

I-CORD GRAFTING

HOW TO INVISIBLY CONNECT THE END OF AN I-CORD TO THE BEGINNING

This tutorial will show how to graft the last live stitches of an i-cord to the first cast-on stitches, to invisibly connect the two ends together so as to produce a continuous, smooth result. It can be used when working in the round on cuffs or necklines, or for the finishing of a cardigan edging.



1



After finishing the last row of the i-cord, cut the working yarn by leaving a long enough tail (at least 6 inches) and thread it to a tapestry needle. The yarn comes from the left side of the i-cord.

2



Insert your needle purlwise from right to left into the first live stitch on the DPN...

3



...pass the thread through the stitch without pulling too hard and slip this stitch off the needle.

Find the first cast-on stitch at the start of the i-cord and pass the needle under both loops of the base of this stitch, from right to left.



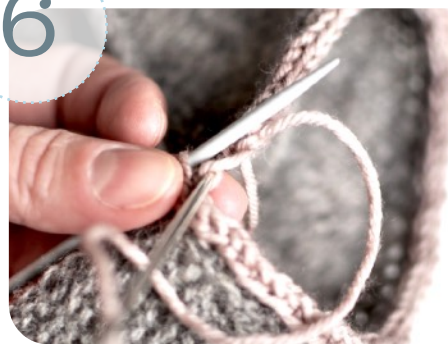
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5



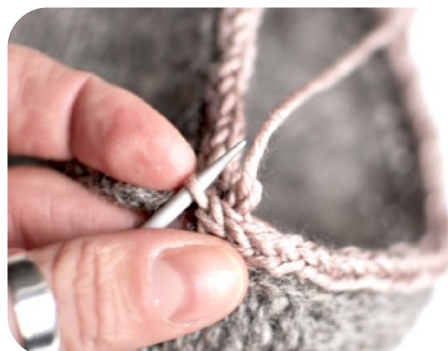
Pull thread through with even tension and not too tight, so as to not distort the stitches...

6



...and pass needle from front into the centre of the stitch that was slipped off in step 3. (Return the needle back into the front of the stitch).

Immediately pass the needle purlwise through the next stitch...



8

...slip this second stitch off the needle...

7

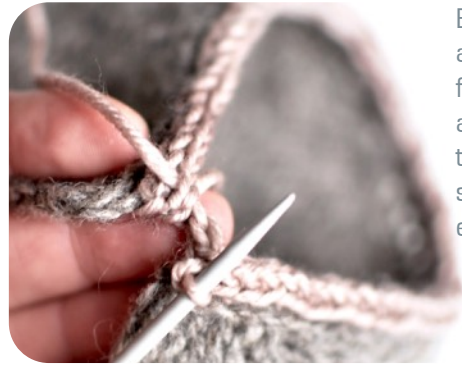


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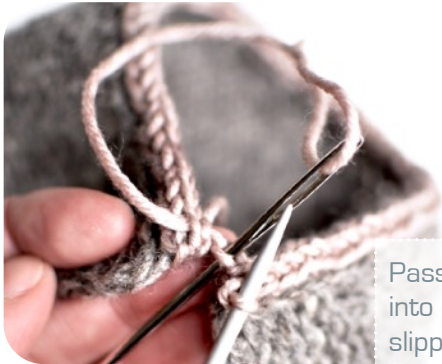
..and find the next stitch on the opposite end, to pass the needle through both loops again.

As you can see in this picture the stitch that is worked into is not chosen directly from the cast-on row, but from one row after that.



By choosing a neat and complete stitch from the first row after the cast-on, the join will look smoother in the end.

10



11

Pass the needle back into the middle of the slipped off stitch...



12

...and immediately pass the needle purlwise into the last stitch on the DPN and slip it off.



13

If you graft the ends of a wider - 4 or 5 stitch - i-cord together, continue in this fashion until the last stitch.



14

Pass the tapestry needle through both loops of the last stitch on the opposite end.

15

And once more through the centre of the last slipped stitch, but this time pull it through to the WS of the work.



16

Weave the tail neatly to the WS of the work and admire your continuous i-cord

