

TRANSCRIPT

Troubleshooting

There are some pretty common errors that beginner knitters can run into and I'm going to walk you through what some of those might look like and what you can do about them. The first one is where you turn your needle and you see this weird double stitched loop here and for some reason your working yarn is at the back and not at the front where it's been. All that is is just where you hold it too tight all the way this way. So just bring it back to the front, relax it a little bit, and then you were ready to work that stitch like normal.

The next thing that you might notice is you might end up with more stitches than you planned. Along that same line, you may also notice a hole in your knitting and what that means is you learned a new stitch without knowing it. So this hole right here is called a yarn over and what that is is the extra stitch that you somehow created. Now there are a variety of ways that could have happened. You could have accidentally brought your yarn back between the needles and then kept knitting so that when it went around like this, you could see that it came around the top of the needle creating an extra stitch or what's called a yarn over.

Okay, so when that happens, it depends on how far back it is. One, I could tell this was just the row below. All right, so what I'm going to do is I'm just going to let that stitch right above that hole go. Okay? Just like that. If you were not comfortable with that, I want you to remember that your first project is a practice piece, so be okay. Learn to be okay with those little holes or those little drop stitches that might happen because those things happen. It's through that practice and being able to recognize them when we see them. That helps us get better over time.

And the other thing that might happen, you might drop a stitch, it might fall off the needle and you go, Oh no, what do I do? If it's just where it fell off the needle, you just want to very quickly put it back on.

Okay? If it dropped a couple of rows below, say it went like that. Okay, we still want to grab it. All right. And our first step, because we're working in garter stitch here, we can try to save it by picking up these strands. See, these are the old stitches that fell out of it. Okay, so we've dropped two rows back. We know the last row brings that bump to the front. So if it's two rows back, you're gonna pick up that bottom strand and up. Pick up the stitch and drop it up and over off the needle. So there I've saved one and now I have this top strand here. Now I'm going to now slide both stitches over in place. That loop right here, come from behind. Drop it up over. So we have that loop right here. Now I'm going to slide it back.

I don't want you to worry too much about having to save your stitches. Some people like my mom, she'll rip the whole thing. She dropped a stitch and she can't save it, she will rip it all and start over. That's totally okay. Some people will just say, eh forget about it, and they'll let that stitch drop all the way down. You'll have a nice little ladder going on in there, but you can always call that a design element. Totally up to you. It's completely up to you. This is a beginner project, so let yourself learn. Let yourself make mistakes and learn from those mistakes. So don't be afraid of drop stitches or extra stitches, but on that same note, it helps if every row you count how many stitches you've ended up with so that you can see before you get too far gone. So you can see if you've dropped a stitch or added a stitch in that particular row, they're definitely easier to save at that point.

The next thing that people might run into is what's called splitting the stitch. It could be where when you went through the needle like this or through the loop, excuse me, that you split it in the middle. That happens. Could be that when you wrap your yarn around like this, that sometimes when you're coming back through you split the yarn or something like that. I did it by accident earlier, but now I can't seem to do it on purpose so it could look like that where I didn't quite pull it all the way through. You see it split there. All I need to do is just pull that split yarn off or just completely undo the stitch, which that looks like this. Come in to this loop.

See how it's hanging on the stitch on the needle back here., and I come into that loop from the front to the back? We're going to put it back over here cause remember that's our old stitch and we're going to pull the current stitch off and we'll just reknit it if we need to. Another accidental common mistake that we'll see is somehow a stitch gets twisted and this happens because you might have accidentally gone into your stitch sideways like this instead of basically you're coming at it from the right instead of coming at it from the left. So you would come in through what's called the back loop and knit it like normal and that twist the stitch. And this is all part of learning to read your stitches. So remember we talked about how we have two legs here and you can think well I think of them as legs and that's just what helps your front leg always needs to be well when you're working regular stitches. Sometimes you might want twist stitches on purpose, but that's for a future lesson. For a regular knit stitch, you always want your front leg to step before the back leg. And when you're looking at it, you can see, just kinda lay it flat on your finger. You can see that that back leg is taking the first step, not the front leg. That means it's twisted. So basically to untwist it, we want to just grab that stitch from behind. This is what I do. Grab that back leg, drag it over here so that it untwists and then just slide it or slip it back over. So now if you were to lay it flat on your finger, like so, you could see that the front leg is taking the first step, not the back leg. And so that's how you untwist your stitch and then you just keep on knitting.