Beginner's Task #2: Purl Stitch Practice Square

The purl stitch is actually the reverse of the knit stitch. Instead of inserting the right needle point from left to right under the left needle (as you did for the knit stitch), you now insert it from right to left, in front of the left needle.

Step One: Insert the right needle from right to left, into the first stitch and in front of the left needle.



Step Two: Holding the yarn in front of the work (side toward you), bring it around the right needle counterclockwise.



Step Three: With right needle, pull the yarn back through the stitch.



Step Four: Slide the stitch off the left needle, leaving the new stitch on the right needle.



You have now made one complete purl stitch. There are two basic stitches in knitting: KNIT and PURL. Once you have mastered these two stitches, you can make practically anything!

In this second task, you will practice your purl stitches and create a square/rectangle.

If this is your first time knitting, don't worry about making mistakes because the will happen. In fact, you "square" will likely look more like a trapezoid or abnormal shape. The important thing is to get the hang of the movement. Every few rows check to see if you have the correct number of stitches. The number *should* not change (but probably will).

FYI: Repeating rows of purl stitches is called Garter Stitch and your result *should* look exactly like your knit square:



Instructions:

CAST ON 30 stitches *

Row 1: Purl every stitch. Turn over Row 2 and every following row: Purl every stitch.

Continue until you have a square

BIND OFF

* If you are new to knitting, you may want to ask a more experienced knitter to do the initial cast on.