





øde - Blå - Grå) 6kr.

SHOTS

6,-

BLÅ

Gule

Jordbær

Kolde

Blowjob

Røde

Grå

Tudefjæs

Pokerfjæs

Fiskefjæs



overflade
Dybde
Monster
Struktur
Kontraster
Farve
Blokke
3D
2D



Struktur
Flade

Skala

Kontraster

Taktil Tekstil Strik

Grafisk

Striber

Monster

Firkanter

Stemming

Stil

Cool



08.33



10. august 2019
09.47

Rediger





PATERNITY
PATTERNS
PLANT
I sken forening

LEVERETT

FASSETT CURIOUS KNITS
PALE'S LINEN
KNOTS
ZOE
KLEINER MITTEL UND GROSSEFORMEN







Handknitted
from a 100%

RELAX
RELAX

RELAX

just tie knots

Hama beads
i legofarver
p2i hvid



Hama perler
• hvid rib



• sort
• Hvid
• loop i
med mu



skala
rib på
klat
arme

• ribkrave
• Leo i forskellige
nuancer
• loop stitch
bærestykke
• rib + leo
bærestykke



• Loop stitch bærestykke
+ ærmer + lysere
leo



Lærke Bagger

close
knit

15 Patterns and
45 Techniques from
Beginner to Advanced
from Europe's Coolest
Knitter

PRESTEL
Munich · London · New York

Cover design by Luisa Klose, using photos by Peter Stanners (front) and Lærke Bagger (back).

The front cover shows a detail of the photo on p. 237. The basic instructions for the loop pattern used here can be found on p. 232ff. The instructions for this technique in one colour can be found on p. 238 ff.

The version shown on the cover was made by creatively combining different colours of yarn.

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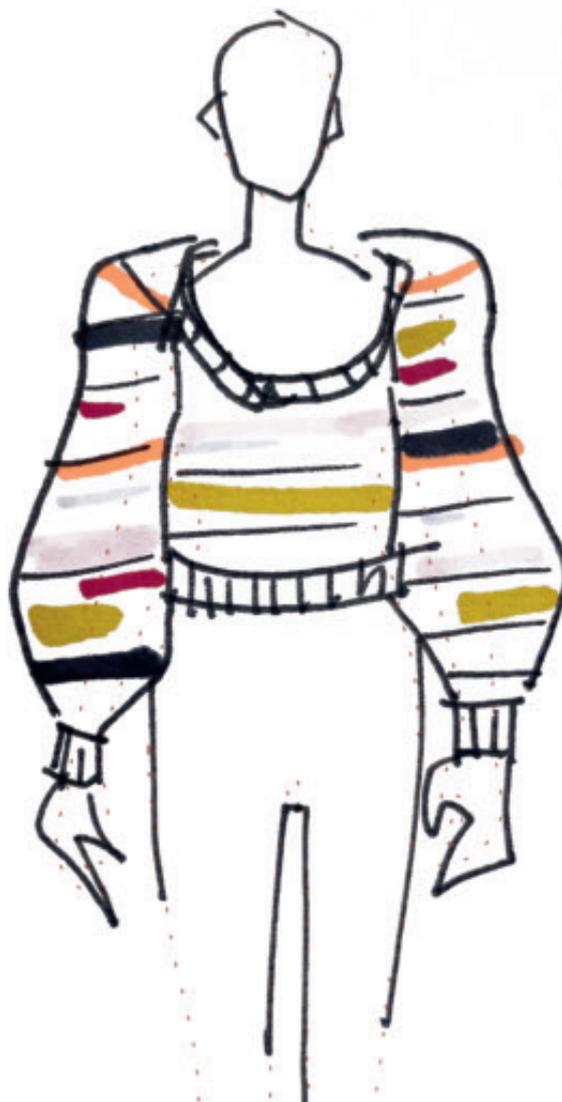
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Chapter 1

