

# Tips & Techniques!

## Tips & Techniques #6

### LK-150 Tips & Techniques

#### Fast Fairisle

Amy Niles of "Yarns and Bonds" in Brooklyn, NY shared this fast and easy method for knitting Fairisle on the LK-150.

Set Russel Levers and Side Levers as shown:

To Knit Row #1 (and all odd numbered rows on your chart):



- 1) Carriage is on the right (COR), threaded with Main Color (MC).
- 2) According to your pattern chart, bring all Contrast Color (CC) needles in Row #1 to D position.
- 3) Knit one row right to left. The MC needles in B position will knit; the CC needles remain in D position.
- 4) Carriage is on the left (COL). Rethread with CC and knit one row to the right. The needles in B position will slip. The needles in D position will knit, dropping the MC loops as normal floats.

These two passes of the carriage complete row #1. To Knit Row #2 (and all even numbered rows of your chart): The carriage is still threaded with the CC, which will knit first.

- 1) COR, threaded with CC.
- 2) Bring all MC needles for Row #2 to D position.
- 3) Knit one row from right to left.
- 4) COL. Rethread with MC and knit one row to the right.

#### KR Charting

Hand knitting patterns can be knitted on the

machine, but it can be tricky to do when there is no schematic diagram to follow and your gauge doesn't match this pattern. Donna Launt of Yarns Crafters in Ft. Washington, Maryland passed on this information for using the KR-7:

- 1) Handknitting stitch and row gauges are often given for 10cm (4") swatches: The KR scales and dial always indicate the number of stitches/rows in 10cm. Select a stitch scale and set the row dial for the gauge the hand pattern calls for. You will also have to convert the hand knitting pattern's length measurements to row counts. Simply divide all length measurements by the gauge.
- 2) Insert a blank KR paper into the unit. Align the bottom of the sheet with the stitch scale. The handknit pattern will tell you how many stitches to cast on: Make corresponding dots on the contour paper. Manually advance the paper, making dots whenever increases or decreases are called for. This will plot out the shape in a series of dots. Simply connect the dots to complete the schematic.
- 3) Now that you have the schematic to work with, you can treat it like any other contour drawing and select the stitch scale and row setting for your own gauge.

#### Two Color Tuck Stitch

Two color tuck stitches are easy to knit and provide great color effects without floats. Try this pattern with a textured yarn for the MC (the one that outlines the bubble shaped cells) and a variety of colors for the CC.

- 1) Begin COR with MC. Side Levers. Knit 2 rows.
- 2) Change to CC. Russel Levers I. Use 3x1 needle pusher to push every 4th needle pusher to D position. Knit 4 rows.
- 3) Change to MC. Left Russel Lever II. Knit 2 rows.
- 4) Change to CC. Left Russel Lever I. Use 3x1 needle pusher to select every alternate 4th needle to D position. Knit 4 rows.
- 5) Change to MC. Left Russel Lever II. Knit 2 rows.