

Wandering Cable Chains

Cable Chain Example



Frame Detail



Wandering Cable Chain Practice



Learning how to do it.

Cable Chain Application



Applications for sweaters or flat surfaces.

About Cable Chains

These wonderful chains are fun to do, and can be used to create many great patterns. They can be fixed, or floating. Once you learn how to move them around, you'll find yourself experimenting with all kinds of different applications. If you look closely you will see that they resemble a crocheted chain, and yes, that's the idea. Only you will be chaining as you knit along. No going back to do a separate task. But first -the basics.

Knitting Notes

In this tutorial we will be concentrating on 3 basic moves.

CC-L = Cable chain left

CC-R = Cable chain right

H - CC= Horizontal Cable chain - This process is done two ways, from the knit side, going to right to left, and from the purl side, going right to left.

K- ch = a chain that remains vertical

* It is convenient to have a crochet hook handy for pulling up loops, especially when starting the CC-H.

**** It is vitally important that you remember to lay all your chains open before knitting them. This usually requires that you slip them knitwise before knitting, or knitting through the back loop. Which ever method you use, just make sure the chain is laying open. That is what gives it that specially look.**

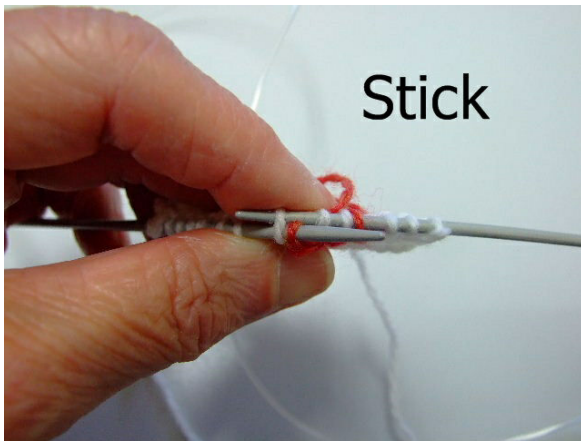
When using two colors, remember to bring you chain color up from under the main color before knitting the chain. When finished, drop you yarn to the front and pick up the main color underneath and knit the next main color st. This will allow you to always have the option of adjusting the tension on the chain stitches.

When your chains are going to be moving in two directions, such as in the Chain Practice Swatch, you always want to cut a long strand of yarn and pick it up in the middle to start you new color. This gives you tails on both ends to work with.

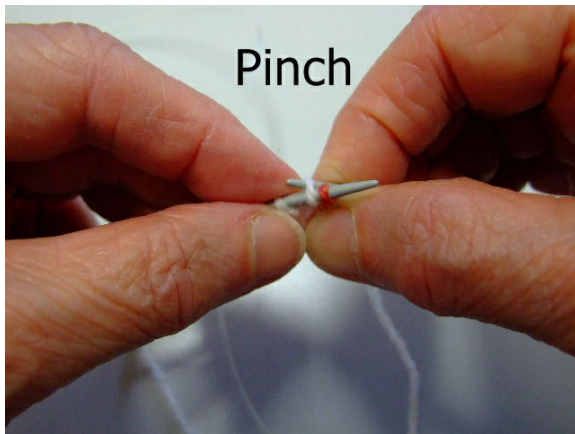
On the next few pages I will demonstrate the **CC-L**, (Cable chain Left)and the **CC-R**(Cable Chain Right). You will be using these two moves on just about everyone of my Needle Point Knitting patterns.

CC-L

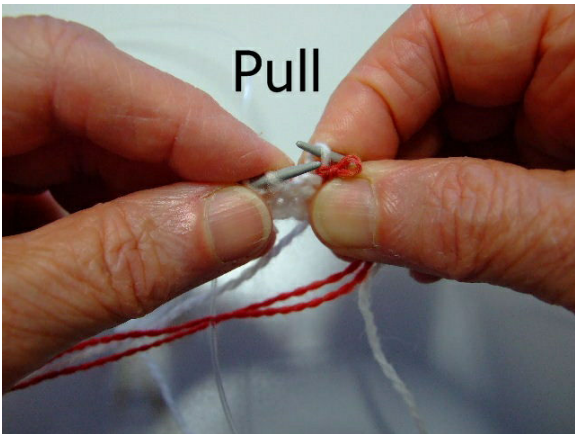
(Cable Chain Left)



