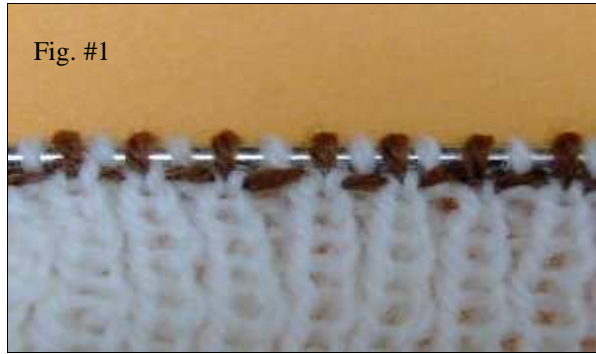


# Invisible Bind Off

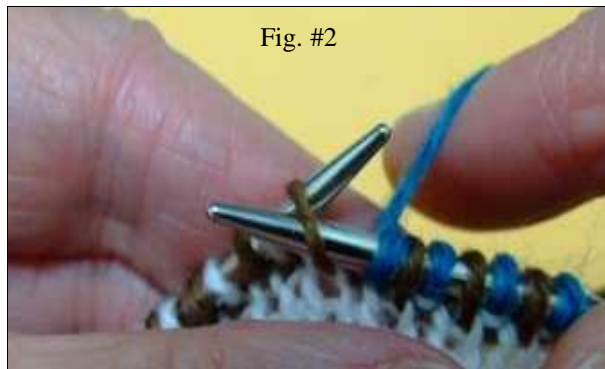
## Get Ready, Get Set, Go!!!



To set up for the invisible bind off, you need to stop your 1 by 1 rib 2 rows before the finish.

**A. Set up row #1** = knit 1, yarn forward, slip the purl st. ; yarn back K the next st. Repeat this process till all Knits are knitted and all purls are slipped.

As you can see in Fig. #1, I have used the brown yarn to knit the stitches. You can also see the yarn lying in front of the slipped purl stitches.



**B. Set up row #2** = with yarn in back, Slip the knit st. With yarn in front purl the purl st.

Here in Fig #2 you can see that I am purling with the blue yarn.



In Fig. #3 you can see the results of the two set up rows.



Now, using 2 double point needles, I will place the knits on one needle and the purls on the other needle. I have two of the same color, but it is helpful when first learning this to have a different colored needles, one for knits and one for purls.

Holding the two needles in the right hand, I pick off the knit stitch first with the front needle. Fig. #4

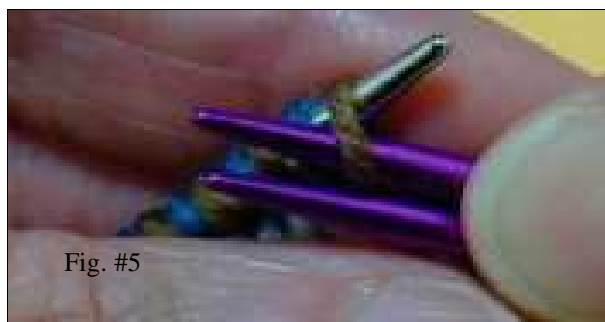
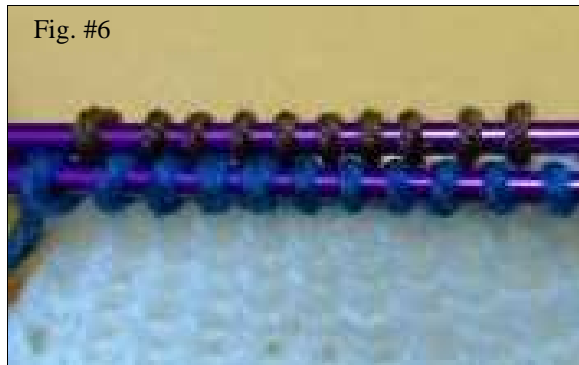


Fig. #5 Anchoring the knit stitch with my index finger, I pick off the purl onto the other (back) needle. I alternate back and forth till all stitches are picked up.



In Fig. #6, you see the stitches aligned on their separate needles, ready to be joined together at the top.



In Fig. #7, I am checking to see if I have the right number of pairs.

Now I am ready to proceed with the infamous Kitchener Stitch.

### Putting it All Together

Before we begin our Kitchener Stitch closure, take your working yarn around the needle just till it meets underneath the needle.. Mark where it meets by pinching you index finger and thumb around the yarn. Unwrap it. This is the measurement for one stitch. In my example this was 5/8 inch.

I had 26 sts. You can multiply  $5/8 \times 26$ , or do what I did. I simply calculated that  $1/2$  inch times 26 would give me 13 inches , and 26 divided by 8 ( $1/8$ )= 3.25, both together are  $16 \frac{1}{4}$  inches. I added about 4 inches extra to carry through my yarn needle. This measurement will be the amount of yarn I will need to complete my Kitchener stitch closure. **I don't have to guess anymore.** But if you do come up short sometime, don't panic, make a Russian join, or just leave a tail long enough to work in, and start another piece of yarn.

