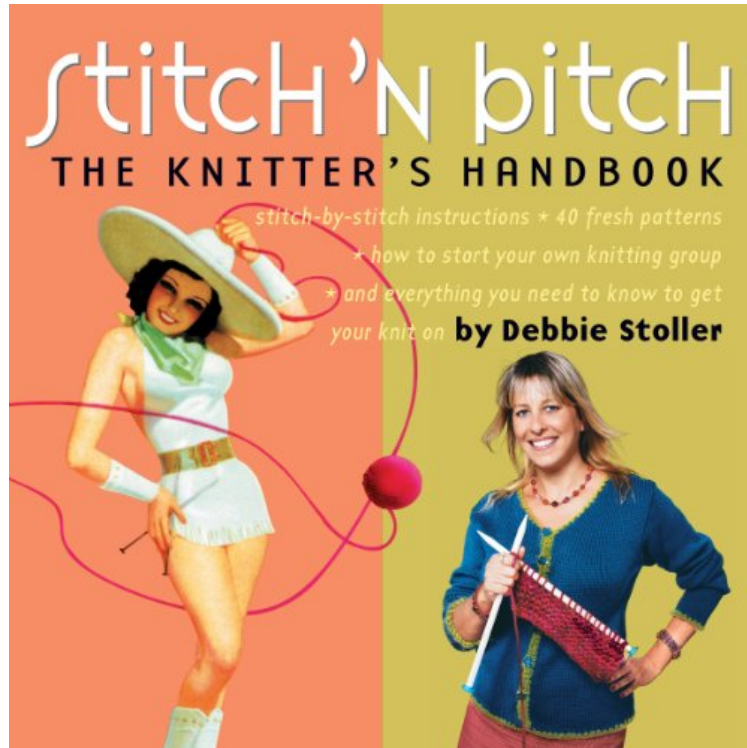


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## Stitch 'n Bitch: The Knitter's Handbook

Debbie Stoller

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**Debbie Stoller : Stitch 'n Bitch: The Knitter's Handbook** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised *Stitch 'n Bitch: The Knitter's Handbook*:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great for Beginners! By Jessica Whenever a friends says they want to learn to knit, I buy them this essential beginners book to help kick-start their journey. It's by no means the perfect, end-all-be-all of knitting books, but it makes for an excellent resource to read over and use in conjunction with various YouTube videos for beginners without access to teachers. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. five stars By Steven Flores I bought this very early in my knitting venture - I finally passed it on. If you are new to knitting and want something fun and informative, it'd be a goo pick. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Only good things to say. By Kpat909 I am a kind of beginner knitter. I learned how to knit when I was a kid, but never picked it up or got past the basic scarf knitting. Now, years later, I wanted to learn again. This book has a wry sense of humour that made the learning process enjoyable. It covers yarn types, a couple different techniques, and quite a few anecdotal stories. I thoroughly enjoyed reading it. I did have to look up a couple things when I was a bit confused, but the descriptions are very good and will get you going. It has a handful of fun patterns at the end to get you started. It includes an EXTREMELY useful section about how to fix things when you mess up. I know this is invaluable to me :) This is good for beginners or those trying to brush up on their skills.

Knitting is hot, with 4 million newcomers in the last few years joining a core group of 38,000,000 knitters nationwide. And these are primarily young, creative, connected chicks with sticks who are coming together in living rooms, knitting cafes, and chic yarn stores, and making everything from funky hats to bikinis. In *Stitch 'n Bitch*, Debbie Stoller—founder of the first *Stitch 'n Bitch* knitting group in New York City—covers every aspect of knitting and the knitting-together lifestyle: the how-to, the when-to, the what-to, the why-to. Writing with wit and attitude (*The Knitty-Gritty*, *Blocking for Blockheads*), she explains the different types of needles and yarns (and sheep, too) and all the techniques from basic to fancy, knit to purl to cast-off. She also shares her special brand of corrective surgery for when things go wrong, and offers fun and informative sidebars on such topics as how to find the best yarn for less, how to make a buttonhole, knitting etiquette, and what tools to keep in your knitting bag. At the heart of the book are forty stylish patterns: Alien Scarf, Big Bad Baby Blanky, Mohair Hoodie, Kitty and Devil Hat, Cell Phone Cozy, and Wonder Woman Bikini. And for anyone interested: how to start a *Stitch 'n Bitch* group.

From *Publishers Weekly*: "The percentage of women under forty-five who knit or crochet has doubled since 1996," says Stoller (*The BUST Guide to the New Girl Order*), co-founder of the *Stitch 'n Bitch* circle in New York, and this slightly offensive, sassy guide—which could easily have been subtitled '*The Bad Girls' Guide to Knitting*'—will undoubtedly appeal to this new generation of knitters. Starting with the basics, Stoller explains how to cast on, knit, purl, and bind off, all the steps needed to make a simple Ribbed-for-Her-Pleasure Scarf or a pair of Pippi Kneestockings. Easy-to-decipher diagrams and droll section headings ("*Knit Happens*," "*Oops, I Knit It Again*") ease readers through these first steps and will give most the confidence to tackle larger projects—like Cricket's Technicolor Cozy or Meema's Felted Marsupial Tote—designed by *Stitch 'n Bitchers* in Stoller's group and other knitters she admires. What makes this guide exceptional, however, is its chapter on the "*Wonderful World of Knitters*," which details how to start your own *Stitch 'n Bitch* circle and plug into the virtual knitting communities on the Web. Informative, colorful and full of attitude, this book is the perfect primer for 20- and 30-somethings looking to take on this hip "new" hobby. Copyright 2003 Reed Business Information, Inc. From *Booklist*: This sassy-looking book offers a little bit of everything. Yes, practical matters are addressed, e.g., learning the stitches, "tools of the trade," and types of yarns, and, yes, there is information that's difficult to find in other places, such as advice about how to start your own knitting group or find free knitting programs online. But it is Stoller's commentary about knitting, its history, and why young women are knitting again that gets the book off to a rip-roaring start. Complementing the narrative sections are vintage pictures, family photos, and funky illustrations. The projects have a hip sensibility (bags, sweaters, a poncho), as do the chapter headings: "*Oops, I Knit It Again*" for the section on fixing knitting mistakes. A color inset shows the projects off; the illustrations with the instructions are black-and-white versions of the same photos. There's plenty here for beginners and skilled veterans alike. Ilene Cooper Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved. Cool idea, no? Knit while listening to knitting. Not just podcasty knitting which tends to be opinion, and not always linear or well edited. Audio books are a very personal thing. It's not just content but the voices. For me, it was fantastic to hear Debbie Stoller read *Stitch N Bitch*, even though I've read it a couple of times. One thing I do find about audio is that it's a unique experience. Even though I've read a book, with no plans to read it again, I will still listen and thoroughly enjoy listening to that same book. Now can we get Alan Rickman to read something? By Jillian Moreno, knitty.com --knitty.com