

A knitting space of one's own

*Rochester Knitting Guild
September 9, 2019*

With apologies to Virginia Woolf

One space or two?

Stationary -

storage space for yarn, needles, notions

Bookshelves

Favorite chair

Portable -

Knitting on the Go

Permanent Space

Yarn Storage

From one big Ziploc bag to multiple bins to a room or two ... where do you keep your stash and how do you keep track of it?

See through bins

Spreadsheet

Ravelry Stash Tab



Use the Stash Tab

If you use the Stash Tab on Ravelry, you'll be able to carry your stash with you wherever you go... electronically, at least.

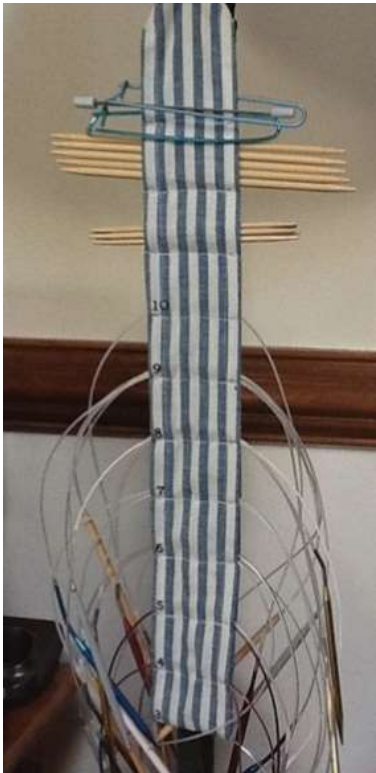
Yes, it's time consuming to set it up and load everything the first time. It's worth the time and trouble to do it, though.

Keeping the stash current is easy, don't put the yarn away until it's been recorded.

Download the list to Excel and carry it with you, if you like.



Needle Storage





Comfy Chair



Do you prefer an armchair, the couch, or something in-between?







Mid-century modern
or basic office chair?

Arms or no arms?
Footstool or
footrest?



Good Lighting

Chairside lamp -

Over your shoulder

Daylight - Ott light

On the Go or

when the Family Room is too cavelike



Roll over image to zoom in



Any floor or table lamp that provides enough light for you to see comfortably is essential for comfortable knitting.

Natural daylight is perhaps the best - especially with dark colored yarns.

Natural light reproduced in LED lights “Daylight”

A Flat Surface

Table or such to hold your ...

Pattern

Tea - or beverage of choice

Book / Kindle / iPod / remote control / phone / headphones ...

A larger surface - Block City

This is where space can turn into Real Estate -

A permanent blocking set up big enough for shawls or sweaters is dinner table sized

Blocking mats make it possible to use the dinner table from time to time without co-opting it permanently.

Blocking on the floor is bad for your knees

A pet free zone is best





< Hap for Harriet in Green is EIGHT feet long.

Linus is an asymmetrical triangle that needs 4 x 6 feet of room to block >

Blocking table is a 4 x 8 foot sheet of melamine laminated particle board mounted on metal shelving - lots of room





A multimedia approach

A lot of knitters like to listen to music or audiobooks while they knit

Others like to knit while watching TV

Of course, there's a lot to be said for curling up with one's knitting and some peace and quiet.

On the Go

“You don't knit because you are patient. You are patient because you knit.”

— **Stephanie Pearl-McPhee, Things I Learned From Knitting**

“I can knit anywhere.” M. Weglarz, among others

Car

Kitchen chair

Bus

Office chair

Plane

Theater seats

Train

Stadium seats

Coffee shops

Outdoor concert
w/folding chairs

Picnic table benches

Walking

Many, many waiting rooms

What do we really need to knit on the go?

*Well, what did you bring
with you tonight?*

What's in *YOUR* knitting bag?

Basics - your project, next ball of yarn, pattern in some form, notions bag

NOTIONS -

Scissors, stitch markers, blunt needle, sharp needle, tape measure, crochet hook, lifeline thread, notepad, pen,

“(knitting while on a motorcycle) ”For several years she knitted in secret (my father would not approve; she was to concentrate on motorcycling and LEAN into the curves, etc), and used a small circular needle (socks and mittens) in order to keep the knitting in her pocket until they were under way; then she leaned back slightly so Gaffer couldn’t feel the movement of her hands. On the interstate one day, they were slowly passing a semi and my father happened to see the truck driver laugh and point out my mother’s knitting to his passenger. Whoops-”

~ELIZABETH ZIMMERMANN