
Finger Knitting with Faith Hale

Chapter 1 - Finger knitting

Overview

- Finger knitting is so fun and it's really simple once you've mastered the basics. In this class, we're going to use two fingers, and we're going to use four fingers for two different techniques. We're going to make a necklace and a bracelet, but really you can use this to make so many different things. I'm Faith Hale. I'm a crafter and a knitter. I love knitting in all of its forms, but I especially love finger knitting because you don't need any needles. This is a great entry level craft for kids and kids of all ages.

Materials

- You can finger knit with really any yarn, but I think you'll have the best results. If you use something thicker and chunkier, we'll be working with this bulky weight yarn. Anything listed as bulky or super bulky will be great. You'll also need some scissors and a yarn needle. Make sure it has an eye big enough that you can thread your yarn through.

Two-stitch finger knitting

- We'll begin knitting with two fingers. This will give us a really nice boxy structure that can be coiled to make into a lot of projects. We'll be making a necklace. Begin by giving yourself about a two foot tail. I always find it better to have more tail than I need than less. And we'll pinch it between our thumb and our forefinger on the front. So it'll go across our palm and we'll clamp it down there. Go behind our index finger, over our middle, behind our middle, over our index, and repeat that until we have two pieces of yarn on each finger. It's okay that this is not looped around. And then starting with your pointer finger, we'll lift the bottom stitch up and over, and this bottom stitch up and over. And then we'll pull down on our yarn, reclamp it, and repeat the process. Over under, over under. Pull it over, pull it over, pull down. And this is the whole process, so we'll keep repeating this for this little necklace. I'm gonna do about six inches. Don't pull too tight. You see our stitches are starting to form and eventually, once this is long enough, you can just let it dangle. But I like to keep it taut for the first few inches. If you accidentally drop a stitch from one finger, that's totally fine. Gently remove it from the other finger and pull out the yarn until it's coming out from the right side. Right. So we have our left loop, we have our right loop, and we'll slip our fingers back on. So this part will be a little bit more open and flat. This part will be a little bit more tight. So we see we have our yarn coming out of the right side. And when we wrap it over and under, that should get us right back to where we were. When you have the length you want, we'll be ready to bind off. So we'll have the working yarn on the right finger. Flip the active stitch, the working yarn right the middle finger onto the index finger. Pick the bottom up over the top. And this you should be able to pull through. So before you snug it up, make sure you pull through for as long as you want. I'm gonna do about two feet. And I'll cut. Let me pull tight. That should make a knot. Our cast on edge, we will also pull tight to make it symmetrical, isn't it nice? And it tapers a little bit because we've pulled it tight. And then to make this into a necklace, measure it on your neck for the length you want. I'm gonna make mine long and dangly, and we'll just do an overhand knot. That looks cute to me, pull it tight. And I like to leave them nice and long. You want them to be at least an inch so that it doesn't unravel, but you can cut them as long as you'd like. And there you have a two finger knit

necklace. Because this takes such a little time investment, it's really fun to play around with all different sorts of yarns and ropes. You can also add two little beads on either side for an embellishment.

Four-stitch finger knitting

- Four finger knitting is really similar to two finger knitting. You're just adding two more fingers, of course, and it does create a chunkier cord. Again, we're going to give ourselves a longish tail and lay it across our palm, clamping it between our thumb and our forefinger. Go behind, in front, behind, in front, behind, in front. Behind, in front. We're going to repeat that process behind and front until we have two stitches on each finger. I like to start with my index finger. You might wanna start with your pinky. Whatever feels the most comfortable, just do it the same way every time. We are lifting it over. This first row is definitely the hardest, but once we've gotten it finished, pull down on our tail a little bit. Now we want to repeat over, under, over, under. Making it a little bit looser is probably easier than making it too tightly. You'll come to find a gauge that works best for you, but you don't wanna cut off circulation in your fingertips, so error on the side of it being too loose. Make sure you pull down at the end of each row and continue exactly in this way until it's as long as you'd like. We're going to be making a bracelet, so I'm going to be knitting until it's the circumference of my wrist or just a bit under, 'cause this yarn is so stretchy. Test to make sure that it fits. This works well for me. It is a really stretchy yarn, so if you're using something that is less stretchy like cotton cording, make sure that you're not going to have to stretch it to get your hand through it. We have our four live stitches, and I'm going to give myself a tail of about a foot. I'm cutting it. We're gonna thread it onto our needle, and the best way I have found to do this is to fold it over our needle, pull it really taut and press it through. We're just going to bring our needle through each stitch one at a time and pull it taut. We're going to join these two ends together, and because I already have this end in the needle, I'm just going to hide this end. It's always very tempting to make a knot and cut it short to the knot. Instead of doing that, I want to push my needle into the center of my piece. We're not going through any of the yarn, we're just burying it in the middle. Maybe I'll go through three stitches. Pull it through and cut it close to the surface of the stitches, making sure that there's at least an inch, an inch and a half buried inside. So we've woven in that end. And now we're going to use our cast on yarn tail. It'll probably be easier to cut it a bit shorter, maybe eight inches. Loop it around your needle, push it through, and if you're using something like cording, of course you're going to need a bigger needle. Now we can, again, just tie our ends together, but it's a little bit tidier if we sew it in. So I'm going to find a loop and go through both legs of the loop and pull. Do you see where it came out here? We're going to go back through here, find the next loop over. You see, it's like a knitting stitch go through. This is not an invisible seam, but it's a little less clunky than a knot, and we're gonna do this two more times. It's easiest if you roll your tube to the outside versus trying to stitch in the inside. At this point in time, you don't really have to tie a knot. The weaving in takes care of it, so be sure that you have stitched through four stitches on each side, and then sink your yarn into your bracelet. Because you're essentially just making a cord. You can make so many different projects with your finger knitting, anything that requires coiling like a rug or a trivet. I love these two projects because they're really fast and nearly instant gratification.