

TKGA Master Hand Knitting Program® Supplementary Resource List

Purpose and Introduction

Research is the foundation of the Master Hand Knitting Program®. The program instructions are intended to serve as a guide for independent study. In addition to the sources listed in the Required Resource Materials document, the following resources are provided as supplementary references. The more thoroughly you research each topic, the greater the benefit you will gain from the program.

This Supplementary Resource List is intended as a guide to published books and other media that may be used to fulfill the research requirements of the Master Hand Knitting Program®. Participants are not required to purchase books. Many titles are available through local libraries or interlibrary loan services. Some books have been reprinted or issued by different publishers, and alternate editions or slightly varied titles may exist; you are not required to use the most current edition. Out-of-print titles can often be found through libraries, secondhand booksellers, or as downloadable e-books from the publisher. Magazines, journals, and reputable internet sources are also acceptable and encouraged. Thorough research will typically draw from a combination of these media. Class handouts or course materials should not be used as primary references.

All resources contain valuable information; however, not all published material is entirely accurate. Participants are expected to consult more than one source for each topic in order to confirm accuracy and ensure a well-rounded understanding.

Required Book Reviews

Levels 2 and 3 each require three book reviews. These reviews should evaluate the books for content, accuracy, clarity, and intended audience, among other relevant qualities. For Level 2, participants must review one general technical book and two general design books. For Level 3, one review must focus on a technical book related to a selected swatch technique, and two reviews must address the design traditions represented in the required projects.

All book selections must receive Co-Chair pre-approval prior to beginning the review.

Technical books focus on the “how” and “why” behind knitting techniques. Most general reference titles listed in the Resource List below will satisfy the Level 2 technical book review requirement, although participants are not limited to those selections. For Level 3, the technical book chosen must comprehensively address the fabric type used for one of Swatches #6–17, and the corresponding swatch should demonstrate knowledge gained from that resource.

The selected technical book should not be primarily a history of the technique or a pattern collection that includes only limited instructional content. Eligibility for review is determined by the depth and breadth of technical information the book provides.

Design books focus on the planning and creation of a knitted piece, guiding the designer from initial concept through final execution. Some design books address general design principles, while others concentrate on specific traditions or styles.

For Level 2, the required design book reviews should be based on general design resources. These books provide detailed instruction on garment planning and shaping, including how to take and apply body measurements to achieve proper fit. They typically cover the development of trims and structural details such as collars, pleats, pockets, and bandings, and include formulas and mathematical guidance for tapers, slopes, and other shaping calculations. The General Design section of this Resource List offers examples of this category.

For Level 3, two design books must be reviewed in relation to the chosen project traditions. These books should explain how to design fabric and structure in accordance with the selected design traditions. When

evaluating design resources, be aware that many publications include a brief design overview followed by pattern collections; a pattern collection alone does not qualify as a design book. Acceptance depends on the depth, focus, and specificity of the design content provided.

Participants in the program are expected to develop the ability to evaluate knitting books for their usefulness, value, and intended purpose. The following definitions are provided to assist in identifying book types. Be aware that many publications combine multiple categories, devoting varying amounts of space to each topic, and may reasonably fit into more than one classification.

Design-These books instruct on the process of design and discuss aspects of creating an original design. The book can cover specific articles or be broad in nature. A design book is **not** a pattern book. While a design book may contain patterns, the patterns serve as examples and are not the major theme of the book.

Pattern-These books are collections of patterns. The main section of the book is a compilation of patterns for specific items. There is often a theme for the collection. The book may include other information such as definitions and technique instruction that support the patterns in the book.

History-These books describe various aspects of knitting history as the main theme of the book. The book may include other support information, such as patterns, explanations of techniques, stitch patterns, etc. Many books in this category are written about a specific knitting tradition.

Stitch Dictionary-These books give directions for stitch patterns as the main topic. The book may include other information to support the directions for the stitch patterns. Charts may or may not be included or may be the only method used to convey the motif.

Technique-These books discuss knitting methods and provide instructions. The book may include other information to support the technique descriptions. There are general technique books and books that cover a specific technique.

Fiber-These books discuss yarn and the production of yarn. They examine the types of fibers used to make yarn. You may also find fiber and yarn discussed in books from other categories.

For more information on researching for the Master Hand Knitting Program®, please see "[OYWTTM: Researching for the MHKP](#)" (Leslie Gonzalez).

