

Moebius Cowl Patterns



Cat Bordhi's Moebius Cast-On

A great big thank you to Cat Bordhi for sharing her Moebius Cast On instructions with us. Only Cat could conceive such an interesting and fun way to knit! If you enjoy knitting these cowls, we encourage to check out Cat's website.

To read about and/or purchase Cat Bordhi's Moebius knitting books, A Treasury of Magical Knitting and A Second Treasury of Magical Knitting, visit:
<http://catbordhi.com/books/first-and-second-treasury-of-magical-knitting/>

To watch her Moebius Cast-On YouTube video:
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LVnTda7F2V4>

You do not need to understand the Moebius to knit one. These pages and my video will lead you to success. But you will be more cheerful about your adventure into the unknown if you first spend a few minutes making paper models. Then you'll have some familiarity with the behavior of this mysterious form. **If you skip this exercise and find yourself confused later, please return.*

1. Cut 2 strips of paper and color the top half of each strip.



2. Tape the ends of one strip together to make an ordinary ring. Bring the ends of the other strip together, but turn 1 end upside down before taping the ends together. This creates a Moebius ring.



3. Continue coloring the path on the Moebius ring (suddenly you have more space!) until you run into its beginning. Draw a star here.



4. Starting at the star, trace the green path until you return to the star. This will take 2 full revolutions of travel. The inside and outside surfaces are continuous. Now trace the edge with your finger and you will find the edge is also continuous.

5. Hold the ring up to a light so you can see the green path through the paper as a faint green path. Green and faint green paths, divided by the ring's equator, cover the entire continuous surface.



Now imagine that the green path is made of knit stitches.

The faint green side of the path would then be purl stitches. If you knit every stitch of a Moebius, it will resemble the drawing, with the green as stockinette and the faint green as reverse stockinette.



One long circular needle follows the continuous edge, and it takes 2 rings of knitting to travel all the way around. A marker announces the end of each round, so you can relax and enjoy the graceful ride.

Watch my Moebius video before continuing:
<http://tinyurl.com/3k2gt3>

This video, which has over half a million views, will help you integrate what you are learning and help you start your first Moebius with my Moebius Cast-On (MCO). Use the pause, forward, and back buttons as needed for practicing.

A Moebius requires a long circular needle; do not attempt it with one shorter than recommended. A 40" (100 cm) length is ideal for hats and a 47" (120 cm) length is better for greater circumferences. I've taught thousands of knitters to knit a Moebius. Soon you will trust the process, because it works.

Home Position

1. Make a slip knot and slide it to the middle of the cable.

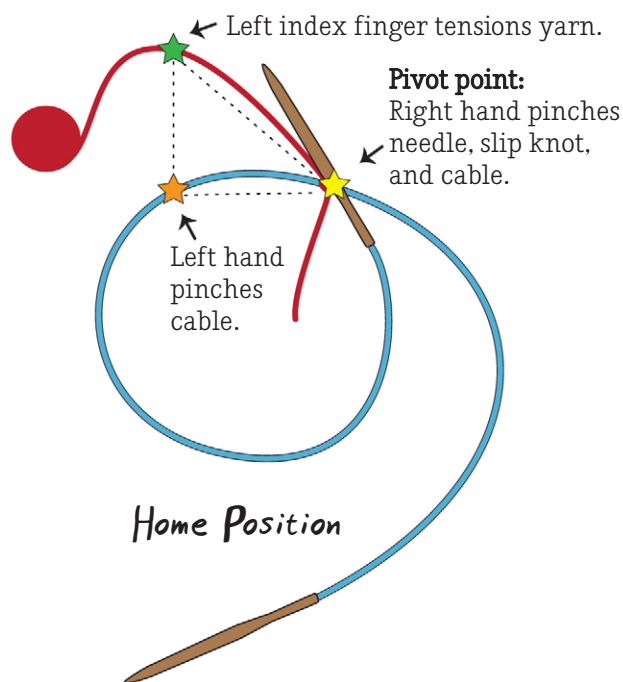


Make a slip knot:
Form loop. Lay tail under loop.
Pull blue section up and tighten.

2. Pick up left needle and coil it around to form a ring, with the needle pointing up toward the left (you can ignore the right needle).

