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Bond Buzz, Issue #44

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Welcome to another issue of the Bond Buzz!

Despite the fact that we still have six-foot piles of snow in many places here in northern Vermont, we're finally seeing signs of life in the patches of earth showing through the persistent snow cover. So spring can't be that far behind, though here we go from winter to mud season (2 weeks) then to summer.

To celebrate the upcoming season, I thought a lacy tuck stitch would be appropriate, so Kathy Perry came up with a very versatile wrap (with instructions on making a scarf, just in case you wanted to get a jump on next fall) and a fabulous, wear-it-at-any-age yoked top.

Tips and Techniques . . .

TUCK LACE STITCH

This technique creates a lacy stitch by putting needles in HP and NWP. But before we start, it will be helpful to have a few claw weights on hand, the total number depending on which of the three projects in this Buzz you're making. The scarf needs 3 or 4, the wrap and top about double that. They are used under every other group of three stitches and moved to the adjacent three as the stitch pattern is changed.

For the larger two projects, use all 4 weights in hem or extra weights as necessary, but you can use just the Extension Kit hem if you're making the scarf. You will also need to push the nose of the carriage down slightly (note the word "slightly") as you knit across row (See Photo 3.). This brings the nose of the carriage just a tad closer to the needles to assure the needles catch the yarn. This is because, with a tuck stitch, the yarn that is held on the needle in HP builds up and makes it a bit more challenging for the needles on the sides of the needle in HP to catch the yarn. You can see this if you work slowly across the row and watch what happens to the needles and stitches.

Putting claw weights under the group of 3 stitches that are being tucked also helps give extra pull on the stitches of the needles in WP, assisting in those needles knitting the stitches properly. Move them up frequently and position them under the group being tucked,

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which alternates. It may also help to pull down slightly on the hem after each row to check sts – but remember to clamp your machine to the table if you plan to do this. Don't forget to tuck (put in HP) the st in the end group (which alternates every 3 rows), hence you will always have 3 needles for the Scarf (8 for the wrap) in HP.

Here's how to work the Tuck Lace Stitch:

- Using single-prong transfer tool and working from right to left, transfer the 5th and 6th sts to their adjacent needles.
- Put the emptied needles into NWP.
- Continuing across the row, transfer every subsequent 4th and 5th sts to their adjacent needles, as you did above. (Note that on each end, there will be a total of 4 needles in WP. These needles make up the same group of 3 as above plus one extra st for seaming in or as an edge stitch.)



[click to enlarge](#)

- Working from right to left, place the 3rd needle in the end group and the center needle in EVERY OTHER group of 3 WP needles in HP.



[click to enlarge](#)

- * Work 3 rows slowly, pressing down on carriage nose in the direction you're going on the second and third row. (You'll probably want to hang the claw weights on the second row.)



[click to enlarge](#)



[click to enlarge](#)

- Push all needles in HP into FWP. Place center ndl in EVERY ALTERNATE group of 3 WP ndls in HP.
- Rep from *.





[click to enlarge](#)

Here's what the needle set-up and your knitting should look like after repeating the stitch described above but with the alternate group of 3 sts having been worked.



[click to enlarge](#)

So here's a pattern for a summer wrap using the technique above. Note the instructions for knitting the narrower scarf are in parentheses.

REVERSIBLE WRAP

(Instructions also given for Scarf version)
designed by Kathy Perry

FINISHED MEASUREMENT

Wrap approx 20" x 60"/51cm x 152cm (Scarf approx 7" x 60"/18cm/152cm)

YARN

[Caron® International's Simply Soft®](#) (100% Acrylic, 6oz/170g, 315yds/288m): #9902 Off White, 2 skeins (1 skein for Scarf)

KEY PLATE

USM/ISM KP#3 or appropriate tension to obtain gauge
Suitable for USM/ISM/Bond Classic or 6.5 to 9 mm knitting machine

ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

Latch tool
Single-prong transfer tool
Claw weights
Yarn needle
Crochet hook H/8 (5mm) for finishing

GAUGE

In Tuck Lace stitch 17 sts and 20 rows = 4"/10 cm
In Stockinette stitch 16 sts and 20 rows = 4"/10 cm

STITCHES USED

Stockinette stitch (St st)
Tuck Lace stitch
Single crochet (sc) for finishing



[click to enlarge](#)



[click to enlarge](#)



NEEDLES REQUIRED 80 (30 for Scarf)**WRAP**

1. Using closed CO Method (Chain CO), CO 80 (30 for Scarf) sts. COR.
2. K 2 R. Set RC=000.
3. *Work Tuck Lace stitch for 18 R. Take "bumps" from under sts next to NWP ndls and rehang on ndls. Put all ndls in FWP. Work St st for 18 R.* RC=036.
4. Cont working from * to * 7 additional times. RC=288.
5. Work Tuck Lace stitch for 18 additional rows. RC=306.
6. Take "bumps" from under sts next to NWP ndls and rehang on ndls. Put all ndls in FWP. K 2 R. RC=308.
7. Bind off loosely (Chain BO).
8. Wavy edge: Work 2 R sc on long sides working every other st on the Tuck Lace sections and every st on the St st sections. This will make the St st sections stretch creating a wavy look.



[click to enlarge](#)



[click to enlarge](#)

Free Pattern . . .**Lacy Tuck Top**

Once you master the technique, which is actually quite easy, why not try your hand at making this great summer top? You can even use your trusty Embellish-Knit! to make the cording around the neckline and armholes!

[FREE instructions here](#)

Have a great April and see you next month!

Happy Knitting!

Cari Clement
[Bond America](#)

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