Supplementary Resource List

Knitting Resources at TKGA.org

Cast On magazine. This quarterly publication by The Knitting Guild Association (TKGA) should be a starting point in your research. Many of the numerous articles on various topics are written specifically for requirements of the MHK program. Once logged in to the website, under Member Resources, click on [Knitting Resources](#). There you can access a [tutorial for how to use the *Cast On* Search Engine to find articles in current and past issues](#). You can search by type of article, date, author, MHK level, and key topics. The Knitting Resources page provides links to the following indices of *Cast On* articles:

[On Your Way to the Masters Articles Index](#)

[Fashion Framework and Stitch Anatomy Index](#)

[Knitting 911 and Finishing with Confidence Index](#)

[Skill Building and Learn Something New Index](#)

[Special Topics in Finishing and Design Index](#)

[Needle Tip Index](#)

TKGA YouTube Channel and Blogs

[TKGA YouTube Channel](#)

[TKGA Blog](#)

General Comprehensive Reference Books

Buss, Katharina. *Big Book of Knitting*. Sterling, 1999.

Hiatt, June Hemmons, and Jesse Hiatt. *The Principles of Knitting: Methods and Techniques of Hand Knitting*. Touchstone, 2012.

Square, Vicki. *The Knitter's Companion*. Interweave, 2006.

Stanley, Montse. *Reader's Digest Knitter's Handbook*. The Reader's Digest Association, 2001.

Vogue Knitting: The Ultimate Knitting Book. Sixth&Spring Books, 2018.

Vogue Knitting: The Ultimate Quick Reference. Sixth&Spring Books, 2019.

General Design

Abrahams, Debbie. *Design Your Own Knits in 5 Easy Steps*. Hamlyn, 2003.

Bryant, Laura Miltzer, and Barry Klein. *The New Knitter's Template: Your Guide to Custom Fit and Style*. Martingale, 2010.

Melville, Sally. *Knitting Pattern Essentials: Adapting and Drafting Knitting Patterns for Great Knitwear*. Potter Craft, 2013.

Michelson, Carmen, and Mary-Ann Davis. *The Knitters Guide to Sweater Design*. Interweave, 1989.

Newton, Deborah. *Designing Knitwear*. Taunton Press, 1998.

Paden, Shirley. *Knitwear Design Workshop: A Comprehensive Guide to Handknits*. Interweave, 2009.

Righetti, Maggie, and Terri Shaw. *Sweater Design in Plain English*. St. Martin's Griffin, 2011.

History and Knitting Traditions

Bajus, Janine. *The Joy of Color: Fair Isle Knitting Your Way*. Willa Jane, 2016.

Brown-Reinsel, Beth. *Knitting Ganseys*. Interweave, 2018.

Chynoweth, Therese. *Norwegian Sweater Techniques for Today's Knitter*. Wiley, 2010.

Don, Sarah. *Fair Isle Knitting*. Dover Publications, 2012.

Feitelson, Ann. *The Art of Fair Isle Knitting: History, Technique, Color & Patterns*. Interweave, 1996.

Gibson-Roberts, Priscilla A., and Deborah Robson. *Knitting in the Old Way: Designs & Techniques from Ethnic Sweaters*. Nomad, 2003.

Hollingworth, Shelagh. *Traditional Aran Knitting*. Dover, 2006.

Keele, Wendy. *Poems of Color: Knitting in the Bohus Tradition*. Interweave, 1995.

Lind, Vibeke. *Knitting in the Nordic Tradition*. Dover Publications, 2014.

Ling, Anne-Maj. *Two-End Knitting*. Schoolhouse Press, 2004.

Macdonald, Anne L. *No Idle Hands: The Social History of American Knitting*. Ballantine, 1988.

Merrall, Nicki. *Fair Isle Knitting and Design*. The Crowood Press, 2025

McGregor, Sheila. *Traditional Fair Isle Knitting*. Dover, 2003.

McGregor, Sheila. *Traditional Scandinavian Knitting*. Dover, 2004.

Mountford, Debra. *The Harmony Guide to Aran and Fair Isle Knitting: Patterns, Techniques and Stitches*. Harmony, 1995.

Nargi, Lela. *Knitting around the World: A Multistranded History of a Time-Honored Tradition*. Voyageur, 2011.

Overland, Viveka. *Bohus Stickning på nytt (The Revival)*. Bohusläns Museum, 2021.

Pagoldh, Susanne. *Nordic Knitting*. Interweave, 1991.

Rowe, Mary. *Knitted Tams*. Interweave Press, 1989.

Rutt, Richard. *A History of Hand Knitting*. Interweave, 2003.

Starmore, Alice. *Aran Knitting*. Interweave, 1997.

Starmore, Alice. *Alice Starmore's Book of Fair Isle Knitting*. Dover, 2009.

Strawn, Susan. *Knitting America: A Glorious Heritage from Warm Socks to High Art*. Voyageur, 2007.

Szabo, Janet. *Aran Sweater Design*. Big Sky Knitting Designs, 2006.