3. Create a pivot point: with right hand, pinch needle, slip knot, and cable so they can pivot from this one point (yellow star).

4. With left hand, tension yarn and pinch cable (orange star) about 4" (10 cm) away from pivot point. Use left index finger to hold yarn up high (green star). The 3 stars form a triangle of dotted lines: the cable is the base, the yarn is the right side, and your left hand is the left side.



Start the Moebius Cast-On (MCO)

1. The needle points at you, dives under the cable, stands up in the middle of the triangle, presses down on the yarn and swings back under the cable to you, bringing along the yarn (the first stitch). The needle swings from Home Position and back to Home Position like a child on a swing.

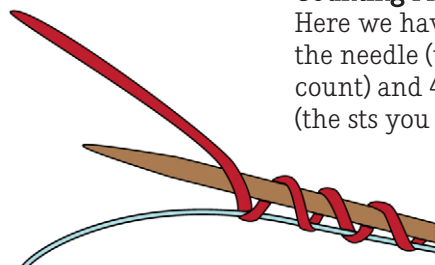
2. Next, the needle swoops up over the yarn (the second stitch, which is just like a yarn-over) and is once again in Home Position. Repeat steps 1 and 2 until you have the desired number of stitches.

Very, very important: how to count MCO stitches:

Count only the stitches on the needle. Each repeat of MCO steps 1 and 2 create 2 stitches on the needle, which are counted, as well as 2 stitches on the cable, which are not counted. Do not count the slip knot (it is not on the needle) or those on the cable.

Counting MCO stitches:

Here we have 4 stitches on the needle (the ones you count) and 4 on the cable (the sts you do not count).



The MCO looks like this: All stitches on the needle wrap in same direction. Stitches on cable alternate direction of wrap.

Get ready to start knitting

1. Hold needles crossed together as if about to start knitting, and tug at the cable rings to make them the same size.

2. Spread cast-on stitches until beginning and end are very close.

3. Check for 1 crossing of needle and cable by going for a "train ride" from the left needle around to the right needle, pressing cables into parallel tracks, pushing twist ahead to determine that there is only one crossing at the end.

4. Place a marker on right needle. Do not skip the marker!

Knit the first ring

The slip knot, which was on the cable, is now first in line on the left needle. Knit into it and take it off the left needle. Each remaining stitch on the left needle resembles a triangle, with the cable as its base.



The leading legs might all be sitting on the front of the left needle



Or the leading legs might be alternating front, back, front, back. Either way is fine.

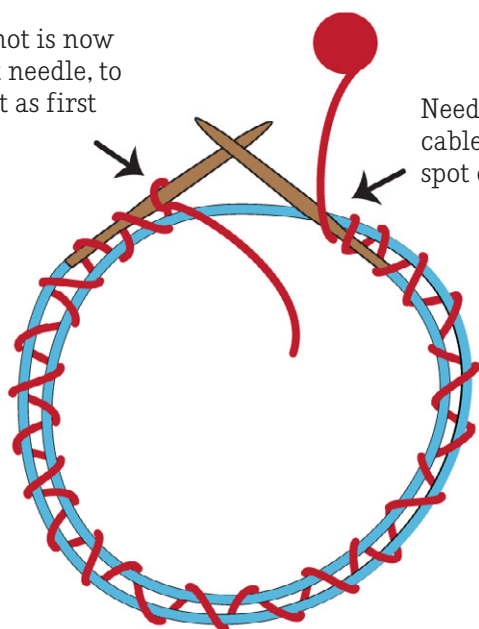
To knit a triangle, insert the right needle into the front (where the star is), pull a loop of yarn through as usual, then remove the triangle from the left needle. Repeat until all triangles have been knitted and the marker appears beneath the needles on the cable. You have completed the first of 2 rings.

Remember: 2 rings of knitting = 1 Moebius round.

The triangles are now gone, and the stitches on the left needle look more familiar; in fact, they look like they were purled (refer back to your paper model and you'll realize why). Continue knitting. If the first stitch appears odd, pull the tail down towards yourself and the stitch will then behave.

Slip knot is now on left needle, to be knit as first stitch.

Needle crosses cable in this one spot only.



Cables are parallel (like a train track) until the single crossing.

