

(Mobile book) Mason-Dixon Knitting: The Curious Knitters' Guide: Stories, Patterns, Advice, Opinions, Questions, Answers, Jokes, and Pictures

Mason-Dixon Knitting: The Curious Knitters' Guide: Stories, Patterns, Advice, Opinions, Questions, Answers, Jokes, and Pictures

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#501079 in Books 2006-03-28 2006-03-28 Original language: English PDF # 1 11.33 x .73 x 8.83l, 1.95 #File Name: 0307236056160 pages | File size: 49.Mb

Kay Gardiner, Ann Meador Shayne : Mason-Dixon Knitting: The Curious Knitters' Guide: Stories, Patterns, Advice, Opinions, Questions, Answers, Jokes, and Pictures before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Mason-Dixon Knitting: The Curious Knitters' Guide: Stories, Patterns, Advice, Opinions, Questions, Answers, Jokes, and Pictures:

12 of 13 people found the following review helpful. More to Knitting Than Just SweatersBy Juls V. When I learned to knit, I always thought of knitting in terms of sweaters. Later, I came to appreciate books such as Melanie Falick's Weekend Knitting and Joelle Haverson's Last Minute Knitted Gifts for their treatment of smaller, elegant items to knit

as gifts. Reading Ann Kay's knitting blog opened my eyes to the possibilities of knitting for the home. It's no surprise that their first book, *Mason-Dixon Knitting*, offers a tantalizing selection of patterns to beautify the home. *Mason-Dixon Knitting* opens with a chapter on the smallest and most mundane of items--the dishcloth. With a charming ode to Peaches 'n Cream cotton yarn dishcloths, the book then goes on to dazzle the reader with the lovely textured handtowels, cushion covers, curtains, and an extravaganza of logcabin knitting. Even more charming than the patterns and projects were the anecdotes from the authors, and the lovely profiles of the contributing designers. Knitters in blogland are an entertaining bunch, well aware of their quirks and quick to embrace their weirdness. That endearing tone shines through in the writing, with such tidbits as Ann unearthing the cardigan that her mother knit for her Barbie doll. The projects include entertainment aspects for kid knitters and yes, some clothing too. My particular favorite is the robe and the clever idea of knitted patterns to be sewn on ready to wear apparel--thus negating the tedious seaming and shaping involved with knitting a full item of clothing. The patterns are tasteful and interesting, without being annoyingly fiddly. The photos are well done, without making the reader play "what's the model hiding" when trying to figure out how the pattern translates to the photo of the item. If I had one small concern, it is that many of the patterns call for cotton or linen yarn. Those fibers are a bit too stiff for my hands, but do make for nice summer knitting when wool seems too unappetizing. The book is a wonderful addition to any knitter's library and would make a lovely gift too.

Just sayin'. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. PerfectionBy D. Boyken Ranging from the simple ("Warshcloths") to the sublime (those Log Cabin afghans), this book absolutely lives up to its subtitle of "The Curious Knitters' Guide: Stories, Patterns, Advice, Opinions, Questions, Answers, Jokes and Pictures. Created for Knitters Everywhere who Share the Give'em Hell Spirit of Just Picking up the Needles and Making Stuff." Really, that says it all. First, the tone of this book is friendly and accessible--like Kay and Ann just dropped in for coffee and are pulling amazing, simple things out of their knitting bags to show you what they've been up to. And what a great batch of stuff it is. It's true, most of the patterns are the mostly-square variety, but there are a couple clothing items as well. What's nice is that they're more or less simple patterns, as in simple to DO, but not boring-simple. I mean, a square is knitting's fundamental shape, but making these is anything but boring. Either the construction is unique, or the color combinations are. Or the way they're pieced together. But it's not like making endless swatches (ugh). Then, between the patterns, you get the fun stuff. (As if the patterns weren't enough fun.) The text is breezy, light, neighborly. Friendly. And even more, there are a few times when Kay and Ann step back and let another knitter talk for a page or so--about why they love lace, or how important it is to finish your knits neatly, or how an endless creativity is a great thing for a knitter (or anyone). See? Going back to that friends-over-for-coffee analogy--not only do Kay and Ann come by and show you all these amazing things, they let other people talk, too. (I bet they even brought the coffee cake.) 9 of 9 people found the following review helpful. Major fun and some pretty good knitting, tooBy AuntieDepression What a joy to have only modest expectations for a book and end up loving it! (Yeah, yeah: I thought the whole idea was a gimmick but couldn't resist buying it anyhow.) The authors' personalities and their enthusiasm for knitting are what it's mostly about. The give-and-take between them is fun to read (though the voices are similar enough that I had some trouble remembering which was which). Their ideas for knitted projects (mostly for the home) are fresh and inviting. They are wonderfully generous about giving credit to people and ideas that have inspired them -- Debbie New's *Scribble Lace*, for instance. And their tributes to knitters they admire are equally generous. Overall, there's a sunniness to this book that's seldom cloying and transcends the somewhat limited selection of stuff to knit. Okay, the book does sometimes feel a bit padded. Half as much about the children's potholder project would have been way more than enough for me. And four pages (most of it full-page photos) on the iconic Warshrag? That's a waste of perfectly good trees. A whole long chapter on Log Cabin knitting, is, however, well worth the space: the ladies present detailed instructions and inspired ideas for amazing variations on the technique. I am ready to Log Cabin-ize everything in my house. And they do squeeze a lot of good how-to information into stray corners. I probably won't make many of the projects exactly as they are shown, but the book is staying out on my worktable as a resource for ideas and a pleasant read.