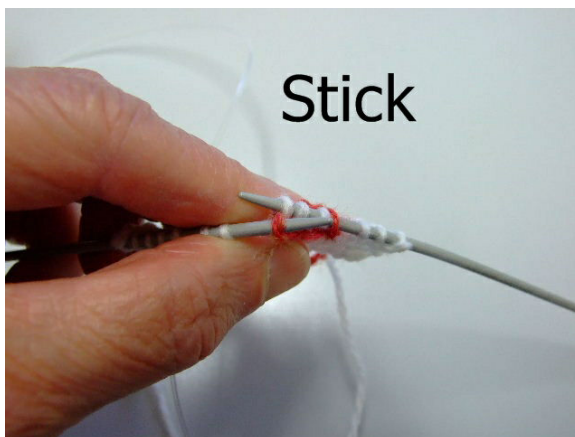
1. **“Stick”** your RN into the back of the st just to the left of your Chain st,



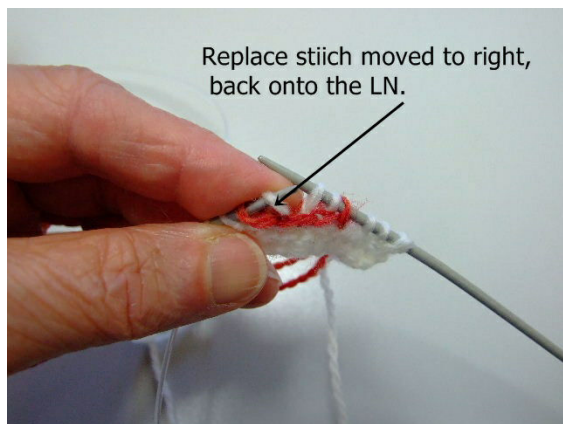
2. **“Pinch”** the two stitches at their base.



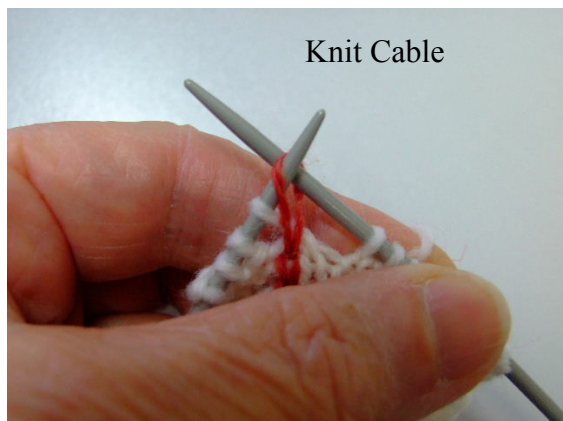
3. **“Pull”** to the right, off the LN, releasing the chain st.



4. **“Stick”** the LN back into the Chain st.



5. Replace the stitch just moved to the right of the chain, back onto the LN and knit it.

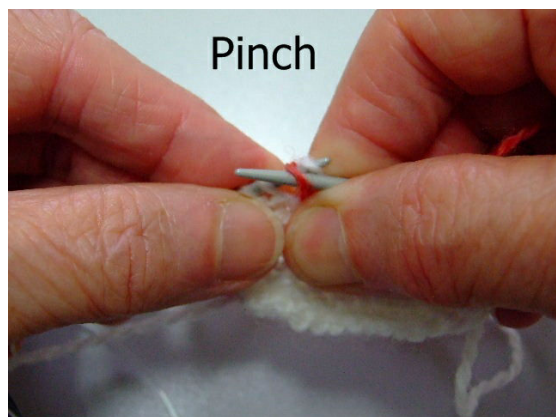


6. Position the Chain st with left leg in front of work , knit through back loop. This keeps your Chain St open and laying flat.

