Creative Knitting®

An *Annie's* Publication

PATTERN WRITING GUIDELINES
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FINISHED PROJECTS
When sending completed samples and garments to the editor, please follow these instructions EXACTLY:

- **TAG EVERY COMPLETED PROJECT** with name, address, phone and email.

- **Attach yarn label for each yarn/color used in the project with a snip of the sample yarn taped to it.**

- Send a hard copy of the pattern, charts and schematics with sample.

- Send graphics as **SEPARATE FILES** (do not embed the graphics in the text file). Put the pattern name in the subject line.

- Using the **REQUIRED PATTERN TEMPLATE**, write your pattern. Save as a Word doc and email along with graphic files to: Ann_Hunt@annies-publishing.com (either MAC or PC files are acceptable) as an attachment.

Return of Published Projects: Projects accepted for publication will be returned to the designer (unless otherwise arranged) approximately six weeks after publication along with a complimentary copy of the magazine in which the design appears. All manuscripts, diagrams, etc., remain the property of the publisher.

State **skill level**, using the guidelines given below.

Beginner—For the first-time knitter, incorporating basic knit and purl stitches.

Confident Beginner—Geared toward the beginner who is eager to learn new techniques. Projects geared toward first-time knitters, including simple stitch patterns that introduce basic techniques, such as simple decreasing, increasing and yarn overs.

Easy—Projects using basic stitches, repetitive stitch patterns, simple color changes and minimal shaping and finishing. Simple in-the-round projects, such as hats, neck warmers and cowls fall within this skill category, as well as the ability to read simple stitch charts and keys.

Intermediate—Projects that incorporate a wide variety of stitches, such as basic cables, lace, simple intarsia, double-point needles and knitting in the round, shaping and finishing. The knitter has the ability to read more advanced stitch pattern charts, such as lace and cable charts.

Moderately Challenging—Projects that utilize a wide variety of stitches and techniques as noted above, as well as short rows and methods, such as intarsia and stranded colorwork with minimal color changes.

Challenging—Projects that require a more intuitive understanding of a pattern or chart and that also include advanced stitches and techniques, as well as more intricate methods, such as intarsia, cables, lace and stranded colorwork with numerous color changes. Projects in this category may also involve advanced shaping and construction techniques.

Give **Sizes** (for sweaters: a minimum of three sizes) and **Finished Measurements (Chest and Length for sweaters)**.

Example:
Sizes
Woman's small (medium, large, X-large, 2X-large, 3X-large)
Instructions are given for smallest size, with larger sizes in parentheses. When only 1 number is given, it applies to all sizes.

Finished Measurements
Chest: 37 3/4 (39 1/2, 43, 46 1/4, 50 1/4, 53 1/4) inches (buttoned)
Length: 25 1/2 (26 1/2, 27 3/4, 28 1/4, 30 1/2, 31 1/2) inches

For Child's sizes, list as follows: Child's 0–3 (3–6, 6–12, 12–18, 18–24) months or Child's 2 (4, 6, 8, 10) or Child's 2T (4T, 6T). Do not mix months and years. Note that there is a difference in fit between a 2 and a 2T.

Non-wearables will need only Finished Measurement(s).

Write out "inches"; do not use the inch symbol anywhere in the pattern text. Use **CYCA sizing guidelines** when grading garment patterns (see www.yarnstandards.com), allowing for desired ease. Indicate desired ease using CYCA terminology.

Indicate the **model size** in the instructions and on the tag on the project. Women's garments should be made in a size small. Other garment sizes should be confirmed with the editor.

Yarn information should follow this format: Yarn Company name Yarn name (common yarn weight name; fiber content; yardage/weight per put-up (skein or ball, as appropriate): number of balls/skeins, color and color number (if yarn manufacturer hasn't assigned a color name, write in an appropriate descriptive color name). Unless a color name is a proper noun, colors should be lowercase.

