

Following a Pattern

☼ Understanding Sizes in Directions - if the sizes are, for example: 32(34,36,38), and the directions say to cast on 90(95,100,105), the directions follow the same order as the sizes. For size 36, you cast on 100 stitches. It helps to highlight the size you are making.

☼ End on Wrong Side - means that the last row you did was the wrong side (usually purl.)

☼ For Bottom Heavy Women - do a very small ribbing, garter stitch (all knit) or seed stitch at the bottom of the sweater in the larger size needles or...

☼ To Create a Hem - stockinette stitch for 1", k 1 row on the purl side, continue in stockinette. The ridge becomes the fold line and you can hem it up when you finish the sweater.

☼ When the directions say to “work even” after finishing shaping, it means to just keep following pattern stitches without increasing or decreasing. Make sure you keep track of the amount of rows you do so both sides of whatever you’re working on are even.

☼ Lower Edge Worked in Garter Stitch (k every row) - since the 1st row of casting on is actually a knit row, the 1st ridge of knitting should be on the right side.

☼ To Keep Your Place While Reading A Pattern - use a post it note and move it from line to line and an extra large marker or curtain ring within a complicated pattern.

☼ Write pattern Repeats on 3"x5" Index Cards; one line per card...

K2

P3

K2tog

Number the cards and write the right side rows in 1 color and the wrong side ones in another. Punch a hole in the cards and tie them together with yarn and a sample swatch of the pattern.

☼ Reading Patterns - read one section at a time and in order. For instance; if directions say (K1,p1,k3) 2X, it means that everything in the parentheses should be done twice. An “*” means you repeat everything from the “*” to the next “*” and then follow the rest of the directions.

☼ When Increasing And Decreasing In A Pattern - chart out the directions 1st. For example; if a pattern says: Increase 1 st each end every 3rd row 5x, then every 4 rows 2x write:

1	1	1	1	1	1	1
2	2	2	2	2	2	2
3	3	3	3	3	3	3
			4	4		

Each number represents a row. Circle every row as you begin it or end it, as long as you are consistent. At the end of each column, you automatically know that you do your increase or decrease. When do the next sleeve or side, fill in the circles.