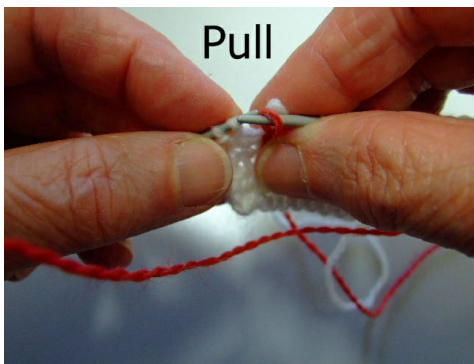
The CC-R (Cable Chain Right)



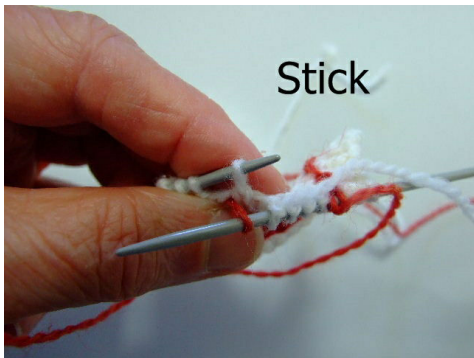
1. “Stick” into Cable chain with RN.



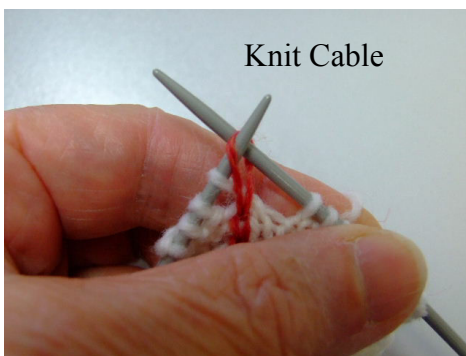
2. “Pinch” base of both stitches.



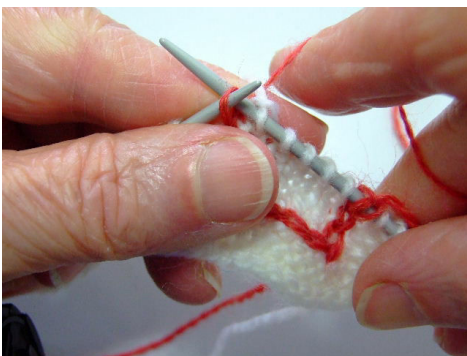
3. **“Pull”** both stitches off LN, release stitch to right of Chain st.



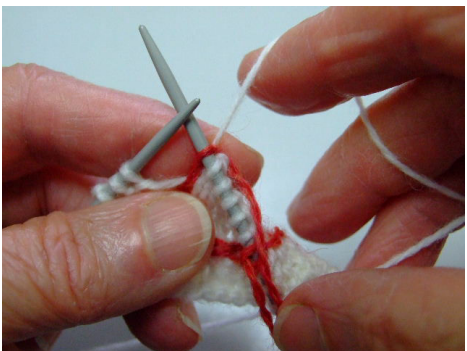
4. **“Stick”** LN into released st.



5. Return Chain to LN. Position with left leg in front, and knit through back loop.



6. Bring yarn for chain up from underneath main yarn. When finished knitting Chain, lay yarn over needle toward front of work.



7. Now, reach underneath and pick up main yarn to knit the following stitch or stitches.

Cable Chain Practice Swatch



I will be walking you line by line through the practice swatch. Just for your info, this little swatch was done without a pattern, so I didn't attempt to center it. I just wandered around using the various moves. In the pattern you will be doing, I took the time to center the design, and add a few rows at the bottom, otherwise it is the same.

* It is not necessary, but very convenient to have a small crochet hook handy to pick up the beginning loops.

**** On page 13 you will find the visual chart and key. I use these symbols on all my Needle Point Knitting Charts.**

Wandering chain Swatch

Written instructions

* We will be using colors A, B and C. The color doesn't matter.

A= main color, or background

B = border (the square)

C = the wandering chains in the middle.

Pattern Key

LN = left needle

RN = right needle

CC-R = Cable chain right

CC-L = Cable chain left

Yf = yarn forward

yb = yarn back

Ch = chain

YO = yarn over

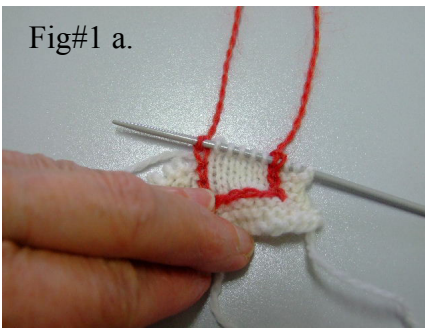
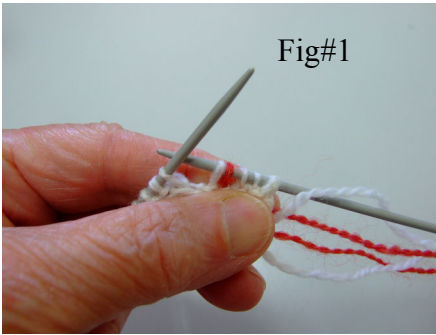
Set-up - CO 31 sts. Knit 5 rows.

