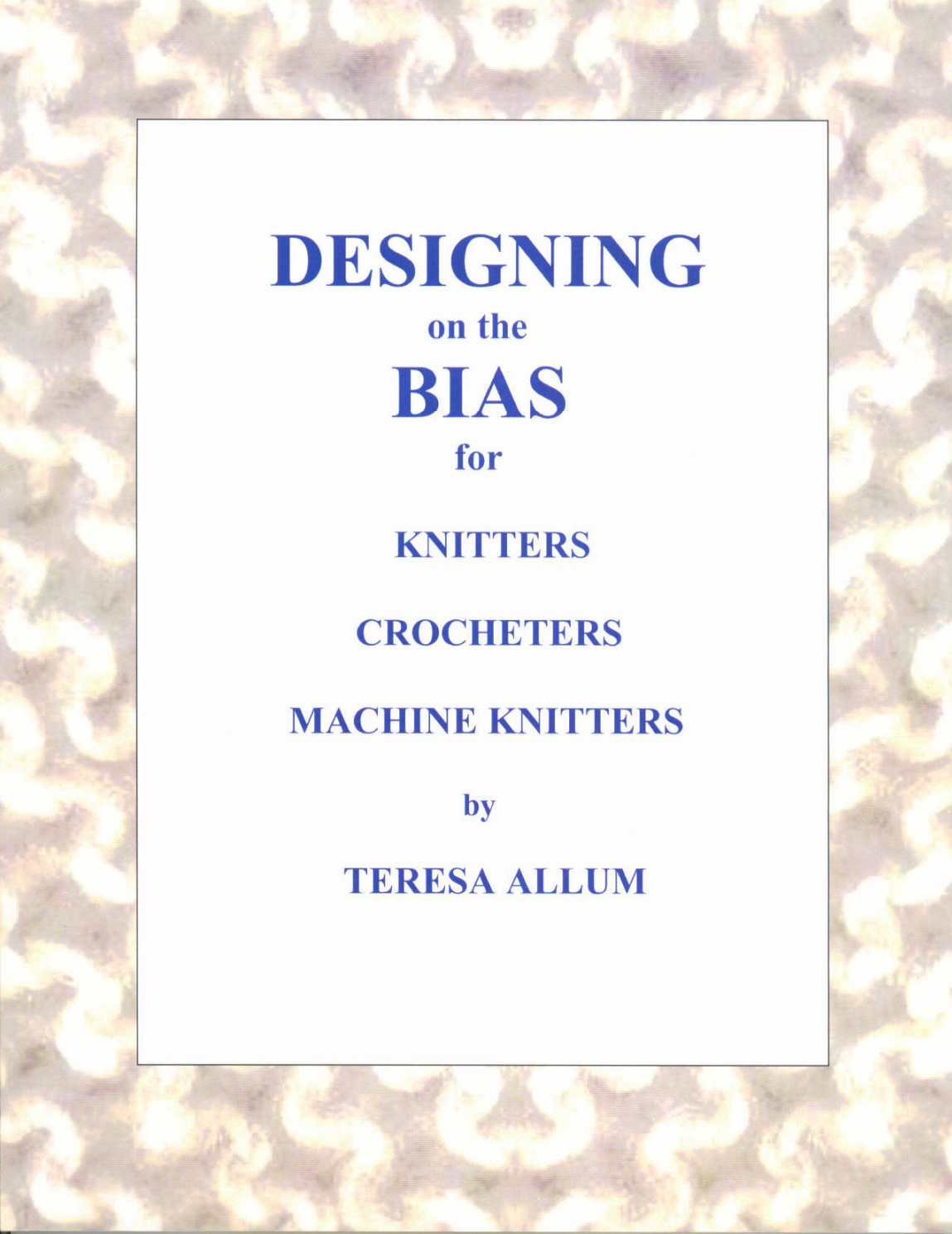




DESIGNING

on the

BIAS

for

KNITTERS

CROCHETERS

MACHINE KNITTERS

by

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INTRODUCTION

Designing on the Bias is a Tutorial for KNITTERS – CROCHETERS – MACHINE - KNITTERS

Knits and crochets worked on the bias add a new dimension or slant to all your garments and accessories. Though basically simple it gives the impression of being complicated. The basic bias doesn't even need a pattern. When worked in stripes, different pattern stitches or fancy yarns, the results are fabulous.

