



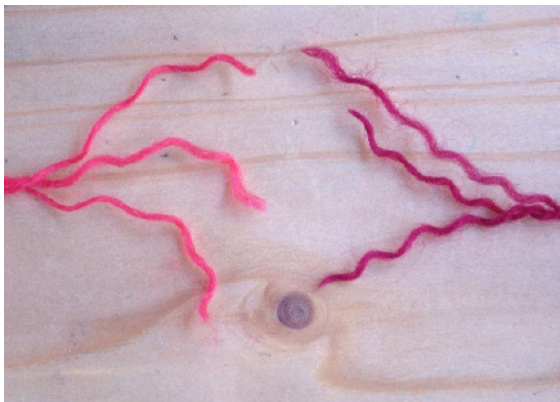
Woolly Wormhead

clear & detailed tutorials for clever knitting techniques

Spit Splicing – How to join Yarns

This tutorial demonstrates how to join wool and wool blend yarns. It's the perfect join for the middle of your knitting, and for when you really don't fancy having ends to sew in later. It works best with wool yarns, as it utilises the properties of wool that felt. That said, I have been able to join wool/alpaca blends, wool/acrylic blends and even machine washable wool, provided the major blend is wool. These do take an extra bit of effort, but they normally felt, especially if you're joining them to a pure wool yarn.

It's also the perfect technique for joining oddments of wool for making a fun and funky Hat!



1. To prepare for the join, fray open the ends of the yarn(s) and remove about 2in/5cm of one of the plies. If it's a single ply yarn, unspin it and remove roughly the same amount – 25% - of fibre to the same length



2. Next, overlay the frayed ends so that they join better. The reason for removing one of the plies is to remove the bulk when it is felted. Overlap the frayed ends to the point on each where the ply was removed (about 2in/5cm overlap)



3. Now you're going to felt the ends together – either use some warm water or saliva, and rub the interlaced ends together between the palms of your hands until they are sufficiently joined.



4. And hey presto, a really neat little join! Give the new yarn a gentle tug to make sure it's strong enough – if it isn't firm it may need some extra felting, as per step 3.

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