Wandering Cable Chain Swatch

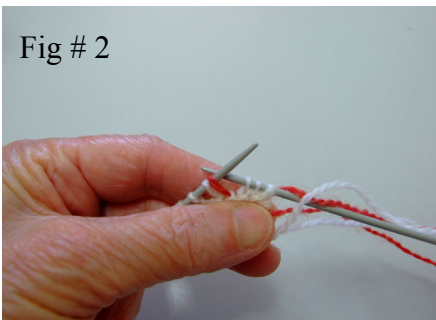
Row 1 - **A**, K -3; **B**, K-1; **A**, K -1. (fig#1)

* Be sure to start your **B** color with a long strand (about 2 yards) and pick it up in the middle to form this first **B** stitch.

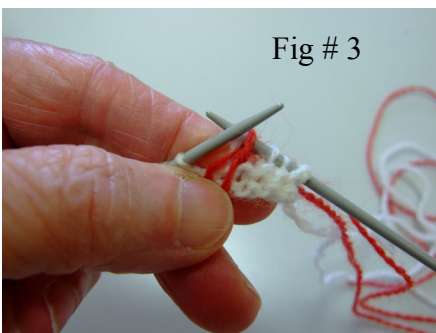
You will be using both ends, one for each side of the border.



You will see both yarns strand in my mini version,, in fig. #1 a. There is one strand for the right border, and one for the left. Each is raised up from underneath the main yarn to knit the Chain. St.

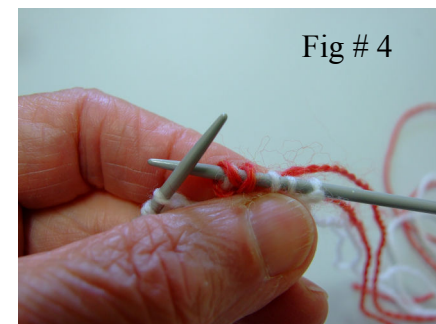


Next, slip last two knitted stitches back to LN. (fig#2)



With **B**, knit through first **B** st, and pull up loop. Lay loop to left and hold it down with thumb of left hand. (fig#3) *This will be the first loop of horizontal chain.*

** Be sure to bring your B yarn up underneath the main color just as you do in Intarsia. You will always bring your main color up from underneath and to the right, **not** over the top of the chain colors. By doing this , you will be able to adjust the tension of the chains.*



While holding loop with thumb, slip the two stitches back to the RN. Now, slip the horizontal loop onto the RN. (fig# 4)

Now you are set up to create your chain across the row, while at the same time knitting the main color stitches as well. Hang with me, it is not that complicated.

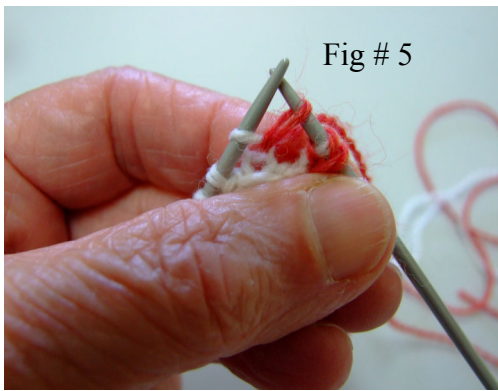
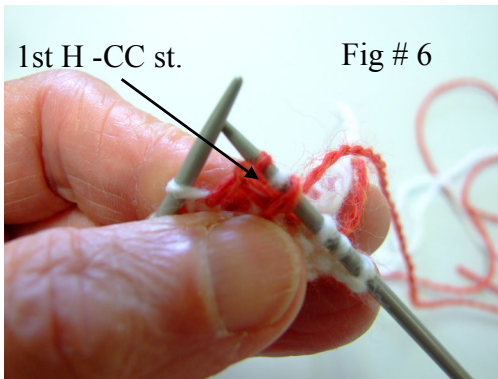


Fig # 5

With **B**, knit into the next stitch to the left, and pull up loop.

