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READY, SET, KNIT
Air Date: April 18, 2009

TIPS AND TRICKS, part 2

6. Do your 3-needle bind-off with 2 knitting needles and a crochet hook...much faster than with a 3rd needle. You can also do a regular bind-off with a crochet hook.
 7. If you knit continental, and your purl stitches are a little funky, try using a needle one size smaller for purling.
 8. When in doubt, slip stitches purl-wise. Always slip the stitches knit-wise for an SSK.
 9. If you are having trouble getting gauge—you've gone up and down on your needle sizes and still can't get it, use 2 different sized needles.
 10. If you carry small, sharp scissors in your tool kit, avoid injury by placing a point protector on the scissors.
 11. If you knit with charts or lose your place in patterns, get yourself some highlighter tape. It doesn't slide off the chart/pattern like the magnetic strips do.
 12. When blocking a tam, wet the tam and place it over a plate that is the size of the top of the tam. Let dry.
 13. For a nice elastic edge on socks and sweaters, cast on with a larger needle, and then switch to the required size. Do the same for bind-offs if you tend to work them too tightly.
 14. If you are casting on more than a 50 or so stitches, place a marker every 10/20 stitches so you won't have to keep going back to count. This is also very helpful on really long crochet foundation chains.
 15. Remember to substitute one yarn for another by yardage, not weight, and try to match the fiber content of the original yarn as closely as possible.
 16. Pick up stitches with a needle that is at least 3-4 sizes smaller than the needle you use to knit the item with. This makes a very neat pick-up row that will disappear once you return to your regular needle size.
 17. Keep plenty of split ring markers in your tool kit. You can use them for everything!! These are little plastic markers that look like safety pins without a coil.
 17. For your knitting tool kit, get a tape measure that rewinds into a little case. Regular tape measures get all tangled up with the other things in your bag.
- Next Week: More Tips and Tricks and info on the next KAL