



August 2005 Newsletter

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August Greetings from Skein Lane,

Has your summer stitching been fruitful? Need a new project? Skein Lane has been stocking up and we think we have something for everyone.

NEW YARNS ARRIVE DAILY

Did you enjoy the savings during our 30% off book sale in July? Now that you have some new patterns, how would you like some savings on yarn? During the **HOT AUGUST DAYS SALE**, all yarns (yes, including our newest yarns) are on sale:

35% off July 30 - August 7

30% off August 8 - 14

25% off August 15 - 21

20% off August 22 - 31

No matter when you stop by the shop in August, you'll enjoy great savings. The sale prices apply to all yarns in-house excepting those on special order placed prior to July 30. Knitting kits, cross-stitch and needlepoint kits are all included in this sale. Come in early for the best selection and savings - there are no special orders or holds during this sale.

Just this week, we received a lovely selection of Jagger Spun silk/wool yarn and Louet Sales' linen yarn is back in stock. We have tons of Manos del Uruguay and the gorgeous new yarns and patterns of RYC Collection. There's also new, fun yarns by Skacel Yarns and Super Socke, a new sock yarn from On Line.

HOT PROJECTS

Here in the Bay Area, shawls and stoles can keep you cozy and stylish year-round. They also make a nice smaller project that can pack easily and they usually take less yarn than a sweater or poncho. Stop by Skein Lane to see patterns for shawls, capelets and wraps in our newly reorganized pattern department.

All the new yarns we mentioned in the New Yarns section would make beautiful shawls or wraps. Here are some additional suggestions:

Rowan Cotton Tape

Manos del Uruguay's cotton Stria

Elsebeth Lavold's silk/wool blends, Silky Wool and Silky Tweed

Rowan's cotton/silk Summer Tweed

Crystal Palace's Kid Merino lace weight

LEARNING AT THE STUDIO

Our fall line-up of classes is bigger and better than ever. To ensure a space in any of

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these classes, register early. Read the full class descriptions and get dates for each of these classes on the [schedule](#) . Highlights include:

August

The Magical Moebius
Intro to Weaving
Camp Knit for Kids
Tips & Tricks
Entrelac Pillow Topper
Top Down Raglan
Baby Surprise Jacket
Guys Who Knit & Crochet (meets monthly)

September

Carolyn's Knitting Workshop
Sweet Sixteen Needlepoint Sampler
Needlepoint with Gayle
Basic Scarves & Beyond
Guys Who Knit & Crochet (meets monthly)
Beginning Knitting - in Spanish
Lace Pillow Topper
Stashology with Christine Bylsma
Intarsia with Jane Slicer-Smith

October

The EPS Sweater
Round Up
Half Shell
Circular Hat
Shadow Knitting Pillow Topper

More classes will be added, so be sure to check our schedule often.

YARN EVENTS

Skein Lane is pleased to announce that we are hosting a benefit for the National Brain Tumor Foundation to be held at the Studio. The "[Knitting for Brains](#)" Trunk Show & Sale will be held on Sunday, September 25, 2-5 p.m. There will be gorgeous knitted items for sale, a raffle of a beautiful hand-made quilt and tasty treats to munch. You can even special order custom items to be knit for you or loved ones. Best of all, 100% of the proceeds go directly to the National Brain Tumor Foundation. The organizer, Marie Riehle, is a brain tumor survivor and combines her love of knitting with her desire to help other brain tumor patients and survivors. You can read more about Marie's inspiring story and the event on the "[Knitting for Brains](#)" link above.

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Thanks to all our customers who made it to the Summer Fiber Arts Market at the Oakland Convention Center last weekend. It was a fun and successful show for Skein Lane and we plan to attend future shows.

Mark your calendars: Stitches West 2006 is scheduled for February 16-19 at Santa Clara Convention Center. Of course, Skein Lane will be there.

SKEIN LANE KNOW HOW

Have you ever wanted to purchase yarn for a project, but the dyelots didn't match? Don't despair! There's an easy way to make use of all the yarn and blend the colors of each dyelot in a way that is undetectable to the eye. It works well with both solid color and variegated yarns.

Work with two balls of yarn of different dyelots, alternating two rows of one dyelot, and two rows of another dyelot.

When you've worked two rows, you'll be in position to start using the next dyelot. Drop the strand you were knitting with, wrap it around the strand from the next dyelot and start knitting with the new dyelot. Repeat this procedure every two rows.

It sounds like a lot of work, but it really isn't and the results are worth it. It is basically the same as doing stripes or starting a new ball of yarn. You can also use this technique to prevent zig-zag stripes and color "pooling" - which can happen with variegated yarns even with all yarn of the same dyelot. It will give you a way to use the yarn you have and know that your piece will turn out beautifully. If you would like a demonstration of this technique, just stop by the shop - we're happy to help.

Do you have a knitting time saver? Got a hot crochet tip? If you would like to share your know how with other Skein Lane customers, we'll reward you. Submit by email your tip or other helpful hint for knit, crochet, needlepoint, cross-stitch, embroidery, weaving or any other fiber art. If our staff chooses it for the newsletter, we'll mention your name with gratitude and even give you a prize. Submit your know how to info@skeinlane.com.

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