(fig # 5)



1st H -CC st.

Fig # 6

In fig # 6, you will see that I have lifted the first H-st, over the new chain loop.

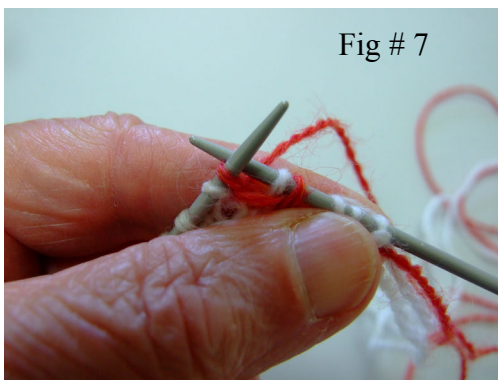
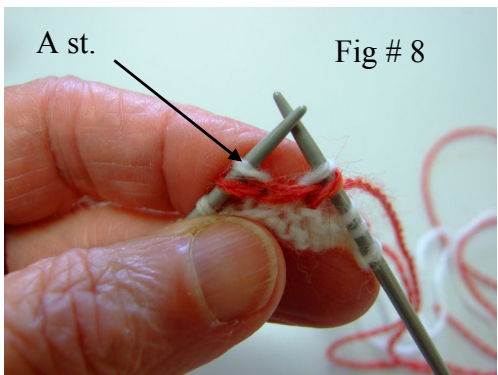


Fig # 7

Once that is done you will slip the new loop back to the LN. (fig. #7)



A st.

Fig # 8

Next, you CC-L (see demo on pages 3-5). With **A**, knit the A stitch that was moved to the right. (fig # 8)

You can now see the red chain laying over.



Fig # 9

There are now 2 knitted **A** stitches between the beginning red chain (that will rise vertically) and the horizontal chain that is moving to the left. (fig # 9)

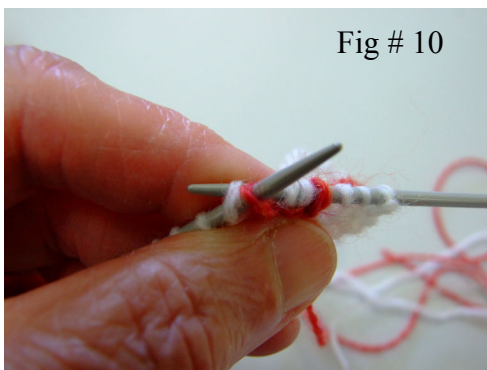


Fig # 10

In fig # 10, we are ready to pick up another **B** loop to add to our horizontal chain.

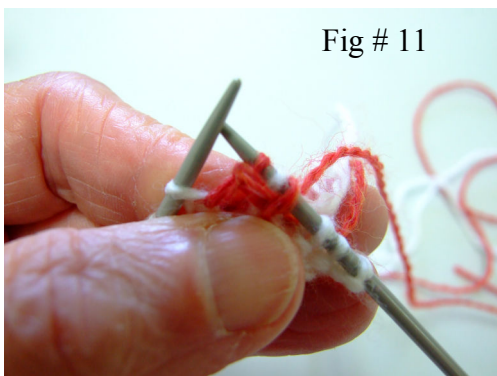


Fig # 11

Slide the previous chain loop over the new one, then return the new loop to the LN.

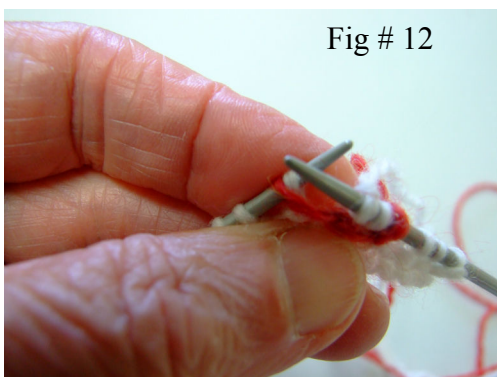


Fig # 12

CC-L (see pages 3-5)



Fig # 13

Knit the **A** stitch that was moved to right.