20 Knitting Techniques (the easy ones)

- 22 CASTING ON
- 24 KNIT STITCH
- 26 PURL STITCH
- 30 GARTER STITCH
- 33 STOCKING STITCH
- 34 RIB PATTERNS
- 37 EDGE STITCHES (alias BUTT stitches)
- 38 STRAIGHT, CIRCULAR AND DOUBLE-POINTED NEEDLES – AND OTHER KNITTING ACCESSORIES
- 41 MAGIC LOOP
- 42 STITCH MARKERS
- 44 KNITTING TENSION AND TENSION SQUARES
- 46 CASTING OFF AND FINISHING
- 49 ASSEMBLING THE GARMENT

Chapter 2

52 Knitting Techniques (the harder ones)

- 54 KNITTING FROM BOTTOM TO TOP
- 56 NECKLINES
- 58 ARMHOLES
- 58 RAGLAN SLEEVES
- 61 INCREASING AND DECREASING
- 62 CASTING ON EXTRA STITCHES
- 63 CORRECTING MISTAKES
- 66 KNITTING THE RIGHT SIZE
- 68 EASE OF MOVEMENT
- 68 TAKING MEASUREMENTS

Chapter 3

74 Colours and Sketches

- 76 COLOURS
- 81 SKETCH BOOKS – OR PROCESS BOOKS
- 87 DRAWING, COLLAGE AND IN-BETWEEN STUFF

Chapter 4

90 The Essence of Knitting with Lærke Bagger

- 92 YARN TYPES
- 96 THE BASE COLOUR
- 97 SCRAP YARN
- 99 AN INTRODUCTION TO SCRAP TECHNIQUES
- 100 JUST TIE KNOTS
- 102 ATS SCRAP TECHNIQUE
- 106 ALL OVER SCRAP TECHNIQUE
- 110 BAD IDEA SCRAP TECHNIQUE

Chapter 5

124 Knitting Patterns

- 126 THE SCRAP SCRUNCHIE
- 132 THE EASY PEASY PILLOW
- 138 THE BAD IDEA BLANKET

Chapter 6

144 Knitting Patterns

- 146 THE LARSEMAN CARDIGAN
- 152 THE NOT SO BASIC KIDS' SWEATER
- 158 THE LULU SWEATER DRESS

Chapter 7

164 Knitting Patterns

- 166 THE NO LIMITS SWEATER
- 172 THE OMBRE T-SHIRT
- 178 THE NOT SO HEAVY SWEATER

Chapter 8

184 Embroidery

- 186 DUPLICATE STITCH (SWISS DARNING)
- 194 PATTERN DIAGRAMS

Chapter 9

200 Knitting Patterns

- 202 THE NICE SLIPOVER
- 208 THE CUTE TOP
- 214 THE SCRAPPY SOCKS

Chapter 10

220 Crazy Knitting Patterns

- 224 BOX PLEATS
- 226 THE BAD IDEA TOP
- 232 LOOPED-PILE KNITTING
- 238 THE CRAZY LOOP FUR
- 244 KNITTING WITH BEADS
- 252 THE CARPE DIEM SWEATER

Chapter 11

258 Basics

- 260 YARN REQUIREMENTS
- 262 FINISHING AND CARE
- 263 YARN TYPES

- 264 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS
- 265 ABBREVIATIONS
- 265 INDEX

Foreword

A bit about knit-shaming and insecurity, and — what the hell! — a LOT about knitting.

There were just three things I really cared about before I had children: knitting, parties and cool clothes. In that order, please note.

Since childhood, crafts have been a constant in my life, and I always dreamed of making my own clothes. But I didn't really like sewing and was too impatient to design things, as you have to produce numerous versions of a particular style before it is finally perfect. I wanted instant fun, so I picked up some needles and yarn and got started. But at the same time, I wanted to party and finish quickly so I could throw a bash in my cool new pullover. I've always been someone who could enjoy life to the full, and so knitting became my world.

It might sound easy to just start knitting, but it really wasn't — believe me. I would be a millionaire by now if I'd got a euro every time someone said, "You'll never make a living with that" or "Bad idea. Forget it." But all I wanted to do was knit. I just had to seize the opportunity and put all my eggs in one basket, no matter what the result would be.

