

The Knitter

LOVES...

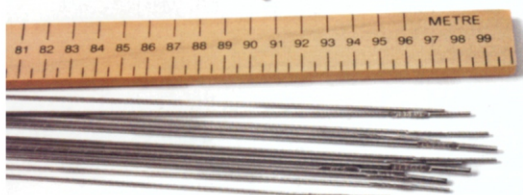
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PERFECT BLOCKING

Blocking your lace knitting is an essential process if you want it to look its best and show off all your hard work. Our favourite way is to use blocking wires, but sets can be expensive. Now a good-priced set has been launched by Jillybean.

The set comprises 10 flexible stainless steel rods in three sizes, 20 T-pins and a one-metre wooden rule. Full instructions are also included to help you block your projects perfectly.

The set costs £29.99 and is available exclusively from yarn shop and mail order company GetKnitted. www.getknitted.com



Jillybean's blocking set includes wires, T-pins and a wooden metre rule



Stitches for Sri Lanka

Eighteen months ago, the civil war that had overshadowed the beautiful island of Sri Lanka came to an end. But 30 years of conflict has taken an unimaginable toll, leaving many widows, bereaved daughters, sisters and mothers without an income.

Now University College Falmouth, in partnership with the Academy of Design in Colombo, has started a project called 'The Peace Collection'. Jane Gottelier, behind the knitwear label Artwork, heads the Fashion Design program at Falmouth, and is embarking on a training program to teach these women to knit and help them to earn money. "Our aim is to revive some of our classic knitwear range to be sold throughout the world and share the profits with communities on the Island," explains Jane.

But the project desperately needs materials to get started. "We need yarn to be able to teach these fantastic and resilient ladies to knit," says Jane.

Can you donate a ball or two from your stash? Due to the climate on Sri Lanka, the project is only looking for 100% cotton in any colour. Please send your donation to: C/O Jane Gottelier, School of Art & Design, University College Falmouth, Wood Lane, Falmouth, Cornwall TR11 4RH.

Magnetic attraction



We're big fans of NovaSteel's beautiful shawl pins, and we love this hummingbird design they have produced exclusively for hand-dyer Skein Queen. The shawl holder, based on Skein Queen's logo, is held in place using a strong magnet. That means it's ideal for delicate knits, yet it's also strong enough to stay in place on thick jumpers. £15 from www.skeinqueenshop.co.uk

Make your own Bulb

Toft Alpaca's Bulb Bag design has become something of a cult classic, thanks its beautiful felted shape knitted in Toft's lovely alpaca yarn. If you'd like to make your own, the Toft Alpaca Shop is running a one-day course on Saturday 10 September. The Bulb Bag Knitting Kit Workshop costs £63, which includes expert tuition, 100g of alpaca yarn, a tour of the farm and a home-cooked lunch. www.thoftalpacashop.co.uk



HOT
TICKET