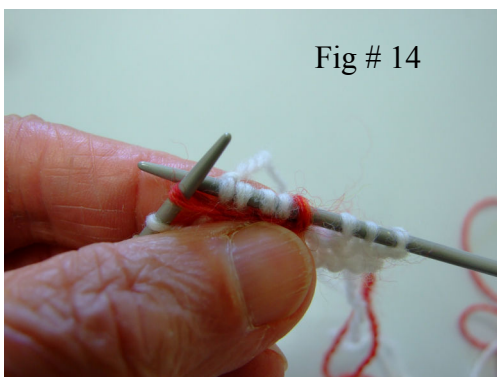


Fig # 14

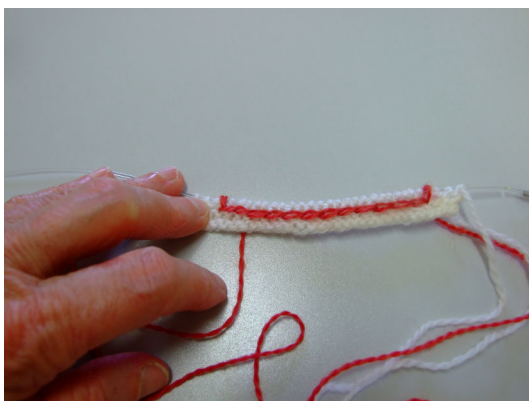
CC-L again, repeating the same procedure. Now slip the Chain back on to the RN and pick up a new loop in the next stitch to the left.

Work you way across till there are 4 stitches remaining on the LN.



With **B** knit in the fourth stitch from the left edge, then slip the last H-cc over the new st. This ends the horizontal row.

With **A** knit the last three stitches.



Congratulations! This completes row #1.

You now have a strand on each end to use to complete your vertical chain border.

Row 2. With **A**, K 3, yf (yarn forward), slip Chain st, purl across to last 4 sts. Slip Chain st. Yb, K 3.

Row 3. With **A**, K 3. With **B**, slip chain knitwise, knit through back loop. (Laying chain open.)

With **A**, K across to Chain. With **B**, K -ch. With **A**, K 3

Row 4. With **A**, K 3, yf (yarn forward), slip Chain st, purl across to last 4 sts. Slip Chain st. Yb, K 3.

Repeat Rows 3 and 4, two more times.

Row 9. With **A**, K 3. With **B**, K-ch. With **A**, K 8.

With **C** (new color for wandering around), allow about a 5 inch tail, pull up a loop in same st, lay it over to left and hold it down (this is the beginning of another H - CC). With **A**, knit the next st. Place new H- CC onto RN. With **B**, pick up new loop, and work continue to work as for row #1 (See pages 7-9). As before, you will be picking up a new H-CC loop every other st. You should have 3 completed chains, and one ready for another, when there are 12 sts left on LN. SSK last H-CC, with the next st .

With **A**, K 7. With **B**, K -ch. With **A**, K 3.

Row 10. With **A**, K 3. Yf, Slip ch, P 7, Slip ch; P 15; Slip ch. Yb, K 3.

Row 11. With **A**, K 3. With **B**, K-ch. With **A**, K 15. CC-L. K - 1; With **C**, K -ch. With **A**, K 6; With **B**, K -ch. With **A**, K 3.

Row 12. With **A**, K 3. Yf, sl-ch; purl across, slip all chains; K last 3 sts.

Row 13. With **A**, K 3. With **B**, K-ch. With **A**, K 16. CC-L. K - 1; With **C**, K -ch. With **A**, K 5; With **B**, K -ch. With **A**, K 3.

Row 14. With **A**, K 3. Yf, sl-ch; purl across, slip all chains; K last 3 sts.

Row 15. With **A**, K 3. With **B**, K-ch. With **A**, K 17. With **C**, K -ch. With **A**, K 5; With **B**, K -ch. With **A**, K 3.

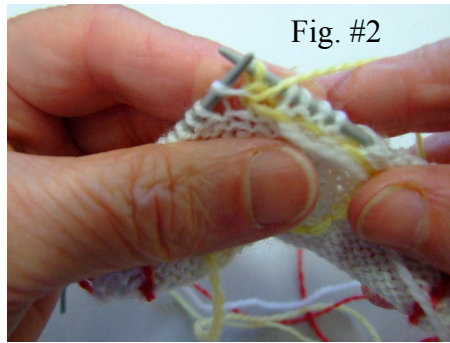
Row 16. With **A**, K 3. Yf, sl-ch; purl across, slip all chains; K last 3 sts.

