

All Strung Out Fine Yarns and Fiber Arts

January 2010 Newsletter

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Winter Hours

We are open on this schedule now through April 31st. See you around the shop soon!

Monday: 10am - 6pm
Tuesday: 10am - 6pm
Wednesday: 10am - 6pm
Thursday: 11am - 9pm
Friday: 11am - 6pm
Saturday: 10am - 5pm
Sunday: Closed

Welcome to 2010!!

January is proving to be extremely busy here at All Strung Out. Our holiday season was a blast. We had so much fun helping you all create a fun, creative, and knitting-filled December and we are excited to get knitting this year. We have a full complement of knitting classes coming up this winter and spring at the shop, so now is a great time to drop in and get started on a new project or learn some new skills!

There are many new yarns and new projects available at the shop right now, with more on the way, and we will be running some knitalongs that I hope will have you casting on for something very special in this new year.

I want to thank everyone who came out at the end of November for All Strung Out's Birthday Party. I am honestly amazed at the response and I couldn't possibly thank you all enough for supporting us in our first year of business. We couldn't do it without you.

~Ashley

Incredibly Simple Wristwarmers

If you're always cold like me, it's nice to have a pair of wristwarmers at your desk to keep your hands warm while working on the computer. Here is a simple, no-fuss pattern that can be easily embellished with a button, some beads, or even a little embroidery!

Yarn: Berocco Ultra Alpaca, 1 skein
Needles: 5mm Straight or Circular, any length will do.

Cast on 40 stitches using your favourite cast-on method - I used the long tail cast on.

Rows 1-5: Knit.

Row 6: k2, (yo, k2tog) to last 2 stitches, k2.

Repeat these 6 rows until your wristwarmer measures 8 inches, unstretched, from cast-on edge. Bind off loosely. ---- Cont'd next page >

Finishing:

Using whipstitch or mattress stitch, sew the cast-on edge to the cast-off edge. Leave a thumbhole by sewing up 1 inch of the edge, leaving 2 inches open, and then sewing up the remaining 5 inches of the edge. Make another wristwarmer in the same way. Weave in your ends and there you have it!

New Yarns:

Naturally Yoshie is a beautiful bulky wool - acrylic blend that comes in 5 marled colourways. I made a pair of wristwarmers out of this yarn that are just perfect under a pair of heavier mittens for those really cold days.

Berroco Blackstone Tweed is a worsted weight wool-mohair-angora yarn that is great for shrugs, cowls, sweaters and other garments. Come see our sample - We knit up Laura Chau's Macro Lace Cardigan with this yarn and it's just gorgeous.

Berroco Pure Merino DK: This yarn is a wonderfully soft superwash yarn that is excellent for baby garments and super luxe sweaters. We have 10 shades.

Classic Elite Alpaca Sox is a medium-weight variegated sock yarn that knits up quickly on a 3.25 mm needle.

Classic Elite Fresco is featured in Brooklyn Tweed blogger Jared Flood's book, *Made In Brooklyn*. His wonderful fair-isle Beaumont hats use two colours of this yarn, which is a wool-angora-alpaca blend.

Interested in a Knitting-themed birthday party? The shop will be available for rental on Sundays if you would like to plan an event with us! Contact us at allstrungout@allstrungout.ca for more details. **Note:** for now, these birthday parties are intended for grown-ups who are young at heart.

Classes

Our winter class schedule is full of new offerings and old favourites for those looking to expand their skills. There are classes available for all skill levels, so don't be shy!

Online Class Signups!

Check out our website at www.allstrungout.ca to sign up for classes using our new calendar!

Weekly Events

Knit and Chat

Wednesdays, 11am-2pm
Thursdays, 6pm-9pm
Saturdays, 1pm-3pm

Come Knit and Chat at All Strung Out! Bring your knitting/crochet to work on and hang out for a while in our community area. Meet other local crafters, show off your finished (and unfinished!) objects, and have a fun, relaxing evening of knitting, good company, and good conversation.

Spin and Chat

Saturdays, 3pm-5pm
Are you a spinner? Bring your wheel, your drop spindle, or your handcards to our Sunday Spin In, a gathering for spinners to hang out, spin some yarn, and get to know some fellow fiber artists. Anyone is welcome.

Birthday Parties

Class Schedule

Intro to Ravelry.com

1 2hr session
Friday Feb 26th, 7pm-9pm

Ravelry is an amazing website. Sort of like a "Facebook" for knitters, this site allows you to do everything from finding patterns, to organizing your stash, to showing off your finished projects. It also features a vibrant forum community where you can meet and mingle with knitters all around the world.

