



## ***NIFTY NECKLINES***

The neckline of a knit garment can be the focal point of your creation and the first thing that people notice. They don't need to be difficult, just well done. A fabulous neckline means a fabulous garment!

### Design Decisions!

- Shape
  - Round
  - Vee
  - Squared
  - High
  - Low
  - Narrow
  - Wide
  - Combo
- Knitting
  - Traditional (BO, short row, decrease, hold)
  - Marked and cut
- Trim
  - Easy Peasy
  - Roll
  - Double Rib
  - Single Rib
  - SS Band (plain or fairisle)
  - Commercial Neckline (encased)
  - Cowl
  - Combo



## BASIC CUT & SEW DOUBLE NECKBANDS

1. Knit front & back, marking neck decreases with yarn tacks. Remove shoulders on scrap yarn. Bind off neckline. Seam one shoulder.
2. If you have a serger, use the markers as a guide and trim away the neckline keeping the markers outside of the serged edge. In other words, **DO NOT TRIM AWAY THE MARKERS.**
3. If you don't have a serger, with sewing machine, inside to the markers with light presser foot pressure to keep from stretching. Zig-zag inside this stitching line and trim close to the zig-zag stitching. Be careful not to stretch neck opening.
4. Hold neck edge up to the knitting machine, without stretching, to see how many stitches you need for the neckband. This should be approx. the same number sts. as the cast-on for the front PLUS 8 sts.
5. RIB: Cast on and knit 24-30 rows of ribbing for crewneck [50-60 rows of ribbing for mock turtle neck] and take off machine on scrap/garter bar.

Stockinet: EON cast on MT-1. Knit  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the band length, gradually decreasing the stitch size to MT-3. K 1R MT+1 (turning row). K second  $\frac{1}{2}$  of band length, gradually increasing stitch size in reverse. Take off machine on scrap/garter bar.

*DESIGN OPTION: K second  $\frac{1}{2}$  of band length in fairisle pattern and/or, instead of taking off on scrap/garter bar, K 8R in contrast yarn and BO loosely. This will form a rolled edge.*

6. With the right side of garment facing you, hang neck opening on the same needles picking up just below the stitched line.
7. Bring all needles into hold position. Push neck behind latches against machine bed.

*DESIGN OPTION: E-wrap or crochet cast-on loosely with either the same or contrasting color yarn before rehang the neckband.*

8. Rehang neckband from scrap/garter bar, being careful to keep stitches in front of the latches. Close all latches. With garter bar or ruler, gently push needles back through the neckline. (It helps to keep some weight on the ribbing.)
9. Hang hem from the neckband cast on edge on the same needles. You only need to hang a stitch on every other needle. Latch tool bind off loosely.



## BASIC CUT & SEW SINGLE NECKBANDS

1. Knit front & back, marking neck decreases with yarn tacks. Remove shoulders on scrap yarn. Bind off neckline. Seam one shoulder.
2. If you have a serger, use the markers as a guide and trim away the neckline keeping the markers outside of the serged edge. In other words, **DO NOT TRIM AWAY THE MARKERS**.
3. If you don't have a serger, with sewing machine, inside to the markers with light presser foot pressure to keep from stretching. Zig-zag inside this stitching line and trim close to the zig-zag stitching. Be careful not to stretch neck opening.
4. Hold neck edge up to the knitting machine, without stretching, to see how many stitches you need for the neckband. This should be approx. the same number sts. as the cast-on for the front PLUS 8 sts.
5. With scrap yarn, cast-on the number of stitches determined for band. Knit 1 row with ravel cord. With main yarn, knit 6 rows MT-1 for stockinet or MT-2 for tuck knitting. Remove these stitches on scrap yarn/garter bar.
6. Cast-on the same number of stitches and knit desired length of ribbing.
7. Hang stitches on scrap/garter bar onto the same needles and knit 6 rows at 2 tensions less than M.T.
8. Take off on scrap/garter bar.
9. With the right side of garment facing you, hang neck edge on the same needles, picking up just below the stitching line.
10. Bring all needles into hold position. Push neck behind latches against machine bed.
11. Hang stitches from scrap/garter bar on the same needles keeping stitches in the latches.
12. Close latches and using a ruler or garter bar, gently push needles all the way back through neckline.
13. Pick up stitches from scrap and hang on same needles which will encase the cut & sew edge.
14. Put all needles into hold and bind off around gate pegs.

## NEW COMMERCIAL NECKLINE

1. Determine the number of stitches used for the NECKLINE by holding the edge to the needle bed stretched, then relax slightly.
2. CO the desired # of stitches with WY, knit a few rows ending with COL. K 1 row with ravel cord.
3. With garment yarn, K  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the band rows. This is the front of the band. DESIGN NOTE: This is where you can make your neckband more dynamic by using fairisle, stripes or a contrast color.
4. Remove with garter bar or waste yarn.
5. With RS facing, hang garment edge. Push behind latches and toward the machine.
6. Rehang band stitches in the **needle hooks**.
7. Close all latches and pull back needles, pulling the band stitches through the hung garment.
8. Knit the second half of the band.
9. Rehang the original band stitches (next to the ravel cord) onto the needles and BO with your latch tool or transfer stitches to ribber for rib. You can also knit another 8-10 rows for a rolled edge.

## ***Neckline Sample Guidelines***

These instructions are meant to be guidelines for your samples. Feel free to use neckline instructions from any pattern you may have that are appropriate for your machine.

### ***Standard Machines***

1. CO 84 sts (42-42)
2. Knit to row 30. End COR.
3. RC 30: Put all sts to the left of -0- and 11 sts to the right of -0- in HP.
4. RC 30: 1s-1r-5x
5. RC 35: 1s-2r-5x
6. K to RC 68.
7. Reverse shaping for left side.
8. BO shoulders. PU sts on straight rows of neckline. Knit 1r then BO or use waste yarn.
9. Apply selected neckline finish.

### ***Midgauge Machines***

1. CO 66 sts (33-33)
2. Knit to row 30. End COR.
3. RC 30: Put all sts to the left of -0- and 8 sts to the right of -0- in HP.
4. RC 30: 1s-1r-4x
5. RC 34: 1s-2r-5x
6. K to RC 50.
7. Reverse shaping for left side.
8. BO shoulders. PU sts on straight rows of neckline. Knit 1r then BO or use waste yarn.
9. Apply selected neckline finish.

### ***Bulky Machines***

1. CO 52 sts (27-27)
2. Knit to row 26. End COR.
3. RC 26: Put all sts to the left of -0- and 7 sts to the right of -0- in HP.
4. RC 26: 1s-1r-3x
5. RC 29: 1s-2r-4x
6. K to RC 42.
7. Reverse shaping for left side
8. BO shoulders. PU sts on straight rows of neckline. Knit 1r then BO or use waste yarn.
9. Apply selected neckline finish.