

GRAFTING LIVE I-CORD STS

TO PRODUCE A SEAMLESS CONNECTION IN BETWEEN THE START AND END OF AN I-CORD



The i-cord bind-off is an easy way to put a professional looking and crisp edge to any knitting edge while casting off.

But how to finish off this technique, when you arrive at the last unbound stitches of the row? In this tutorial we will discuss how to graft an invisible connection of the i-cord bind-off with "live" stitches that are still on our needle.

If you need to graft your i-cord to a knitted edge, check out this tutorial here: <http://www.lamaisonrillie.com/knittingtherapy/a-neat-simple-i-cord-grafting>

1

Cut your yarn by leaving a long tail (at least 15 cm or 6 inches) and thread it to a tapestry needle.

2

Keep the needle with the final stitches parallel to the one with the i-cord as shown.

(You need to have the same amount of sts on both needles.)

3

Now insert your tapestry needle purlwise from right to left into the first stitch of your front-needle.

4

Pull through without taking the stitch off and insert needle knitwise into the first stitch of the needle at the back.

5

Pass the thread through without pulling to hard and insert needle **knitwise** into first stitch of front-needle.
(Never bring the yarn over the top of the needles, when switching the tapestry needle from one needle to the other. Keep movement and yarn at the front, under the needle tips)

Take this stitch off the needle and pull thread through with even tension and not too taut, so as to not distort the stitches.

6

7

Now pass directly to the stitch next to the one we just pulled off at the front needle and insert needle **purlwise**. Pull yarn through and **leave this stitch** on the needle.

Insert tapestry needle **purlwise** into the first stitch of the back needle...

8



... pull yarn
gently and
**take this
stitch off** the
needle.

9

Pass directly to the stitch next to the one we just took off and insert needle **knitwise**. Pull yarn through and **leave the stitch** on the needle.



If you bind off an i-cord with more stitches than the 2 shown, then repeat steps 5 to 10 (until you reach the very last 2 sts - one on each needle, as shown in this pic)



11

For the last stitch at the front needle, insert tapestry needle knitwise...



12

...pull through and take stitch off.

(Make sure that the tension of all worked stitches is similar to the rest of the i-cord and adjust, if necessary.)



13

Insert tapestry needle purlwise into the final stitch and pull your yarn through one last time.



14

Pull the yarn taut again and check the tension once more.



When you have finished with the grafting of the i-cord stitches, your work should look like this. A continuous i-cord with a smooth connection.

15



16

Depending on your project, you either can sew in the tail immediately or you can try to carry it to a more suitable area to sew it in (like in the case of this split hem, where it might disrupt the ribbing).



17

Take a close look at your edge and try to find areas that allow the discrete transport of your yarn: Often the best place is directly under the i-cord chain itself.



18

Finally sew the tail in, when you arrive at an area where you can safely do so, without it showing too much.