Example:
Blue Sky Alpacas Techno (bulky weight; 68% baby alpaca/22% silk/10% extra-fine merino wool; 120 yds/50g per skein): 2 skeins club gray #1975 (MC), 1 skein each posh pink #1981 (A) and atomic green #1980 (B)

State **needle size(s) listed in ascending order.** *Include length of circular needles.*
Examples:
Size 1 (2.25mm) double-point needles (set of 5) or size needed to obtain gauge
Size 5 (3.75mm) 29-inch circular needle
Size 7 (4.5mm) 29- and 36-inch circular needles or size needed to obtain gauge

Include in **the materials list** the types of materials, quantities used (for all sizes) and ordering information if unavailable at most craft stores. Include any extras such as crochet hooks, cable needles, stitch holders, markers and buttons, each on a separate line.

Give **gauge** (including approximate gauge before felting for a felted project). Measure stitches and rows/rnds over 4 inches/10cm and specify pattern (St st, stitch pattern, color pattern, etc.) and needle size used (e.g. larger/smaller). Include multiple gauges if more than 1 pattern stitch is used in project.

Example:
Gauge
20 sts and 25 rows = 4 inches/10cm in St st with larger needle.
To save time, take time to check gauge.

Use the abbreviations given in the list at the end of this document. Do not use any other abbreviations without a definition or explanation, even those that may be standard in other publications. Define any abbreviations that you use but that aren't listed in this document in your instructions under **Special Abbreviations** head. Use cable abbreviations as described here: http://www.craftyarncouncil.com/chart_knit.html , i.e. 2/2 LC (not C4B).

Note: K, p, and sl are used only when followed immediately by a number (e.g. k1, p7, sl 2); otherwise spell out "knit", "purl" and "slip" (e.g. "knit to end of row").

Put all **Pattern Stitches** under a separate head before the pattern text begins.
For Pattern Stitches, indicate st repeat and extra sts. *Examples:*
A. Checks (multiple of 3 sts + 1)
B. Diamond with Crosses (18-st panel)
Follow this style: multiple of 4 sts + 2, (incorrect: multiple 4 + 2 sts)

Include **source references** for pattern stitches when available (such as Barbara Walker/Harmony books including page number) for tech editor.

Row/Rnd numbers should be in bold, followed by colon. WS/RS should be indicated in parentheses where appropriate, also in bold, preceding the colon (see sample pattern).

Pay special attention to pattern stitch instructions. Cap first word of the instructions following Row or Rnd #, then use uppercase or lowercase for abbreviations according to Annie's style, i.e. use k2, p2, not the uppercase equivalent of K2, P2. Note: There is no space between the k or p and the stitch number.

Put a period at the end of each row/rnd instructions.

Provide **stitch counts** at the end of all increase and decrease rows. End the row/rnd instructions, then insert em-dash, followed by resulting stitch counts. *Example*:
Next rnd: *Work in established pat to 2 sts before marker, k2tog; rep from * around—28 (32, 36, 40) sts.

When **increasing**, specify type of increase: Knit in front and back of stitch (kfb), Make 1 (M1), etc. Indicate whether M1 increases are directional/mirrored (M1L/M1R).

When **decreasing**, specify ssk, k2tog, etc.

Where appropriate, shaping information may be given in Pattern Notes.

Write out any **reverse shaping** for all experience levels. This is required style for Annie's patterns.

Explain any technique a knitter of that experience level may not know under a Special Techniques head before the pattern text.

GRAPHICS
Include **charts of stitch or color patterns** where applicable. Indicate stitch pattern repeats on chart. Include stitch or color key.

Include **schematics** where necessary, indicating ALL measurements schematics (see schematic example in issue of *Creative Knitting* magazine). Give measurements in fractions (not decimals) to the nearest 1/4" and use "marks (double-primes) for inches. All garments must have complete schematics; there are **NO EXCEPTIONS**.

