

Guidelines for Transcribing Knit and Crochet Patterns, 2014



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Introduction

The development of the BANA Crafts and Hobbies Technical Committee arose from a need to standardize the braille transcription of instructions for various crafts and hobbies. This volume contains guidelines for the transcription of knit and crochet patterns.

Prior to the writing of these guidelines, a survey was conducted with braille readers who knit and crochet to determine their preferences for formatting, abbreviations, use of the number indicator and letter sign, and transcription of chart patterns. The Committee compiled their answers from the survey and created these guidelines based upon the results.

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Stitch Abbreviation	Meaning
puk	pick up and knit
pw	purlways
R	right
rem	remaining
rep	repeat
r.h.	right hand needle
rnd(s)	round(s)
RS or Rt side	right side
sk	skip
SK2P	slip 1, knit 2 together, pass slip stitch over
SKP	slip 1, knit 1, pass slip stitch over
sl	slip
sl 2 k	slip two stitches knitways
sl 2 p	slip two stitches purlways
sp	space
ss or sl st	slip stitch
st(s)	stitch(es)
St st (st-st)	stockinette stitch
tbl	through back of loop
tog or tgr	together
wf	wool forward
wrn	wool round needle
WS	wrong side
yo	yarn over
yrn	yarn round needle
*	asterisk
**	double asterisk
***	triple asterisk

2.1.2 If asterisks and/or parentheses are used, include the following in the abbreviation section:

- * Repeat whatever follows the * as many times as specified.
- () or [] Do what is in parentheses or brackets the number of times indicated.

- 4.1.2 The letter sign is *not* to be used before a K (k) or P (p) within the knit pattern, or any single letter abbreviation in a crochet pattern, whether or not it is joined to a number.

Example 4-2: Letter Sign Abbreviation

K the next 5 sts. P the next 2 sts, k the next 5 sts.

- 4.1.3 For *Knit Patterns* there are to be no spaces between a stitch abbreviation and the number that follows. For *Crochet Patterns*, follow print for spacing.

Example 4-3: Knit Pattern

K 2, P 5 to the end of the row.
 k2, p5 to the end of the row.
 BO3 at end of the row.

Example 4-4: Crochet Pattern

3 dc into first sc, *(1 sc, 3 ch, 3 dc)

5.1 Formatting Guidelines

- 5.1.1 Any beginning information or instructions—such as materials, gauge, size of needles/hooks, etc.—should begin in cell 1 with runovers in cell 3 (from now on shown as 1-3).
- 5.1.2 Each “Row” or “Round” (or “Next row”) should be in 1-3. This format should be followed even if the print pattern runs everything together.

Example 6-2: Knitting Chart with Runovers

Key to chart:

- Royal Blue
- Misty Grey
- Cream

6.1.2 A chart and key should not be divided between braille pages if they are short enough to fit on one page. However, if necessary, the key may be on one page and the chart on the following page, in order to keep the entire chart on one page. If a chart is too long to fit on one page, separate it at an appropriate point—do not divide a row/round between braille pages.

6.1.3 Each row should be numbered on alternating sides, *regardless of whether row numbers appear in print*, leaving two blank cells between a row number and the beginning of

a row. (See *Examples 6-1* and *6-2*.) **Note:** The number indicator is used to prevent the row number from being mistaken as a symbol in the chart.

- 6.1.4 The numbers in the margins in PRINT PORTION of *Examples 6-1* AND *6-2* were not included in the original pattern, but are used here for reference only, to show where the rows begin in print and how they correspond to the braille version
- 6.1.5 Stitches for *odd* rows are transcribed from right to left; *even* rows are transcribed from left to right. In print, the first row begins at the bottom right, and the braille row must follow this direction as well. In other words, row 1 will start at the *right* margin of the bottom line. (See *Example 6-1*.)
- a. If each of the rows in a pattern will fit on one braille line, the stitches should be aligned vertically as they are in print. (See *Example 6-1*.)
 - b. If the rows will not each fit on one braille line, and the chart must therefore include runovers, end the line before the runover one cell before the ending margin. Because the rows are read from the bottom to the top of the page, the runover should be transcribed on the line above the beginning of the row. A runover is indented two cells from the beginning of that row's margin. (See *Example 6-2*.)
 - c. Note also that in *Examples 6-1* and *6-2* the braille key to the chart is not done as a transcriber's note, because the key is in the print pattern.
 - d. If the chart is to begin at the bottom of the page, the first line of the chart should be in line 24, and not in line 25 which should be left blank according to braille formats.
 - e. If the pattern is extremely complicated and/or the transcriber feels that it will extend for so many pages that it will make reading the chart difficult to read, the transcriber may decide to convert the chart into written instructions and begin with the bottom row of instructions and proceed to the top row as in *Example 6-3*, below.