In this workshop, Johanna B. will teach you everything you need to know to get the most out of this amazing resource. Even if you are not computer-savvy, you will learn a lot by dropping in!

\$10 per person, \$9 for KW Knitter's Guild Members! 20 spaces maximum.

learn how to draft, spin, ply and finish a yarn made from combed wool top. Students will receive their own drop spindle and 100g of handpainted fiber. Cost: \$70, includes materials. Minimum 3 students, Maximum 6.

Learn to Knit

One 2hr session:
Saturday Jan 23rd
10am-12pm
OR Saturday Feb 20th
10am-12pm
OR Saturday April 24th
10am-12pm

If you are just getting started with knitting or you need a quick refresher, this is the class for you! Learn how to cast on, knit, purl, and cast off: everything you need to know to get started on your first scarf project! Cost: \$25 plus materials. Minimum 3 students, Maximum 5.

Crochet: Level II

2 2hr sessions
Saturday Mar 6th and 13th
10am-12pm

This class is intended to build on our Intro to Crochet class. Students will advance beyond the basics, learning how to do more complicated stitches and follow patterns for shaped garments and toys. Cost: \$35, plus materials. Minimum 3 students, Maximum 6.

Intro to Needle Felting

One 2hr session
Saturday March 20th
10am-12pm

Needle Felting is a fun and versatile embellishment and sculpture technique that makes use of the natural properties of wool to create beautiful designs either on a flat surface or in three dimensions. There is some prep work required for this class, so please contact us for more details. Cost: \$30, plus materials. Minimum 3 students, Maximum 6.

Intro to Drop Spindling

Two 2hr sessions
Saturday April 10th and 17th
10am-12pm

Learn how to make your own yarn on the drop spindle, an ancient, portable spinning tool. In this class students will

Finishing 101

One 2hr session
Saturday March 6th
10am-12pm

Do you struggle with sewing up seams, picking up stitches, grafting, or

blocking? This is the class for you! Learn how to give your completed garments a professionally finished look using a variety of tricks and techniques. In order to take this class, it is best that you have a finished project which has not yet been sewn up.

Please bring or purchase: darning needle, crochet hook, and optionally, straight pins or safety pins. Cost: \$35 plus materials. Minimum 3 students, Maximum 6.

Thrummed Mittens

One 2hr session
Saturday Feb 13th and 20th
10am-12pm

Join us as we learn to knit these extra-warm, fleece-lined mittens. Even if you only know how to knit and purl, this is the class for you. Cost: \$40, some materials included. Minimum 3 students, Maximum 6.

Make Your Own Stitch Markers

One 2hr session
Saturday Feb 27th
10am-12pm

Add some bling to your knitting! Learn how to make these beautiful beaded stitch markers. They make great gifts. We will share jewellery-making tools if necessary, but bring your own jewellery pliers if you have them. Cost: \$20, some materials included. Minimum 3 students, Maximum 6.

Two Handed Fair Isle

One 2hr session
Saturday March 13th
10am-12pm

Add some color to your knitting! Learn this easy, tangle-free way to knit with

two colors at the same time, as we work through the "Squares Squared" hat pattern by Cosette Cornelius-Bates (visit her blog at <http://www.cosymakes.com!>)

Cost: \$40, plus materials. Minimum 3 students, Maximum 6.

Machine Felting II: Felted Slippers

Two 2hr sessions
Saturday Mar 27th and Apr 3rd
10am-12pm

Fiber Trends Felted Clogs will keep your feet warm on a chilly morning! We will help you get the hang of this challenging pattern. Cost: \$35, plus materials. Minimum 3 students, Maximum 6.

Knit a Moebius Scarf

One 2hr session
Saturday Feb 13th
10am-12pm

A moebius strip is a mathematical figure with only one edge and one face that can be recreated in knitting. Mastering this innovative technique will allow you to create unique scarves and wraps among other things. A basic knowledge of the knit and purl stitches are required, as well as knitting on circular needles. Cost: \$40, plus materials. Minimum 3 students, Maximum 6.

Learn to Knit Socks

Two 2hr sessions
Saturday Jan 30th and Feb 6th
10am-12pm

There's nothing more comforting and cozy than a pair of hand knitted socks. In this class we will learn how to construct a simple sock worked from the cuff down. Cost: \$40 plus materials. Minimum 3 students, maximum 6.