



The Almost

Lost

Washcloth

An old fashioned knitting pattern, shared from one neighbor to another

Materials: No. 8 Needles (U.S.)

Instructions:

Cast On 14 stitches and knit back

- 1. Knit 4, yarn over, knit, leaving 2 stitches and knit back*
- 2. Knit 4, yarn over, knit, leaving 4 stitches and knit back*
- 3. Knit 4, yarn over, knit, leaving 6 stitches and knit back*
- 4. Knit 4, yarn over, knit, leaving 8 stitches and knit back*

Cast off 4 and knit to end – knit back (should be 14 stitches on the needle)

Repeat for 14 points

Leave enough yarn to sew sides together and go around circle and draw circle together. Tie ends in a double knot



If these casual, old timey knitting instructions leave you scratching your head, read on:

Knitting as described in the Almost Lost Washcloth pattern is called “short rows”. Often these types of instructions come with wrapping and turning to prevent holes in the knitted cloth. That’s unnecessary with this pattern.

You can see that by the time you've completed row 7, you're getting a fan shaped segment.



The following photo shows progress after 4 "points" have been completed



and this last photo shows the completed knitting before you seam it together.



When the pattern calls for "leaving stitches", that means to leave the number of stitches on the left hand needle without knitting them. When it reads "knit back", it simply means to turn your work and knit to the end of the row.

Each time you complete the written instructions in the pattern, you've completed one segment or "point". You go through the pattern 14 times to get the entire cloth.

You have to be a counting ninja to get this pattern right. If you get off count, you can end up with a very strange shape indeed. Using a row counter or ticking off the rows on a piece of paper is helpful until you get comfortable with the pattern.

Finishing the Washcloth:

After you have your 14 segments, it's important to bind off loosely so your ending row will be the same length and have a similar stretchiness as your beginning row.

Some knitters like to start with a provisional cast on and graft the first and last row together to avoid seaming and get a perfect looking join. I've practiced and gotten pretty good at mattress stitch, so I'm okay with stitching them together. Be sure to seam toward the center so you have yarn to close the center. Knitty has a wonderful mattress stitch tutorial [here](#)

I'm as guilty as anyone at just whip stitching my finished knitting together, 1,2,3 - done! But I can tell you - if you take the time to lightly block your cloth, then follow the knitty tutorial to do a proper mattress stitch, you'll be amazed at the difference in appearance in the finished product.



Once you've seamed the first and last segment together, you still have a cute little hole in the middle. Using the yarn end, pick up the garter ridge bumps to cinch the center closed.

Knot securely and weave in ends.



Check out the Simply Notable YouTube channel for knitting and spinning video tutorials:

[Simply Notable on Youtube](#)