

OMG BFF BRACELET

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Remember making friendship bracelets for your BFFs? OMG! Here is the knitted version! A great way to use up and show off bits of pretty yarn left over from projects AND display your knitting cred! Knit one for yourself and one for your BFF in your favorite colors or fibers! Knit in the round in only 6 rows, this is a quick project. It's a great way to learn the braid-technique while making a simple and cute bracelet.

There are two versions of the bracelet, worsted weight and fingering/sock weight. The finished bracelet is about 3.75in across and fits a wrist around 7in around snugly comfortably.

For worsted weight you need the following:

US 6 (4.0mm) double pointed needles

About 10y of worsted weight yarn in Main Color (referred to as MC in pattern)

About 5-10y of worsted weight yarn in Contrasting Color (referred to as CC in pattern)

For sock/fingering weight you need the following:

US 1 (2.25mm) double pointed needles

About 10-15y of sock/fingering weight yarn in Main Color (referred to as MC in pattern)

About 5-10y of sock/fingering weight yarn in Contrasting Color (referred to as CC in pattern)

Pattern

The only way the construction of the two bracelets differ is in how many stitches are cast on. Cast on **38 stitches LOOSELY** (using whatever method you prefer) in **MC** for a **worsted weight bracelet** or **64 stitches in MC** for a **sock/fingering weight bracelet**.

Divide stitches evenly among 3 needles.

Join in the round and purl one round.

Knit the next row alternating colors (Knit 1 MC, Knit 1 CC) repeating the two stitches in the brackets to the end. You should have something that looks like the photograph below:



These photos demonstrate how to knit the braid technique in the **English (or thrown) method**. If you are knitting **Continental (or picking style)** just remember that the most important thing is to *twist the working yarn around the float yarn in the appropriate direction*, then purling with it, while keeping the float yarn tight in front to create the braid.

The next row is where the braid begins. Bring both strands of yarn forward as if you are going to purl with both of them. Twist the MC around the CC *counter clock-wise*:



Bring the *MC to the needle to purl* the first stitch. Essentially you are doing inside-out color work, with the twisted strands creating the braid. While you are purling with the MC, you let the CC just carry along. This float creates the braid:



For the next stitch, you are again twisting the yarn *counter clock-wise*, this time twisting the CC around the MC and *bringing the CC to the needle to purl with*. It's important that the yarn you are purling with and the stitch you are purling into are the same color. **Make sure to keep your floats tight, otherwise your braid might not look right.**

Continue purling, repeating these two stitches to the end of the round, making sure to alternate colors. At the end of the row, you should have something that looks like this:



Your working yarn will be all wound up. **Don't unwind it**, this will be taken care of in the next row.

In the next round you are going to do the same thing, with one big difference. When you go to purl into the first stitch, instead of twisting counter clock-wise, you are twisting the yarns *clock-wise*, and *bringing the MC up to purl*.



Carry the CC carry along while you purl with MC.



For the next stitch, again twist the yarns *clock-wise*, bringing the *CC up to purl with*, while letting the MC carry along. Repeat these two stitches to the end of the round to complete the braid, making sure you are purling with the same color you are purling into. **Again, make sure you are keeping the float yarn tight to make a neat braid.**

Continue these two stitches to the end of the round. You should have something that looks like the photo below:



Break off CC yarn, leaving a tail to weave in. The rest of the bracelet is worked only with your MC.

Knit one round with your MC.

Purl one round with your MC.

Bind off all stitches. I recommend a sewn bind off, but you can do whatever you are comfortable with. It looks nicer and is a lot more stretchy. This is done by breaking the yarn leaving a long tail about 3-4 times the size of your bracelet. Thread a yarn needle onto the end and insert it into the first two stitches on the needle purl-wise. Thread the yarn through the stitches and then insert it into the first stitch on the needle knit-wise. Thread the yarn through, and drop this first stitch off the needle. Repeat through all stitches. When I get to the end, I like to thread the yarn through the final stitch on your knitting needle **and** the first already bound off stitch purl-wise and then thread the yarn through the last stitch knit-wise for a stronger and more uniform bind off. Weave in all ends and your bracelet is ready to wear!



If you want to change the size of your bracelet, simply adjust the amount of stitches to any multiple of two and follow the pattern as written. For a child-sized bracelet, cast on about 30 stitches in worsted weight or 50 in fingering weight.

If you need more help with the braid, see this tutorial on my blog: <http://ohdessaknits.com/2010/07/17/latvian-braid-tutorial-and-other-such-stuff/> if you are still stuck, feel free to email me at odessa.reichel@gmail.com