When the marker appears *between the needles* (not beneath, as before), this signals the completion of 1 full round (2 rings). Only when the marker appears between the needles (where it could fall off) is a round complete.

When the marker appears on the cable below the needles, only the first of the 2 rings that make up a round is done.

As you keep knitting, you'll discover that the fabric grows between the cables, pushing them apart. Moebius knitting is full of surprises.

Moebius Cowl Pattern

Each Moebius Cowl shown begins with a Moebius cast-on. Stitch patterns on page 5 and color changes add interest, and a decorative bind-off elevates your cowl even more. Work until you have used almost all of the recommended yarn; note, I-Cord Bind-Off and Picot Bind-Off require more yarn to finish. We've listed the basics for each cowl shown, but feel free to remix these elements as you see fit (just be sure you cast on the right multiple for your chosen stitch pattern).

Yarn	Cast-On	Page	Cowl Height
Piumino	76 sts	6	13 in.
Simpliworsted Multi	114 sts	6	11 in.
Luxair	80 sts	6	16 in.
Tiara	80 sts	6	13 in.
Kenzie	150 sts	7	11.5 in.
Luxair Print	120 sts	7	15 in.
Angora Fashion Print	180 sts	7	20 in.
Pur	100 sts	7	12.5 in.
Unisono Solid	150 sts	8	14 in.
Royalpaca	156 sts	8	12.5 in.
Cashmere Queen	160 sts	8	12 in.
Simplicity + Caribou	168 sts	9	14 in.
Nimbus Multi	120 sts	9	12 in.
Islanda	90 sts	9	13 in.
Gobi	140 sts	9	13 in.

1x1 Ribbing (multiple of 2)

Round 1: *knit 1, purl 1, repeat from * to end of round.
Round 2: repeat round 1.

Lifted 1x1 Ribbing (multiple of 2)

Round 1: *knit 1 into row below, purl 1, repeat from * to end of round.
Round 2: *knit 1, purl 1, repeat from * to end of round.

I-Cord Bind-Off

At beginning of bind-off row, use a cable cast-on to add 3 new stitches. *Knit 2, slip 2 stitches knitwise 1 at a time, knit these 2 together through the back loop. Slip the 3 stitches on the right needle back to the left needle purl wise and rep from * until all stitches are bound off. Knit 3 together, break yarn and fasten off.

Eyelet Round (multiple of 6)

Version A: *knit 4, yarnover, knit 2 together, repeat from * to end of round.
Version B: * yarnover, knit 2 together, knit 4, repeat from * to end of round.

Garter Stitch

Round 1: knit all stitches.
Round 2: purl all stitches.

Repeat these two rounds for pattern.

Garter Stitch Stripes

Round 1: with main color (MC), knit.
Round 2: with MC, purl.
Round 3: with contrast color (CC), knit.
Round 4: with CC, purl.

Linen Stitch (multiple of 4)

Round 1: *knit 1, slip 1 with yarn in front, repeat from * to end of round.
Round 2: knit all stitches.
Round 3: *slip 1 with yarn in front, knit 1, repeat from * to end of round.
Round 4: repeat round 2.

Little Twist Honeycomb (multiple of 4)

Rnd 1: *purl 1, knit 2, purl 1; repeat from * to end.
Rnd 2: *slip 1 to cable needle and hold to back, knit 1, knit 1 from cable needle, slip 1 st to cn and hold to front, k1, k1 from cn; repeat from * to end.
Rnds 3-5: *K1, p2, k1; repeat from * to end.
Rnd 6: *slip 1 st to cn and hold to front, k1, k1 from cn. Slip 1 st to cn and hold to back, k1, k1 from cn; repeat from * to end.
Rnds 7 and 8: Repeat Rnd 1.

Repeat Rnds 1-8 for Little Twist Honeycomb.

Mesh Stitch (multiple of 2)

Round 1: *knit 2 together, yarnover, repeat from * to end of round.
Round 2: knit all stitches.

Repeat these 2 rounds for pattern.

Moebius Cast-On

See page 2 for full instructions.

Moss Stitch (multiple of 2)

Rounds 1 and 2: *knit 1, purl 1, repeat from * to end of round.
Round 3 and 4: * purl 1, knit 1, repeat from * to end of round.

Repeat these two rounds for pattern.

