

TRANSCRIPT

Long Tail Cast On

To work the long tail cast on. You're going to hold your knitting needle in your right hand. And the first thing I like to do is figure out about how much yarn it's going to take to work the cast on. So to do that, I will drape the yarn over the needle and I'm just going to wrap it around however many number of stitches the cast on it. So in this case, let's say I'm going to cast on 10 stitches, one, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, ten. I'm going to hold my finger right there. I'm going to pull all the yarn off. And that spot where I'm holding the yarn is what I'm going to place on top of the needle. Give or take. It doesn't have to be perfect. When you place it over the needle, you want the tail to the back of the needle and you want the working yarn or what's attached to the yarn ball itself to the front.

We're going to take the two strands into our left hand with these and I like to take the two bottom fingers and hold them together so that I can kind of keep tension on them. They will always stay holding this yarn. It might take practice in the beginning to learn how to hold that tension. But again, the key word here is practice. Now to get set up for a cast on, we're looped over the needle here and we are going to take our third finger, come in between the two strands and come out with the top one. We're going to take our thumb, come into the two strands and come out and around. So what I've done is created two little bunny ears. Okay, so we are going to come up into with our right hand needle, we're going to bring it up into the thumb loop right here. Come all the way over and grab the inside strand. So you're going to come into the loop, grab that first strand and it's going to come right back through the loop of the thumb ear that we were holding onto. And you're going to slowly draw it forward just like this so that we don't want to squeeze it too tight. So keep it rather loose because we want a loose cast on.

Now when I pull it snug, putting my hands back into position helps pull it snug so I don't have to sit there and do this with each stitch. But again, that takes practice. So it's okay to do this with each stitch. Just don't pull too hard. So holding onto those bottom stitches. I'm going to show you the rest of my, I've cast on two stitches. I'm going to show you the rest of the uh, eight stitches left to cast on for my 10. So I'm going to come up with the finger and out, down and back up. So round it up with the thumb. So we have our two bunny ears come up from behind, up into the thumb loop down into the finger loop, grab that strand, pull it right back through the thumb loop. And as I put my fingers back into their positions, that tightens the stitch on the needle. So I'm going to move through the rest of these stitches really slowly so that you can see there we have the 10 stitches that I cast on.

Now something to remember about the long tail cast on is that this particular cast on counts as the first row of your knitting. If you were to do a different type of cast on, such as the knitted cast on or the backwards loop method, those would not count as a row. But the long tail cast on counts as your first row of knitting. And here we have on the two on the end here, we still have our working yarn, which is attached to the yarn ball. And then we have our tail that we will weave in later.

And then the next step is to turn you needle. Hold it in your left hand. We're going to take our right hand needle and we're going to get ready to work our first set of stitches.