Thompson, Gladys. *Patterns for Guernseys, Jerseys & Arans: Fishermen's Sweaters from the British Isles*. Dover, 1979.

Stitch Dictionaries

Hamilton-Hunt, Margaret. *Mon Tricot Knitting Dictionary: 1030 Stitches, Patterns and Knitting, Crochet, Patchwork, Jacquard, Afghan, Fork, Loom, Arans, Furs, Woven Crochet Techniques*. Crown, 1972.

The Harmony Guides

Current:

Knit & Purl: 250 Stitches to Knit.

Cables & Arans: 250 Stitches to Knit

Lace & Eyelets: 250 Stitches to Knit

Out of Print:

Colorwork Stitches: 250 Designs to Knit

Knit Edgings & Trims: 150 Stitches

220 Aran Stitches: Includes Diamonds, Cables, Twists, Honeycombs, Textures, Panels, Backgrounds. Collins & Brown, 1998.

The Harmony Guides to Aran and Fair Isle Knitting. Collins & Brown, 2003.

The Harmony Guides to Knitting Stitches. Lyric Limited, 1992.

The Harmony Guides to Knitting Stitches, Volume 2. Lyric, 1987.

There are various reprints and editions of these books in circulation.

Klöpper, Gisela. *Beautiful Knitting Patterns*. Sterling, 2005.

Mucklestone, Mary Jane. *200 Fair Isle Motifs*. Interweave, 2011.

Mucklestone, Mary Jane. *150 Scandinavian Motifs*. Interweave, 2013.

Shida, Hitomi. *Japanese Knitting Stitch Bible: 260 Exquisite Patterns*. Tuttle, 2017.

Starmore, Alice. *Charts for Color Knitting*. Dover, 2011.

Vogue Knitting Stitchionaries. Sixth&Spring Books.

Vol 1 Knit & Purl: The Ultimate Stitch Dictionary

Vol 2 Cables: The Ultimate Stitch Dictionary

Vol 3 Color Knitting: The Ultimate Stitch Dictionary

Vol 4 Crochet: The Ultimate Stitch Dictionary

Vol 5 Lace Knitting: The Ultimate Stitch Dictionary

Walker, Barbara G. *Treasury of Knitting Patterns*. Schoolhouse Press

Vol 1 A Treasury of Knitting Patterns. 1998

Vol 2 A Second Treasury of Knitting Patterns. 1998

Vol 3 Charted Knitting Designs: A Third Treasury of Knitting Patterns. 1998

Vol 4 A Fourth Treasury of Knitting Patterns. 2001

There are many other stitch dictionaries available as books, flip books, and calendars. Some technical and reference books will have a section of stitch patterns. Also see books listed in the Color and Color Techniques section.

Books on Specific MHK-Related Topics

Color and Color Techniques

Menz, Deb. *Color Works: The Crafter's Guide to Color*. Interweave, 2004.

Radcliffe, Margaret. *The Essential Guide to Color Knitting Techniques*. Storey, 2009.

Lace Design and Technique

Lewis, Susanna E. *Knitting Lace: A Workshop with Patterns and Projects*. Taunton, 1992.

Stove, Margaret. *Creating Original Hand-knitted Lace*. Lacis, 1998.

Finishing

Newton, Deborah. *Finishing School: A Master Class for Knitters*. Sixth&Spring Books, 2019

Wiseman, Nancie M. *The Knitter's Book of Finishing Techniques*. Martingale, 2002.

Yarn and Fiber

Ekarius, Carol, and Deborah Robson. *The Fleece and Fiber Sourcebook*. Storey, 2011.

Fournier, Nola, and Jane Fournier. *In Sheep's Clothing: A Handspinner's Guide to Wool*. Interweave, 2003.

McCuin, Judith MacKenzie. *The Intentional Spinner: A Holistic Approach to Making Yarn*. Interweave, 2008.

Parkes, Clara. *The Knitter's Book of Wool*. Potter Craft, 2009.

Parkes, Clara. *The Knitter's Book of Yarn: The Ultimate Guide to Choosing, Using, and Enjoying Yarn*. Potter Craft, 2007.

Books Related to Specific Topics

Bestor, Leslie Ann. *Cast On, Bind Off: 54 Step-by-Step Methods*. Storey, 2012.

Bortner, Gwen. *Entrée to Entrelac: The Definitive Guide from a Biased Knitter*. XRX, 2010.

Briar, J. C. *Charts Made Simple: Understanding Knitting Charts Visually*. Glass Iris, 2010.

Dassau, Jennifer. *Knitting Short Rows: Techniques for Great Shapes & Angles*. Interweave, 2016.

Drysdale, Rosemary. *Entrelac: The Essential Guide to Interlace Knitting*. Sixth&Spring Books, 2010.