Enjoy the practical advice, real-life knitting instruction, and irreverent humor of Yankee Kay Gardiner and Tennessean Ann Shayne, the duo behind the renowned knitting web log masondixonknitting.com. The ladies of *Mason-Dixon Knitting* will take you on a thrilling adventure through Knitopia, a place where knitting and creativity unite through the zaniest knitted items imaginable. Kay and Ann reveal that a pattern is a starting line, a launching pad, the front doors of Saks the day after Thanksgiving: oh, the potential! *Mason-Dixon Knitting* is a collection of unbelievable patterns, a how-to manual, and a crazy quilt of hilarious narrative, all in one. In this book, Kay and Ann chitchat their way through a series of more than thirty incredible patterns. Drawing creative inspiration from their surroundings, they present colorful blankets, sassy nightgowns, a delicate curtain, and much more to reveal that knitting can weave its way into just about every aspect of life. Most of these projects are the epitome of ease, but you can make them as simple or complicated as you prefer. Kay and Ann invite you to use your creative vision to interpret each pattern and give it your own personal touch. Full-color photography of these delightful home- and family-inspired knits accompanies each project. Along the way, Kay and Ann will introduce you to incredible knitting personalities, share

their own knitting experiences, and present eye-popping knitting phenomena. *Mason-Dixon Knitting* explores the humor, fun, and outrageous possibilities of a realm in which knitting is much more than a craft; it's a lifestyle. Inspiration, Guidance, and 30 Projects to Knit Featuring: Technical hints; Great (knitted) things you will do; How to cope with disaster; Must-knit tv; Mistakes you will definitely make; Knitting for the common good; Knitting something that looks like something else

.com Kay Gardiner and Ann Shayne are the rock stars of the knitting community--fans flock to their popular blog (masondixonknitting.com) for a daily dose of knitting genius, tips, and humor. In their first book, *Mason-Dixon Knitting*, you'll find practical advice, instruction, and more than 30 incredible patterns. Want a taste? Check out the details below for making your very own Moderne Log Cabin Blanket. --Daphne Durham Pattern Preview: Moderne Log Cabin Blanket This lightweight blanket in a sophisticated wool/silk yarn proves that a log cabin can go to the Big City. There is no "center patch," and there are blocks of color instead of concentric strips. Drape it over a Barcelona chair, or your shoulders, and enjoy. SIZE: 60" x 50" (150 cm x 124 cm) MATERIALS: Silky Wool by Elsebeth Lavold, [1.76 oz (50 g) balls, each approx 192 yds (176 m), wool/silk] A: cream 4 balls B: brown 5 balls C: light purple 5 balls D: dark purple 5 balls Size 6 (4mm) needles GAUGE: 22 sts + 44 rows = 4" (10 cm) in garter stitch. Note: Throughout pattern, always pick up and bind off stitches on the RS. See entire pattern