Example 6-3: Chart Converted into Written Instructions

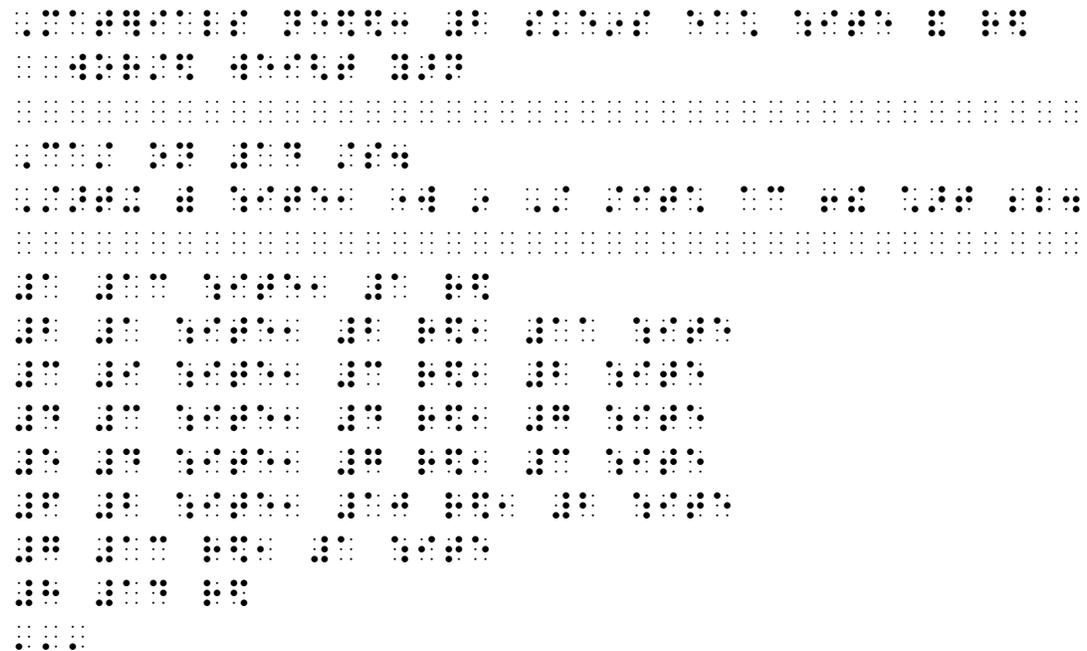
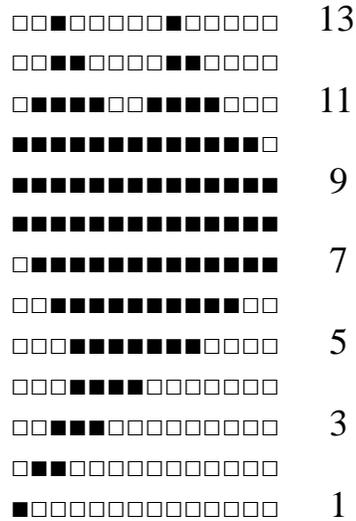
Materials needed: 2 skeins each white and red worsted weight yarn

Key to chart:

- White
- Red

Cast on 14 sts.

Starting with white, work in St stitch according to the chart below.



6.1.6

As some of the larger chart patterns will use more than one braille page, a transcriber’s note is required to let readers know on which page they will find Row 1.

- 6.1.7 It is recommended that the full cell ⠠, hyphen ⠤ (36), letters l ⠠, g ⠠, and x ⠠, and any other unique braille signs be used to represent the print symbols in the key.
- 6.1.8 Chart patterns can also be knitted using circular needles. Instructions for circular needles may vary from those for straight needles. Follow the print instructions for transcribing the chart into braille, or writing out the instructions.
- 6.1.9 Crochet chart patterns are very similar to knit charts, but the transcriber should follow instructions given for any particular pattern.