Erlbacher, Maria. *Twisted-Stitch Knitting*. Schoolhouse, 2009.

Gaughan, Norah. *Norah Gaughan's Knitted Cable Sourcebook: A Breakthrough Guide to Knitting with Cables and Designing Your Own*. Abrams, 2016.

Marchant, Nancy. *Knitting Brioche: The Essential Guide to the Brioche Stitch*. North Light, 2009.

Post-Quinn, Alasdair. *Extreme Double-Knitting: New Adventures in Reversible Colorwork*. Cooperative Press, 2011.

Sease, Catherine (Cap). *Cast On, Bind Off: 211 Ways to Begin and End Your Knitting*. Martingale, 2012.

Szabo, Janet. *Cables: The Basics*. Big Sky Knitting Designs, 2007.

Walker, Barbara G. *Mosaic Knitting*. Schoolhouse, 1997.

Other Magazines, Journals, and E-Magazines

Interweave Knits. <https://www.interweave.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/knits2023through-Summer.pdf>

Knitty. www.knitty.com

Vogue Knitting. www.vogueknitting.com/

Blogs and Websites (*sites associated with current Committee and Board members)

*Arenda Holladay, Master Knitter. (TKGA President and Executive Director, MHK Emeritus)
www.arendaholladay.com

Craft Yarn Council. <https://www.craftyarncouncil.com/standards>

*Donna Estin Designs. Website (TKGA VP Public Relations) <https://www.donnaestin.com/>

*Heather Storta. (TKGA VP of Education, MHK Emeritus) <http://heatherstorta.com>

Internet Archive. (Non-profit digital library) <https://archive.org/>

Learn How to Knit. KnittingHelp.com. <http://www.knittinghelp.com/>

Ravelry TKGA group. <https://www.ravelry.com/groups/the-knitting-guild-association-tkga>

TECHknitting (blog). <http://techknitting.blogspot.ca>

Tonia Knits. Tonia Lyons (blog) <https://toniaknits.com>

*White Horse Knitting (Leslie Gonzalez, TKGA VP of Certification, MHK Advisor blog). <http://whitehorsedesigns.blogspot.com>

YarnSub. <http://yarnsub.com>

YouTube Videos (*sites associated with current Committee and Board members)

*Donna Estin Designs. (TKGA VP of Public Relations) <https://www.youtube.com/@donnaestin9152/videos>

*Heather Storta. (TKGA VP of Education, MHK Emeritus) https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCDmVWZLYZENMKv0yl-6v_UA

*Knitting Videos by Arenda Holladay. (TKGA President and Executive Director, MHK Emeritus) <https://www.youtube.com/user/AJHolladay1>

Knitting with Suzanne Bryan. <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCg0D7UG63ONCUwPTGczonhA>

Roxanne Richardson. <https://www.youtube.com/@RoxanneRichardson>

Very Pink Knits. <https://www.youtube.com/user/verypinkknits>

Bibliography/Documentation/Citing Sources

The MLA Style Center. <https://style.mla.org>

Purdue Writing Lab. "MLA Formatting and Style Guide // Purdue Writing Lab." *Purdue Writing Lab*. https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/mla_style/mla_formatting_and_style_guide/mla_formatting_and_style_guide.html

Software

Canva <https://www.canva.com/> (Design and Presentation)

Inkscape <https://inkscape.org/> (Graphic Design —Online)

Graphic <https://apps.apple.com/us/app/graphic/id404705039?mt=12> (Graphic Design Apple App)

Stitchfiddle <https://www.stitchfiddle.com/en>

Stitchmastery <http://www.stitchmastery.com>

Committee Publications

Berk, Anne. *Annetarsia Knits: A New Link to Intarsia*. Double Vision Press, 2014.

Budd, Ann. *Getting Started Knitting Socks*. Interweave, 2007.

Budd, Ann. *The Knitter's Handy Book of Patterns: Basic Designs in Multiple Sizes & Gauges*. Interweave, 2002.

Budd, Ann. *The Knitter's Handy Book of Sweater Patterns: Basic Designs in Multiple Sizes & Gauges*. Interweave, 2004.

Budd, Ann. *The Knitters Handy Book of Top-down Sweaters: Basic Designs in Multiple Sizes and Gauges*. Interweave, 2012.

Fisher, Margaret E. *Seven Things That Can "Make or Break" a Sweater: Techniques and Tips for Hand Knitters*. Vanduki, 2008.

Gandy, Charles D. *The Embellished Sock: Knitted Art for the Foot*. Acorn Creek, 2012.

Szabo, Janet. *The "I Hate to Finish Sweaters" Guide to Finishing Sweaters*, 2nd ed. J. Szabo, 2000.