

# TKGA and New Knitters

Take advantage of material for new knitters, provided by TKGA.

## Cast On Magazine:

- ~ Always look for the patterns that are marked **EASY**.
- ~ Look for articles like "Knitting 911" that are geared to newer knitters.
- ~ In each issue, you can **look up** abbreviations and terms used in patterns - each issue has "Abbreviations and Pattern Basics" in it (see this in the Table of Contents).



## Member Online Pages:

TKGA members who are new knitters can also find free special ONLINE things in the "Members Online" area of the TKGA Web site. Here's how:

1. Go to <https://www.e-offinger.net/tkgadata/scriptcontent/indexlogon.cfm?finalURL=http://www.tkga.com/members/index.php>
2. Type in your TKGA member ID number in the first box, and then type in a CAPITAL letter "A" and your member ID number (no spaces in between) in the second box.
3. Now select one of the bulleted links - and click on that link again when it comes up at the top of the page. Explore what is available that might be just the thing you're looking for help on, such as...
  - a) **NEWEST BONUS PATTERNS** or **BONUS PATTERNS ARCHIVE**:  
Click on "Newest Bonus Patterns". Find the newest FREE member patterns (new things are added with each new issue of *Cast On*).

Also click on "Bonus Patterns Archive" to see older patterns that are archived. Open each one to see if says it is "Easy" or "Beginners" or "Advanced Beginners".

Examples of archived Bonus Patterns that are **marked EASY** are:

- Doll sweaters
  - Holiday Task Bag
  - Shades of Pink and Brown Headband
  - Simple Dog Blanket
  - Feather Rib Premie Hat
  - Collared Blouse by Laura Bryant
- b) Select **GOOD PATTERNS NEVER DIE**:  
Find more free patterns under "Good Patterns Never Die". **A favorite for EASY knitting** is the "MacArthur Park Poncho" by Margaret Fisher.
  - c) Select **ONLINE LESSONS AND ARTICLES**:  
See if there are any lessons you might want to print out right from the Web site! **One that is particularly good** is the one called "Too Long? Too Short? It's Easy to Fix" by Barbara Scott. **Another good one** is "Two Sided Stitches for Scarves and Stoles" by Margaret Fisher".

d) **Select MASTERS - ON YOUR WAY TO THE MASTERS ARCHIVE:**

In the "Masters - On Your Way to the Masters Archive" you'll find articles that discuss various knitting skills. While some of the information may be over your head right now, there may also be one or two that answer questions you have. Start by checking out "**Gauge**", "**Blocking of Hand Knits**" or "**Those Pesky Yarn Tails**".

### **Top Ten Yarn Questions:**

Click on [http://www.tkga.com/resources/TOPT\\_1.pdf](http://www.tkga.com/resources/TOPT_1.pdf) to read answers to the top ten yarn questions.

### **TKGA Correspondence Courses:**

The TKGA Correspondence Course we recommend for any new knitter is the one called "Learn to Knit". For \$25 TKGA will send you a set of photocopied materials on how to do various basic knitting techniques. You work through these instructions on your own, and then as part of the course, you can send a set of practice swatches (described in the lesson materials) so that someone can review your work and make suggestions.

The next step would be the "Basics, Basics, Basics" course whenever you feel ready (read more at <http://www.tkga.com/correspondence.shtm>).

### **TKGA Message Board:**

See what other knitters are asking, and ask your own knitting questions on the TKGA Message Board (<http://www.tkga.com/messageboard.shtm>). Other knitters can see your questions and can reply with the answer you need.

### **Take Classes Face-to-Face at TKGA Conferences, at a Member Discount:**

Whenever you attend a TKGA Conference, you get entry to the Shopping Floor free if you are a member of TKGA. You also get discounts on tickets to any conference classes and events. You can learn about the conferences at [www.KnitandCrochetShow.com](http://www.KnitandCrochetShow.com) and at <http://www.tkga.com/conference.shtm>. Information about 2011 conferences will be added soon. **Look for classes that are marked for "Beginners" or "All"**.

### **We Hope You Enjoy Your TKGA Membership and Take Advantage of All That TKGA Offers:**

We hope that this information will encourage you in your knitting. The best way to learn is to keep knitting and to try new things.

Do keep those issues of *Cast On* that you may be struggling to understand right now. Sooner than you think, you will get to a point where you are excited to find answers and patterns in its pages that you are ready for.

The very best to you in your knitting!

*TKGA Staff and Fellow Members*