

Common Knitting Abbreviations

ABBREVIATION	EXPLANATION
Alt	Alternate – this usually occurs during an instruction for shaping, for example: increase 1 stitch at end of next and every alt row until there are X sts.
Beg	Beginning
Dec	Decrease – This is a shaping instruction.
Inc	Increase – This is a shaping instruction.
K	Knit
P	Purl
K2tog	Knit 2 together – This gives a right slanting decrease
PSSO	Pass Slipped Stitch Over – This abbreviation occurs after a slip abbreviation, for example: K7, sl 1, K1, pssso, k3 This gives a left slanting decrease
Rep	Repeat
Sl	Slip – You slip the next stitch on to the right hand needle without knitting it, then you knit the next st
St(s)	Stitch(es)
Tbl	Through the back loop
Tog	Together – usually used as a means of decreasing
Yb	Yarn back
Yf	Yarn forward
Yo	Yarn over
M1	Make 1 st – pick up horizontal strand of yarn lying between st just worked and next st and knit it.
K1B	Knit 1 below – insert needle through centre of st below next st on needle & knit in usual way slipping the st above off needle at the same time
Sl 2tog knitwise	Insert needle into the next 2 sts on left needle as if to k2tog then slip both sts onto right hand needle without knitting them.
KB1	Knit into the back of next st
PB1	Purl into back of next st
Kfb	Knit into the front & back of next st – This is method of increasing
SSK	Slip Slip Knit – Slip the next 2 sts onto the right needle individually then knit tog through the back loop.
Tension	Also known as Gauge – It is very important to do a tension or gauge swatch when starting a new project. Without the correct gauge, the project will not be the correct size.