essays on a variety of fiber arts to recoup women's artistic practices by redefining what counts as art. Although scholars over the last twenty years have turned their attention to fiber arts, redefining the conditions, practices, and products as art, there is still much work to be done to deconstruct the stubborn patriarchal art/craft binary. With essays on a range of fiber art practices, including embroidery, knitting, crocheting, machine stitching, rug making, weaving, and quilting, this collection contributes to the ongoing scholarly redefinition of women's relationship to creative activity. Focusing on women as producers of cultural products and creators of social value, the contributors treat women as active subjects and problematize their material practices and artifacts in the complex world of textiles. Each essay also examines the ways in which needlework both performs gender and, in turn, constructs gender. Moreover, in concentrating on and theorizing material practices of textiles, these essays reorient the study of fiber arts towards a focus on process—the making of the object, including the conditions under which it was made, by whom, and for what purpose—as a way to rethink the fiber arts as social praxis.

a history of hand knitting: Knitting Technology D J Spencer, 2001-04-27 The third edition of *Knitting Technology*, widely recognised as the definitive text on the subject, has been thoroughly revised and updated to include all the latest developments. Beginning with the fundamental principles and moving on to more advanced aspects, it combines in a single comprehensive volume the basics of warp and weft knitting, fabric structures and products, the different types of machines, principles of production and terminology to provide an invaluable reference for textiles students, textile engineers and technicians involved in knitted garment design and manufacture. Fundamental rules and principles are emphasised throughout. Aspects covered include flat, circular, full fashioned, hosiery, raschel, tricot and crochet production. Development of the various types of knitting machines, their actions and mechanisms as well as the construction, properties and end uses of the products which they manufacture are also included. The book is indexed and referenced in detail and includes numerous labelled diagrams and photographs. Terminology is defined either according to The Textile Institute's terms and definitions or current usage in the industry and is supplemented where necessary by American or continental terminology. Although SI units and the tex yarn count system are explained and used in the text, other systems have also been employed

wherever it has been considered that their usage is still important. A number of worked calculations are included to clarify the examples given. Knitting technology is the ideal textbook for a range of textile courses from technician to degree level and The Textile Institute's examinations as well as being an essential companion to all those involved in the knitting industry. - An essential reference for all textiles student textile engineers and technicians involved in knitted garment design and manufacture

a history of hand knitting: A History of the Machine-wrought Hosiery and Lace Manufactures William Felkin, 1867

a history of hand knitting: A History of the Belknap Mill Carol Lee Anderson, 2014-06-24
Laconia's Belknap Mill thrived in the boom of the Industrial Revolution. The historic mill swiftly rose to the forefront of the city's hosiery industry in the nineteenth century. Lakes Region historian Carol Lee Anderson reveals the mill's unique history, including its inventive, entrepreneurial owners, their climb to industrial success and the challenges they overcame. This fascinating story encompasses the saga of countless French-Canadian immigrants whose arrival in the Lakes Region influenced the course of industry and daily life in the city of Laconia. The mill's story continues, and the preservation of this historic textile mill includes a fierce struggle of historic values versus urban renewal. Learn how this early symbol of the Industrial Revolution fought to become the pride of Laconia's industrial heritage.

a history of hand knitting: The Gansey Knitting Sourcebook Di Gilpin, Sheila Greenwell, 2024-12-11
Ganseys are hardwearing sweaters traditionally knitted for fishermen in and around the British Isles. Today, the styling and history of ganseys is as popular as ever and this collection of stitch patterns and projects brings the history of ganseys to a new audience. Learn all about the techniques used for knitting ganseys with this comprehensive sourcebook from experts in the subject, Di Gilpin and Sheila Greenwell. Di and Sheila are knitwear designers and makers based in Scotland where they teach regular workshops on traditional gansey techniques. Discover all the techniques you need to make an authentic gansey sweater with their special features which were developed for warmth and comfort in what were often, harsh conditions out at sea. Ganseys were designed with a special under arm gusset and a shoulder seam which prevented chaffing and improved movement for the wearer even when the jumper got wet and heavy. The authors explain these techniques with step-by-step instructions and artworks so you can replicate these details in your own work. Another key element to the gansey is the stitch pattern which was specific to the local area and often had a symbolism beyond the pattern itself and, some hoped, would act as a charm to keep the fishermen safe while they were out at sea. This collection features a comprehensive directory of 150 gansey stitch patterns so you can choose your favourite designs and motifs and learn which patterns were important to the fishermen in different areas. There are also 10 patterns for garments and accessories so you can practise your skills. The projects include a child's traditional gansey sweater so you can try out your skills on a traditional sweater but on a small scale. There are also some contemporary takes on the traditional gansey using lighter weight yarn and design details: these include a beautiful sweater with a gansey yoke; a contemporary take on the fisherman's kepi; a gansey stitch cowl; a pair of mittens and socks; and light linen tank top. The smaller projects such as the mittens and hats are great for practising your skills before you attempt one of the larger projects.

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