Picot Bind-Off

At beginning of bind-off row, *use a cable or knit cast-on to add two new stitches. Immediately bind-off 4 stitches, return the single stitch remaining to the left hand needle and repeat from * until all stitches are bound off. Break yarn and fasten off.

Russian Join

Thread one yarn end onto a sewing needle. Leaving a small loop, insert the needle back into the yarn, burying the end in the strand of yarn. Thread remaining yarn end through the loop and then bury end in the strand as you did for the first end. Tug on the yarn ends to tighten loops and trim excess yarn.

Seed Stitch (multiple of 2)

Round 1: *knit 1, purl 1, repeat from * to end of round.
Round 2: * purl 1, knit 1, repeat from * to end of round.

Side Slip Stitch (multiple of 4)

Round 1: *slip 1 with yarn in back, insert needle under running thread between the just slipped stitch and the next stitch and knit this thread, slip 1 with yarn in back, knit 1, pass first slipped stitch over the last 3 stitches, knit 1, repeat from * across.
Rounds 2 and 4: Knit.
Round 3: knit 2, repeat from * of Round 1 to last 2 stitches, end knit 2.

Spit Splicing

Fibers with a high wool percentage can be joined invisibly with spit splicing. Overlap two ends and dampen with saliva or water. Place the overlapped ends between hands and rub together quickly until you feel some heat. Repeat until the ends are felted together!

Stockinette Stitch

Knit every round.

3 x 1 Ribbing (multiple of 4)

Round 1: *knit 3, purl 1, repeat from * to end of round.
Round 2: repeat Round 1.

Bind-Off in Pattern

Bind-off, maintaining established stitch pattern.





Schulana Piumino Cowl

4 balls MC #02, 1 ball CC #18 • 47" US 15 (10mm) circular needle • Follow J + Q + C



HiKoo® Simpliworsted Multi Cowl

2 hanks color #602 • 47" US 9 (5.5mm) circular needle
Follow J + N + C



Schulana Luxair Cowl

1 ball MC #40, 1 ball CC #41 • 47" US 11 (8mm) circular needle • Follow J + F + C using MC



HiKoo® Tiara Cowl

1 hank #62, 1 hank #71 • 47" US 11 (8mm) circular needle
With yarn doubled, follow J + Q + L



HiKoo® Kenzie Cowl

2 skeins MC #1001, 2 skeins CC #1000 • 47" US 7 (4.5mm) circular needle • Follow J + F + C using MC



Schulana Luxair Print Cowl

3 balls color #50 • 60" US 11 (8mm) circular needle
Follow J + R + C



Schulana Angora Fashion Print Cowl

2 balls color #63 • 47" US 8 (5mm) circular needle
Follow J + H + C



Schoppel Pur Cowl

2 hanks color #1659 • 47" US 10 (6mm) circular needle
Follow J + K + L



Zitron Unisano Solid Cowl

1 hank each #1179, #1182 47" US 9 (5.5mm) circular needle • Follow J + Q + C



Schulana Royalpaca Cowl

3 balls color #12 • 47" US 8 (5mm) circular needle
Follow J + H + S



Schoppel Cashmere Queen Cowl

1 ball each #0986, #7130, #7873, #9205 • 47" US 6 (4mm) circular needle • With #0986 follow J + G until piece measures 4" total. With #7130 follow K until piece measures 8" total. With #7873 follow I until piece measures 12" total. With #9205 follow O until piece measures 14" total. Bind off following L. If desired, work D (version A) at each color change and weave fur trim through eyelets.



HiKoo® Simplicity + Caribou Cowl

3 hanks Simplicity #03 (MC), 1 ball Caribou #67 (CC) • 47"
US 6 (4mm) circular needle • With MC follow J + E + D
(alternating between version A & version B every inch) + S.
Weave doubled strand of CC through eyelets.



Zitron Nimbus Multi Cowl

2 balls each #26, #27 • 47" US 8 (5mm) circular needle
Follow J + N + C alternating colors every 1.5"



Schulana Islanda Cowl

4 hanks color #40 • 60" US 19 (15mm) circular needle
Follow J + N + A + S

Zitron Gobi Cowl

2 balls MC #09, 2 balls CC #14 • 47" US 9 (5.5mm) circular
needle • Follow J + F + C using MC.