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While we dodge the raindrops (and thunderstorms) up here in the Northeast and those of you in the South and Southwest battle drought conditions, both situations call for being indoors – and knitting, of course!

But also crocheting, which, based on an earlier survey, many of you do quite a bit of, combining USM knitting with crochet. I mention this because I just returned from Chain Link, the annual conference of the Crochet Guild of America (CGOA www.crochet.org). If any of you USM knitters/crocheters have a chance to go, it's not just great fun but the classes are exceptional.

Here's Myra Wood, my Freeform Lace Crochet teacher showing us one of her pieces. I think a motif or section of freeform lace would look great appliquéd to a USM-knitted piece. Or long freeform lace cuffs added to a USM-knitted coat. Hmmmm.....fodder for a future Buzz.



[click to enlarge](#)

But let's get to this month's technique, the Lace Rib.

Tips & Techniques . . .

Lace Rib

The Lace Rib has a multiple of 6 stitches, so plan your design accordingly. This pretty pattern forms a lace design that can be used as a rib, a decorative panel or an over all design.

Here's how:

Cast on the required number of stitches called for in the pattern and knit the number of rows specified.

Starting from the left side, use the 3-prong transfer tool to move stitches (to right) from needles 3, 4 & 5 to 4, 5 & 6. Cont across row - 9, 10 & 11 to 10, 11 & 12, etc. (See [Chart](#) below).





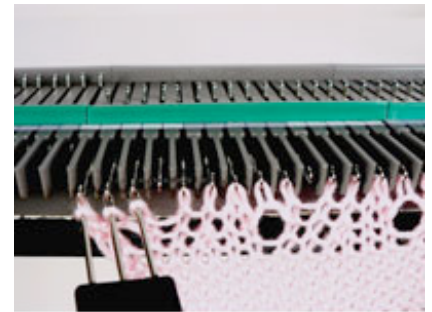
[click to enlarge](#)

Put empty needles in WP with latches open. K 2 R.



[click to enlarge](#)

Starting from the right side, use the 3-prong transfer tool to move stitches (to left) from needles 3, 4 & 5 to 4, 5 & 6. Cont across row - 9, 10 & 11 to 10, 11 & 12, etc. See [Chart](#). Put empty needles in WP with latches open. K 2 R.

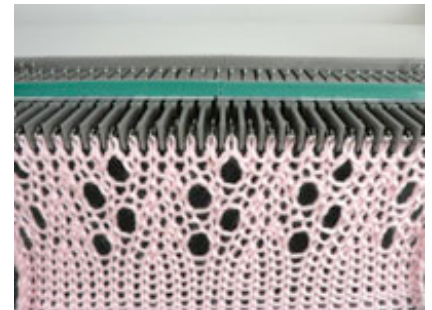


[click to enlarge](#)

Work steps 2 & 3 (4 rows) for pattern.

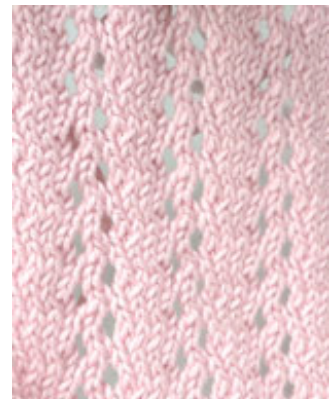
HINT: An easy way to work the pattern is to center the 3-prong transfer tool over the hole on the row below as you transfer stitches across row. Remember to alternate by first moving stitches to right across row and then to left across row.

Here's what the pattern stitch will look like while the work is still on the needles:



[click to enlarge](#)

And here's how it looks on the right side, off the needles:



- Using closed CO Method, CO 30. COR. RC=000.
- K 2 R. Using Lace rib, work to RC=174. K 1 R.
- Bind off (Back st).

STOCKINETTE STITCH PANELS (make 2)

- Using closed CO Method, CO 34. COR. RC=000.
- K to RC=175.
- Bind off (Back st).

FINISHING

- Sew panels together with Rib lace panels on outside and center.
- **Edging:** Work 1 row sc around blanket. Work 1 row picot crochet around blanket as follows: Sc in next st, *ch4, sc in same st, sc in next sc, sc in next sc; rep from *, end ch4, sl st into first sc; fasten off.
- Weave in ends.

Watch your email for a new free pattern using the Lace Rib technique.

Enjoy and Happy Knitting!



Cari Clement
[Bond America](#)

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