*I prefer the Russian join that has been trimmed back. There is a great tutorial on this join on You Tube.*

*On the following pages I will demonstrate how I do it.*

*But first you have to learn a song!!! Put is to whatever tune you want. But memorize it. It goes like this*

**Knit OFF, Purl!**  
**Purl OFF, Knit!**

*I'm not kidding. It worked for me when nothing else did.*

## Kitchener Stitch Closure



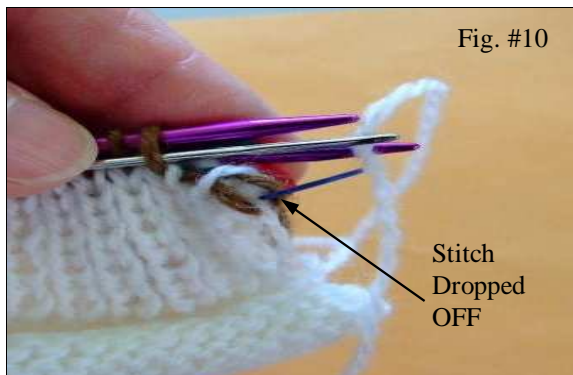
Before I begin my Kitchener Stitch closure, I mark the first two stitches (Fig. #8). Why, because when I am knitting in the round, as on a sock, I will eliminate the two set up stitches that usually begin the process. What two stitches?

*When you are **not** working in the round, you would begin by sticking your yarn needle in the first knit st. purlwise. Pulling the yarn through, you then take it under the needle tips and to the back sticking the yarn needle through the purl st. knitwise. The next step would then begin with the **KNIT OFF**. BUT.. ... since my socks are knitted in the round, I will want to be able to identify those stitches when I am done with the bind off, so that I can finish by inserting my yarn needle into the first knit stitch as if to purl, then insert it into the second stitch (purl) as if to knit. This brings it all together nicely. Now, down to business!*



1. Now I begin my “song.” **KNIT OFF.....**

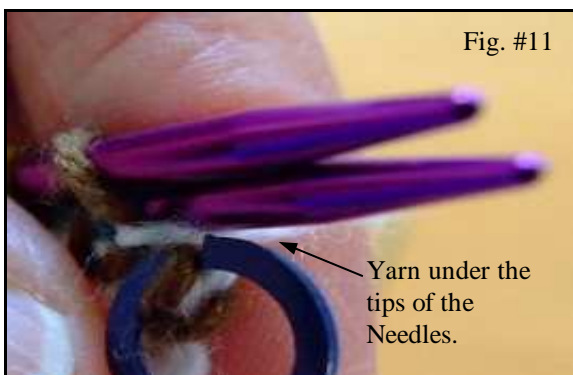
This means stick your yarn needle into the first stitch as if to **knit** it (Fig. #9). Pull the yarn through and drop the stitch **off** the needle. Fig. #10



2. **PURL-**

Once you have dropped the knit stitch **OFF** the needle, insert the yarn needle into the stitch to the left as if to **PURL**. Fig. #10

**\* Take up any slack in yarn, but do NOT pull tight. Just pull it so it lays smoothly between all the phases of the closure.**



3. Now bring yarn underneath the tips of the needle and to the back. Fig. #11

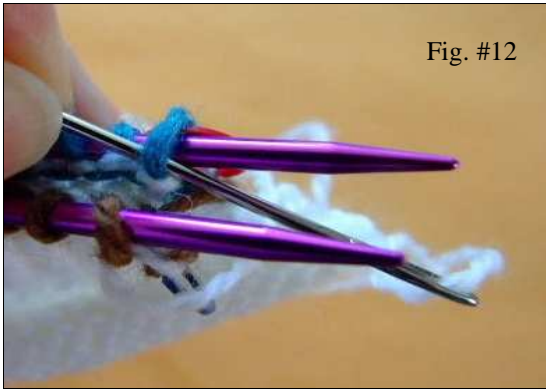


Fig. #12

4. **PURL OFF**– Insert the yarn needle into the purl stitch , pull the yarn through and drop it off the needle. Take up the slack.



Fig. #13

5. **KNIT** – Bringing the yarn up between needles, Fig. #13



Fig. #14

..stick your yarn needle knitwise, into the next stitch to the left of the stitch you just dropped off. Fig. #14



Fig. #15

Pull the yarn through the stitch.





Bring yarn around underneath needles to the front. Now we are ready to start our song again.

**KNIT OFF, PURL  
PURL OFF, KNIT!**

Repeat this process across your practice swatch.

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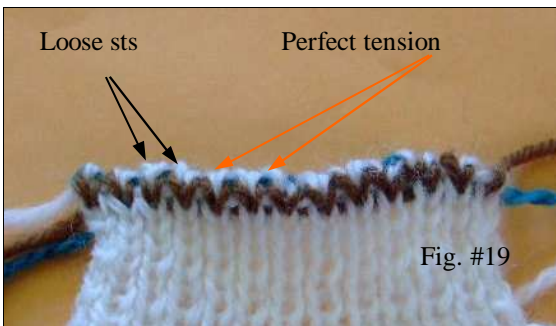
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Fig. 17 show how the stitches lay close together, but are not pulled tight.



In Fig. #18, I am pulling the stitches to the right with a little tug, to make sure I have not gotten them too tight. I do this quite often.



In Fig. # 19, I have purposely left a couple of stitches loose. You can see them to the left.

In the middle you see no “big bumps” just a smooth rounded top.



Fig. # 20 Shows what a nice stretch this bind off has.