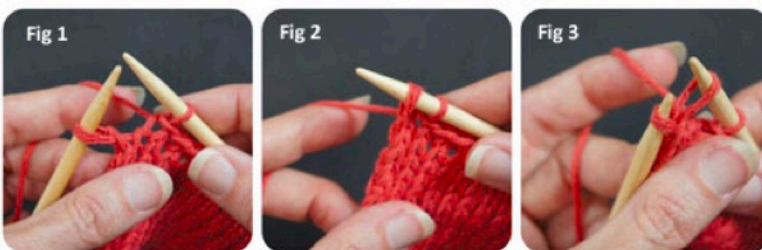


Designer and teacher Patty Lyons is here today to share one of my favorite tricks. I know I had a huge smile on my face when I learned this method for tightening that ugly loose loop at the end of a bind-off.

A Better Bind-Off

When you bind off do you get something that looks like a noose at the end of your knitting? Does it bug you as much as it does me? You can see that noose-looking thing in the photo above.

We can do better than that, can't we? Here's how:



collage2

Fig 1) Slip the last unworked stitch back to the right needle; **Fig 2)** With the tip of your left needle, pick up the left (back) loop of the stitch in the row below the unworked stitch, inserting the needle back to front; **Fig 3)** Move the unworked stitch back to the left needle; **Fig 4)** Knit the last stitch and the leg of the row below together, as if you were doing a k2tog; **Figs 5 and 6)** This will move the slack of that sloppy last stitch to the back of your work.

Ta da! After you bind-off the last (now newly) neaten stitch, your edge will look beautifully flat and tidy bind-off shown in the photo at right.



A better bind-off!