To learn from this tutorial you must have a basic knowledge of regular knitting, crocheting and machine knitting and know how to increase a stitch and decrease a stitch. That's all you need to know to start the lessons.

I include the three categories of knits, crochets and machine knits because the basic principle is the same for all three methods. That is, you work to specified measurements. If like me, you use all three methods and mix and match, then these lessons are for you. If you are just a hand knitter or crocheter, then these lessons are also ideal for you.

Whichever craft you use with this method you will find it more challenging and rewarding than the straight up and down way of knitting and crocheting.

At the end of these lessons you should be able to design your bias knits and crochets to your own measurements.

Accurate body measurements are needed to knit or crochet garments to fit properly and as a knitter or crocheter you will know the importance of taking accurate measurements.

Style and yarn also determine the amount of ease to add.

From these basic lessons and your own imagination I hope you will be able to create your own fabrics and designs.

LESSON ONE

THE BASICS

For the basic bias squares you can practice with any type of yarn and appropriate size needles, hooks or tension on the standard gauge, single bed, knitting machine or the bulky single bed knitting machine. I will refer to them as the machine knit and the bulky machine throughout these lessons.

For practicing purposes stockinette stitch and single crochet will be used.

To begin the knitted bias squares, cast on three stitches.

To begin the machine knits e-wrap three stitches.

To begin the crochet bias squares, chain two, make three single crochet stitches in the second chain from the hook.

On the next row, which will count as the first row and the right side, increase one stitch at the beginning and end of the row.

On the machines the purl side will be facing, so the odd numbered rows will be considered the right side rows and will be referred to as the next and alternate rows.

The even numbered rows will be knitted even unless otherwise stated.

That means you work two stitches in the first stitch and two stitches in the last stitch on the odd numbered rows. You now have five stitches.

For the second row, this is the wrong side, purl across the row without any increases.

For the crochet, single crochet across the row without any increases, always chain one and turn.

For the knitting machines you can increase one stitch by pushing an extra needle all the way down at the carriage side and bring an extra needle into working position at the other end and place the heel of the next stitch onto the extra needle. Or you can push an extra needle into working position on alternate rows.

For the second row knit across the row without any increases unless you are increasing one stitch on each row.

You now have the right side facing (the machine knits will always have the purl side facing) for the third row which is the same as the first row. That is, you increase in the first and last stitch.

LESSON FOUR

POCKETS AT THE SHORT SIDE SEAM

Diagram Abbreviations:

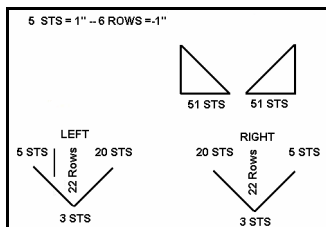
STS -- Stitches INC -- Increase DEC -- Decrease UW – Unworked BO – Bind off

$$\frac{5 \times 1}{2}$$

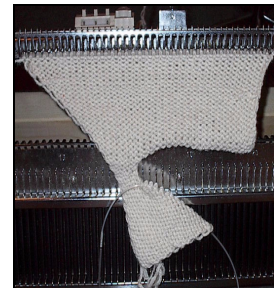
This means increase or decrease one stitch five times on every second, other or alternate row. The first number (5) means the number of times to increase or decrease a stitch. The second number (1) means how many stitches to increase or decrease. The number underneath (2) means which row number to increase or decrease a stitch or stitches on.

For this lesson we will be working to a gauge.

When working to a gauge the first step required is a drawn diagram of the garment you intend to make with the finished measurements. (See Diagrams A & B)



*Bulky Machine Pockets at the Long Side Seam
(Diagram H)*



*Bulky Machine Pocket
(Sample 24)*



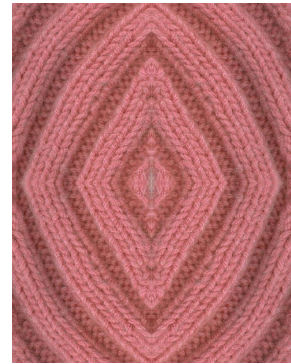
Bulky Machine Knit Skirt





Knit Ribbed Skirt

(Photo 7)



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