



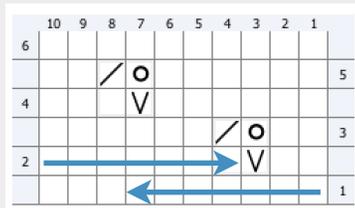
Chart Reading Tutorial

Written Instructions vs. Charts

The difference between written instructions & charts:

- ▶ **Instructions** are given from the 1st stitch of the row to the last, no matter which side you are working on.
- ▶ **Charts** are a representation of how the right side will look. So, when you are working back on the wrong side, you read the chart from left to right.

The row numbers help you determine which way to work. It's important to know that most charts use Stockinette as a basis. That means blank squares are knit on RS rows but purled on WS rows. [Here's an example](#)



Row 1 (RSR)	knit across
Row 2 (WSR)	p7, sl1 wyif, p2
Row 3 (RSR)	k2, yo, k2tog, k6
Row 4 (WSR)	p3, sl1 wyif, p6
Row 5 (RSR)	k6, yo, k2tog, k2
Row 6 (WSR)	purl across

Follow the knitting instructions if at first you're not sure. Good patterns include both. Note that in Row 2 you purl 7 stitches (not 2) to start. This is a common error when reading wrong side rows.

Written abbreviations are standard in the industry and can be found in almost every knitting magazine or book. Chart software has a variety of symbols so read chart legends carefully before you start.

Right & Wrong Sides vs. Front & Back

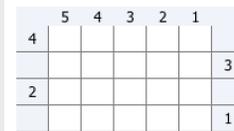
- ➔ The **Right Side** is the public side of the fabric (i.e. outside of sweater). The **Wrong Side** is the back or inside of the project. Generally not the pretty side.
- ➔ The **Front** is the side facing you as you work each row. The **Back** is the side you can not see. That means it changes every row unless you are knitting in the round.

Examples: In stockinette the wrong side is purled. When you are purling that row it is the front side. The "V" symbol for the slip stitch indicates the horizontal yarn bar from the slip stitch does not show on the right (public) side. Therefore, you slip it with the yarn in front (towards you) when working a wrong side.

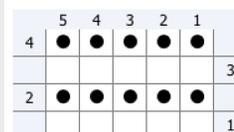
Chart Legends

Since charts show how a stitch will look when viewed from the right side, you will sometimes work a different stitch on the wrong side so it matches the look of the right side stitch. Read carefully the symbol descriptions on the full legend. You'll see how some symbols mean one thing on the right side and another on the wrong side. Summary legends are useful once you get started, but the full legend provides important detailed instructions you need at the start.

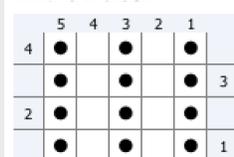
Stockinette Swatch



Garter Swatch



Rib Swatch



Legend:

- knit**
RS: knit stitch
WS: purl stitch
- k2tog**
RS: Knit two stitches together as one stitch
WS: Purl 2 stitches together
- purl**
RS: purl stitch
WS: knit stitch
- slip**
RS: Slip stitch as if to purl, holding yarn in back
WS: Slip stitch as if to purl, holding yarn in front
- yo**
RS: Yarn Over
WS: Yarn Over

Legend:

- knit**
- k2tog**
- purl**
- slip**
- yo**

- ▶ Now take a look at the summary legend. If you didn't understand how chart symbols work and read only the short legend, you might knit every stitch on both sides and end up with Garter instead of Stockinette.