# **Turn a T-Shirt Into a Trivet** with CBTV Live

**Chapter 1 - Chapter 1**
Trivet
- Hi there, it's Faith from Creativebug, and I am so excited to show you today the ultimate upcycling craft technique, making yarn out of old T-shirts. All you'll need is an old T-shirt and something to cut it with. For maximum efficiency, I like a rotary cutter. For that, you will also need a cutting mat and a quilting ruler. Maybe first I should tell you why make yarn out of T-shirts. It is a fantastic material to use if you're making rugs, if you're making bath mats, it's good for trivets, it makes a really firm material, and it's washable. Also, if you are the kind of person like I am the kind of person who has tried the Marie Kondo 'get rid of everything that doesn't bring you joy in your house,' but then you see this big pile of T-shirts and you really love them and you don't wanna get rid of them, you can use that to make a rag rug or a bunch of different crafts. So, I have this very large T-shirt that I'm gonna lay out, and we will be cutting it in inch strips. Just like how regular yarn has a gauge to it, once you decide on your knitting project, that'll indicate the size that you should be cutting from your T-shirt. A good start is an inch, and that will go along with a size 15 needle. You can go much larger and have wider strips, you can go smaller and have thinner strips, but an inch is a good start. So, I'm lining up my ruler on my cutting mat, and we'll slice off the bottom. Now, we're going to make cuts, but we're gonna stop two inches from the top. And this is going to give us a long spiral. So, we have an inch. Stop two inches from the top. And if you were doing this for a project, you would probably go all the way to the armpits. I'm gonna stop a little short so that I can talk more. - [Producer] And remember we're live. - And remember we're live, as we are every Tuesday and Thursday at 4:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time. So, I'm gonna make my last cut, and I'm just gonna go right off the edge. Now, I should confess that I was using T-shirts to make rag rugs for a long time before I found out this exact technique, and I was using little lengths and connecting them together, but this way, you get such a larger length, and it's ingenious. So, we have here our strips, and it's connected here. We open it up, and this is where you will need your scissors and not your rotary cutter. We're gonna be cutting from here to here, so if this was Ikea directions, we would say cut from A to two, 'cause it's the same amount of sense. But, we're gonna cut from the bottom. Not straight across, that would make a loop, but to right here. Oops. Now, we're gonna do the same thing. Oh, sorry. And also at the very bottom, it'll be a loop attached to that, so you just snip that at an angle here. So, this gives us a long squiggle of yarn. And it looks like we're cutting straight across, making a loop, but we're actually cutting slightly up on a diagonal. So, you have this long, unbroken span of yarn without having to reattach it, and I have some of those H&M, they're called dresses, but they're just gigantic T-shirts, and this would be perfect for that. I have outworn it for this summer, and this could get me a couple yards without having to attach it. Now, if you are going to attach it and you're using small strips, I have these prepared strips. You'll want to fold them in half, snip out a little bit of material. Keep track of these teardrop shapes 'cause they are very springy, and they go into your coffee cup. I drank three of them today. I didn't need that. You're gonna cut a whole lot of the other end. This loops through, and then this end goes through. Now, I know I mentioned a couple of crafts that I use T-shirt yarn for, but we have two specific classes on our site Creativebug.com that use this technique, and they also give you a bit of information on how to different techniques or how to make yarn using woven fabrics as opposed to stretchy jersey fabrics. That's Alabama Chanin's knotted necklace class, and I made some samples. Here, is really

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lovely chunky necklaces. I would've worn one today, but I'm wearing a cowl neck, and that just wouldn't go. And also, Cal Patch has a crocheted rag rug class, which is fantastic. I'm planning to use it very soon for a bedside runner. What I'm going to show you today is this little trivet. I thought it was very boho chic anthropology style, but you can use this same exact technique to make a bath mat, to make a coaster. You're just gonna wanna vary your gauge accordingly. So, here we have that lump of yarn we made earlier, and I'm gonna roll it up into a ball. Also, if you are using this long technique, you will still have to attach the ends. You can tie them together or do what I did here with these orange strands. So, I'm casting on three stitches,. And if you're a knitter, if you are already a knitter, not yet a knitter, cast on as you will. If you're not yet a knitter, we have so many classes on our site, and if you haven't tried our site yet, now is the perfect time to do so. You can sign up with the promo code Facebook30, and that will give you a free 30-day trial, which is a fantastic bargain. You can learn how to knit, paint, crochet, sew, do so many wonderful things. Of course, I am partial to the knitting. So, if you already know how to knit, you can still sign up, but you'll know what I'm doing here. Casting on three, and in the first stitch, I'm going to increase by knitting in the front of the stitch, and instead of slipping it off the needle, knitting into the back of the stitch, and then I'm knitting these next two stitches. So, I have increased by one stitch. I'm going to repeat that on every single row until the diagonal is as wide as I want it to be. So, once again, knit into the front of the stitch, knit into the back of the stitch, and knit across. I'm gonna do that for a couple more rows, but in the mean time while I keep stitching, we are live. If you have any questions, please let me know. Also, have you used yarn made out of T-shirts? And if so, what have you made with it? I have recycled yarn in other ways by unraveling sweaters, which my grandmother thinks is very tragic, but I think it's super thrifty. And sometimes, you can find very nice yarn, but this way is, it's really easy to get obsessed with it. And then you just look for shirts that you don't love, you just like a lot, or maybe the person you lives with like a lot, but it'll be perfect for that stripe in your bath mat, and it has to go. So, one more row, increasing in the first and last stitch. So, we're making the tiniest trivet. Doesn't that sound like a children's book about something that could? Like, protected the table. Okay (laughs), so we have the tiniest trivet, and now it's as wide as we want it to be, and we are going to decrease. For this one, I think I did about 22 stitches, but if you're making a bath mat or a general rug, go up to a million. So, now, we're going to knit two together, or no, excuse me, slip slip knit, I prefer that one. Slip one, slip one, knit the two together, and knit across. And then, we will continue this for every row until we finish. Also, you're welcome to comment if you find it blasphemous that I preferred ssk, instead of k2tog. We all have our opinions about this. I have a couple more rows here. I'm gonna keep going until I get to three stitches. Oh, also, if you're enjoying my irreverent roommate-destroying take on how to knit things, I have a class on Creativebug about knitting a super scarf. Check it out, it uses big bulky yarn with big chunky needles, and it knits up super fast. And, I can't tell you which members of my family are getting these for Christmas because they're watching now, but it's all of them. Okay, so we have three stitches left (laughs). Thank you for your patience. And we're going to knit two together. We're gonna knit one, and we're gonna pass that first one over the second. It's The Little Trivet That Could (laughs). The final step would be to get a thick-eyed yarn needle and weave in the ends. Your next step is to find a really small pot to put this on (laughs) to put it to use. Thank you so much for joining us today. We'll see you next Tuesday or Thursday 4:00 p.m. Pacific Standard Time. Thank you so much for joining us.

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