Row 17. With **A**, K 3. With **B**, K-ch. With **A**, K 17. With **C**, K -ch. With **A**, K 5; With **B**, K -ch. With **A**, K 3.

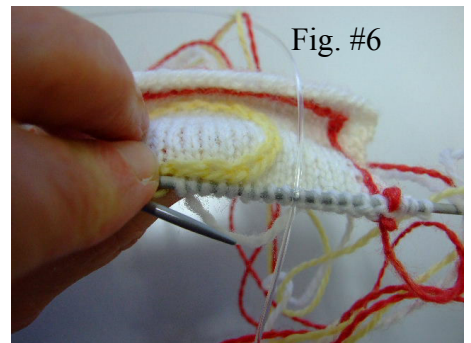
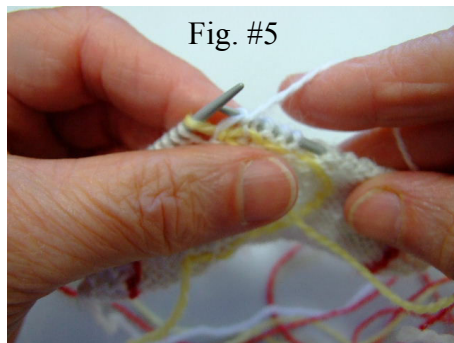
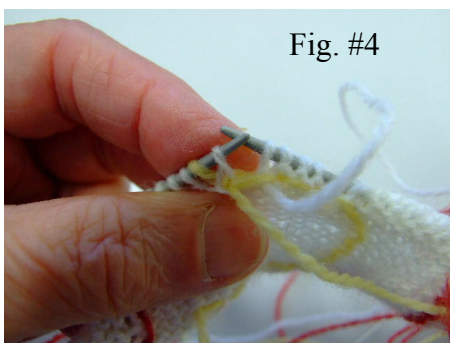
Row 18. With **A**, K 3. Yf, sl-ch; purl across, slip all chains; K last 3 sts.

Row 19. With **A**, K 3. With **B**, K-ch. With **A**, K 16. CC-R. With **C**, K -ch. With **A**, K 6; With **B**, K -ch. With **A**, K 3.

Row 20. With **A**, K 3. Yf, sl-ch; P 6; YO, CC-L (See below), K 1. With **C**, purl into next st and pick up loop for horizontal chain (fig. #1). Pass chain to right over new H- loop(fig. #2). Return new loop to LN. With **A**, CC-L (fig. #3). P 1. CC-L, P 1(fig. #4). In fig. #5, you are ready to slip H ch back onto RN and with **C**, pick up new loop for H- CC. With **C** and **A**, work horizontal chain from purl side till there are 12 sts left on LN. Slip border ch, yb, K last 3 sts.



**Note, to move the chain to the left on the purl side, you will be using the procedure used for CC-R on pages 3-5, only this time you are moving the main sts, this moves the chain to the left.. Remember that it is the CHAIN that you are moving. In fig. #6 you can see the horizontal chain laying nicely along the base of the A sts.*



Row 21. With **A**, K 3; with **B**, K-ch; With **A**, K 6. With **C**, K- ch tog with next stitch. With **A**, K 9; Knit through bk loop of YO. K 6; with **B**, K-ch; with **A**, K 3.

Row 22. With **A**, K 3. Yf, sl-ch; purl across, slip all chains; K last 3 sts.

Row 23. With **A**, K 3; with **B**, K-ch; With **A**, K 6. With **C**, K- ch. With **A**, K 16. With **B**, K-ch; with **A**, K 3.

Row 24. With **A**, K 3. Yf, sl-ch; purl across, slip all chains; K last 3 sts.

Row 25. With **A**, K 3; with **B**, K-ch; With **A**, K 6. With **C**, K- ch. With **A**, K 16. With **B**, K-ch; with **A**, K 3.

Row 26. With **A**, K 3. Yf, sl-ch; purl across, slip all chains; K last 3 sts.

Row 27. With **A**, K 3; with **B**, K-ch; With **A**, K 6. YO (Inc) Release Chain, Hold down to left with thumb, K 1. Slip H-CC back on to RN. With **C**, pick up H- loop in next stitch. With **A**, and **C**, work Horizontal chain till there are 11 stitches on LN. With **A**, SSK last horizontal loop next stitch to left. With **A**, K 6. With **B**, K-ch; with **A**, K 3. This completes the horizontal chain.

