


Polka Dot

Polka Dots can be knitted on the cylinder as a decorative stitch for socks, scarves or leg warmers. While an argyle attachment saves a lot of threading of yarn, it is possible to knit polka dots without the argyle attachment. The spacing of dots and number of colors is your decision.

When spacing dots remember this is a fairisle stitch and three stitches is near the limit of yarn carried on the inside.


Basic Technique

With the ribber out of the machine and all needles in the cylinder, knit 5-10 rows of the main color. Stop the yarn carrier at the front of the machine. Using the work hook, held at an angle to raise two needles at a time, raise two needles in front of the right $\frac{1}{4}$ mark .



Proceeding counterclockwise around the cylinder leave the next two needles down, raise the following two, leave the next two down - repeat until you come to the needles in the cams.

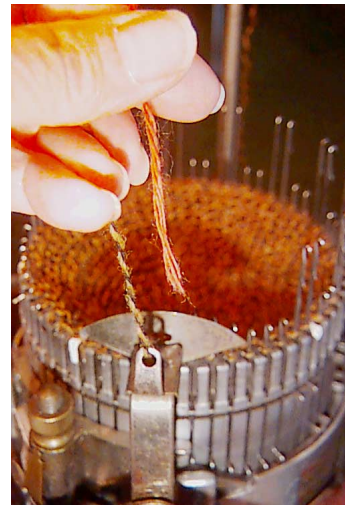


Before knitting forward to reach the rest of the needles, cut the **main** color yarn about 2 inches above here it enters the yarn carrier and tie on a **polka dot color**. This length may be adjusted to start the dots at precisely the right place. .



Ideally, the knot should fall across the raised needles, with the polka dot color beginning to knit on needles still down

Hook up the heel spring. Knit ahead until your 2 up 2 down needle pattern is completed around the cylinder; then knit one more round stopping at the front of the machine. Release the heel spring.



Cut the yarn as before and tie on the main color again. Lower all needles; make sure the latch is open, knit ahead as necessary. Knit main color for desired length. Repeat the above for more polka dots.

To line the dots up, always start raising needles with the two in front of the $\frac{1}{4}$ mark. To offset the polka dots, start raising the needles with the two behind the $\frac{1}{4}$ mark every other time. To start behind the $\frac{1}{4}$ mark, tie on the polka dot color about $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches above the yarn carrier.

Polka dots can be worked as a 3 up 3 down pattern as long as the number of needles in the cylinder is evenly divisible by six. Another variation is to put a row of main color polka dots in the middle of a contrasting stripe.