

GUIDE TO A FIX-A-STITCH CLASS

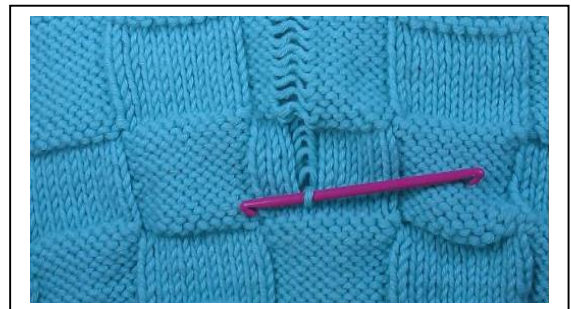
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1. Students bring knitted fabric at 30 stitches wide prepared as follows:
 - a. 10x10 basketweave for at least 3 repeats
 - b. 10 rows of garter stitch
 - c. 10 rows of seed stitch

The final sample will look something like this:



2. Somewhere in the middle of their knitting, drop a stitch all the way down until it is in the 2nd basket weave section from the bottom and they are on the stockinette (knit) side.



3. I remind my students that when they knit, they hold their yarn in the back ... and show them that the knit bars are on the back of the fabric. Then I have them repair the knit all the way up until they get to the bar that's in the front ... the first bar of the reverse stockinette (purl side).

One common problem I see is that the very first bar is often "lost" in the stitches below it ... so before starting the repair I remind everyone to make sure they are grabbing the lowest bar available. Sometimes it helps to turn over and look on the back, or spread the fabric to see all the un-knit stitches.

4. Now I remind my students that when they purl they hold their yarn in the front ... and sure enough, the purl bars are on top or on the front side of their fabric. Then I proceed to show them the Fix-A-Stitch technique for purling from the front/top of their fabric.

The video is available at our website:

<http://www.fixastitch.com/how-to-videos/>

5. After 10 rows of purling from the top, they are now ready to approach the garter stitch. I remind them again that purls are in the front (we hold our yarn in front when we purl) and knits are in the back (we hold our yarn behind the work when we knit) and I ask them to look at the alternating rows of knit and purl bars to identify which is which. Then I have them knit the knits and purl the purls to recreate the garter stitch pattern.

6. Looking at the alternating pattern of seed stitch I remind the students that when they were creating their seed stitch they knitted the purls and purled the knits. Therefore that is exactly what they will now do with their Fix-A-Stitch.

By the time the students are at the top of the seed stitch they should have a good handle on the method. If they want more practice it's easy to rip down and start again.