Digital graphics are preferred. If hand-drawing graphics, scan and save as a jpeg to email with pattern text. If hand-drawing graphics, do not use blue graph paper or a pencil because they do not scan well. Be sure lines are dark enough to scan, using ink if possible.
DO NOT embed graphics within the pattern text.

CONTRACTS AND PAYMENT
Contract will be sent with a business-reply envelope. Sign the contract and return it in the postage-paid envelope. Keep the photocopy of the contract for your records and return the original to us.

Upon design acceptance you will receive a written contract stating the rights,   terms and payment. Payments will be issued once the technical editing process is complete.

Negotiated fees will be paid upon completion of pattern and sample based on Annie's specifications. Poorly constructed samples will be returned to the designer, and fees will be forfeited.

Because all rights to designs are purchased, unless otherwise arranged, designers should not sell the purchased design or one very similar to it to another publisher.

Standard Abbreviations
[ ] .... work instructions within brackets as many times as directed
( ) .... work instructions within parentheses in the place directed
** .... repeat instructions following the asterisks as directed
* .... repeat instructions following the single asterisk as directed
" .... inch(es) [***used only on schematics***]
approx .... approximately
beg .... begin/begins/beginning
CC .... contrasting color
ch .... chain stitch
cm .... centimeter(s)
cn .... cable needle
dec(s) .... decrease/decreases/decreasing
dpn(s) ....double-point needle(s)
g .... gram(s)
inc(s)   ....increase/increases/increasing
k .... knit
k2tog .... knit 2 stitches together
kfb……………..knit in front and back of a stitch
kwise…………....knitwise
LH .... left hand
m ....meter(s)
M1R…………….make 1 with right twist
M1L……………….make 1 with left twist
MC .... main color
mm .... millimeter(s)
oz .... ounce(s)
p .... purl
p2tog .... purl 2 stitches together
pat(s) .... pattern(s)
pm………………place marker
psso .... pass slipped stitch over
pwise …………...purlwise

rem .... remain/remains/remaining
rep(s) ....repeat(s)
rev St st .... reverse stockinette stitch
RH .... right hand
rnd(s) .... round(s)
RS .... right side
skp .... slip, knit, pass slipped stitch over—1 stitch decreased
sk2p .... slip 1, knit 2 together, pass slipped stitch over the knit 2 together—2 stitches decreased
sl .... slip
sl 1 kwise .... slip 1 knitwise
sl 1 pwise .... slip 1 purlwise
sl st .... slip stitch(es)
ssk .... slip, slip, knit these 2 stitches together—a decrease
st(s) .... stitch(es)
St st .... stockinette stitch
tbl .... through back loop(s)
tog .... together
WS .... wrong side
wyib ....with yarn in back
wyif ....with yarn in front
yd(s) .... yard(s)
yfwd .... yarn forward
yo (yo's) .... yarn over(s)

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PROJECT/PATTERN SUBMITTAL CHECKLIST

Please complete the checklist below before mailing your materials to us. Be sure to check off each item below and initial that you have thoroughly reviewed your materials before mailing them to us. Please include a printed copy of this checklist with your materials.

Thank you for your cooperation!

- ☐ **TAG EVERY COMPLETED PROJECT** with name, address, phone, email, yarns used and sample size.

- ☐ **Printed hard copy of pattern and accompanying charts and schematics with yarn label and snip of yarn attached to pattern.**

- ☐ **Pattern is written according to PATTERN TEMPLATE specifications.**

- ☐ **Graphics are sent as separate files and are not embedded in pattern document.**

- ☐ **Sizes for projects are based on CYCA guidelines.**

- ☐ **You have used abbreviations in your pattern based on our Standard Abbreviations List.**

- ☐ **Word document and graphic files sent via email to Ann_Hunt@annies-publishing.com and KaraGott_Warner@annies-publishing.com.**

Mail all materials by your instructed deadline to:

Kara Gott Warner
Annie's
306 East Parr Road
Berne, IN 46711

Designer initials_____