This guy once described me as a totally pathetic "Knitty Nora". And he wasn't joking. He made the comment to hurt me. I was young and sensitive and had plucked up the courage for the first time to express out loud my dream of making a living from my knitting. At first, I was really upset. The words pathetic Knitty Nora gave me stomach cramps, quite apart from the insecurity and fear I was feeling anyway. Was I really so bad? Was he right, perhaps, and my dream was as impossible as it was stupid?

No, dammit! Gradually his words became more than ridicule and mockery to me. They became a statement I simply had to prove wrong, come what may. I wanted to prove — to myself, not to him — that I was not a totally untalented Knitty Nora. His words became a mantra that made me defiant. They were more important for my career than all the times I heard the words "well done!" It's crazy, I know.

This book is about finding the courage to stand your ground and use insecurity as a driving force. CLOSE KNIT is much more than just a knitting manual. It's about believing in yourself, not caring what others think and not wanting to be perfect and neat but having fun and accepting the mistakes you make when you enter unknown territory.

Oh boy, have I made mistakes! And I still make them now — every day. I was never the most talented, the best, the prettiest or the Number One in anything. Believe me. But I was prepared to apply myself and tackle the seemingly impossible and uncertain. In short, I was banking on success.

1985
Born in Aalborg.

1993
Starts knitting.

2008
Intern with knitwear
designer Isabel
Berglund.

2009
Starts at School
of Design at Royal
Danish Academy of
Fine Arts, School of
Design, Copenhagen.

2013
Intern with fashion
label Sibling, London.

2015
Master's in Design
from Royal
Danish Academy
of Fine Arts.

2017
Creative Director
with Hjertegarn.

2020
100,000 followers
on Instagram; nom-
inated Newcomer of
the Year by Elle Style
Awards.

2021
Debut as author.

This book is another project like that. I have dreamed of producing it for over ten years but have never actually dared to publish it. And I can't remember ever having shed as many tears as I did over the work on this book. It was hard, really tough – but awesome fun and great for me.

So, knitting. Obviously, CLOSE KNIT is about knitting, but it's not a typical knitting manual – because I'm not your typical knitter. Nor a knitting expert. I'm just an expert in being Lærke Bagger and knitting the way Lærke Bagger knits. So this book contains my thoughts, techniques, tips and my own abbreviations – and of course 15 of my designs.

CLOSE KNIT is a book for novices as well as dyed-in-the wool knitters. You can read it from start to finish or use it as a reference book. The 15 patterns increase in difficulty, so you can improve your techniques step by step. So, even if you have an advanced degree in knitting and can probably knit better than me, you might still find a few useful tips here and there. My designs aren't that easy, so you might find them as hard to knit as this book was for me to write – because I don't have any precise instructions for techniques, colours and patterns.

But what CLOSE KNIT does have is plenty of suggestions and guidelines that will require you to take decisions and experiment yourself – so you also need the courage to make mistakes, because the mistakes are part of the design. In other words, they aren't really mistakes at all, because my designs are personal rather than perfect. Nothing is more boring than perfection. Our mistakes are the best things about us. They are what make us human.

My aim with this book was to create a framework for you to develop your own ideas. So you can vary all 15 designs in countless ways: with the various Scrap techniques, beads, in a single colour with embroidered stitches, or all of the above.

Create your own universe, based on your own aesthetics, preferences, yarn and abilities. In short, adapt all the instructions in this book as you like, to suit yourself. Take the techniques as suggestions you can combine. There's no right or wrong in knitting.

I want this book to inspire you, make you want to face challenges and try out something new. If you're interested in seeing how other people knit my designs, check out social media and the hashtags for my designs. It's incredible to see the variety and how different my designs look when they come from someone else's needles.

There's an absolutely fantastic knitting community on social media that offers encouragement and networks across all ages and nationalities. Let's keep on inspiring each other.

Carpe diem!

All the best, Lærke Bagger





Chapter 1

Knitting Techniques (the easy ones)

**“It’s basic stuff.
Just go for it.
Have no fear.
And a bit about
the knitting
equipment you
need.”**