Row 28. With **A**, K 3, yf (yarn forward), slip Chain st; P 16. Reposition YO, with left leg on wrong side. P yo. Purl to last 4 sts. Slip Chain st. Yb, K 3.

Row 29. With **A**, K 3. With **B**, K -ch. With **A**, K across to Chain. With **B**, K -ch. With **A**, K 3

Row 30. With **A**, K 3, yf (yarn forward), slip Chain st, purl across to last 4 sts. Slip Chain st. Yb, K 3.

Row 31. With **A**, K 3. With **B**, K -ch. With **A**, K across to Chain. With **B**, K -ch. With **A**, K 3

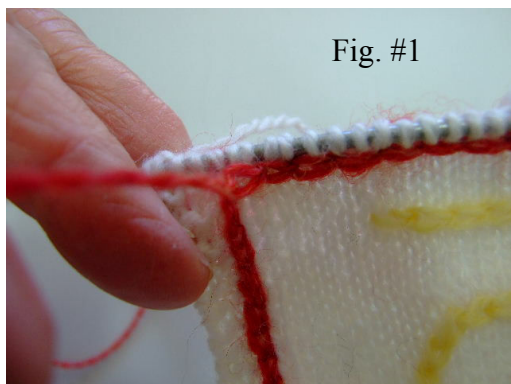
Row 32. With **A**, K 3, yf (yarn forward), slip Chain st, purl across to last 4 sts. Slip Chain st. Yb, K 3.

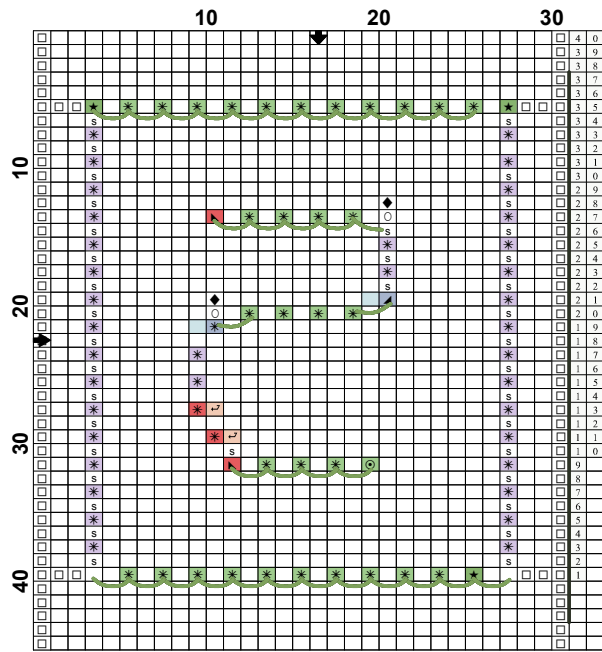
Row 33. With **A**, K 3. With **B**, K -ch. With **A**, K across to Chain. With **B**, K -ch. With **A**, K 3

Row 34. With **A**, K 3, yf (yarn forward), slip Chain st, purl across to last 4 sts. Slip Chain st. Yb, K 3.

Row 35. With **A**, K 3; with **B**, K ch. Release chain, hold down to left under thumb. Inc with YO, or your favorite inc in next st. With **B**, work horizontal chain across as in **row 1**. Work to last vertical border st. With **B**, pull up H- loop in vertical chain. Slip last chain over new loop. Next, pull yarn through to front(fig. #1). Feed strand into yarn needle and stick through to back. Weave in. This completes the border.

Finish. Knit 5 rows. Bind off.





This chart is a visual aid. It shows the layout of the cable chain sts.

See written instructions for details.

Chart Key

- Knit
- Yarn over
- Slip stitch
- Horizontal Chain (H - CC)
- See special instructions
- Pick up loop to begin H- CC
- Vertical CC.
- CC-R (Cable chain right)
- Indicates direct of slipped chain -right
- Knit tog CC with st to right
- CC-L (Cable chain left)
- Indicates directions of slipped chain - left
- SSK CC with stitch to left.
- Right side =K in back loop, to form new st.
Wrong side =flip YO, Purl in left leg of YO to form new st.