

Knitting: a revival 织毛活儿再度兴起

Vocabulary: Knitting 针织

For many, **knitting** evokes images of elderly women **weaving** woolly jumpers for their grandchildren.

But the craft is undergoing a revival as **knitters** of all ages are picking up **needles** and **yarns** again. For Dr Sarah-Marie Belcastro, knitting is a mathematical challenge rather than about making garments: "Converting a smooth curve into a knitted pattern is a



math problem because one has to figure out where exactly to place the discrete changes in curvature (...)" Like Dr Belcastro, many other knitters transform mathematical concepts into intricate patterns to better understand a shape or concept.

Knitting can also be a social event and has gained popularity in recent years. Many groups have started up around the world to bring strangers together into more close-knit communities. Men and women of all ages can attend the 'Knit and Natter' group, for instance, where people get together to practise the **handicraft** while having a good old chat.

Feminists have rejected knitting in the past because it was a craft learnt by women and was looked down on – but it is precisely because of its important social role that New Yorker Debbie Stoller believes knitting should be brought back into fashion. She established a popular knitting group that led to a **string of** 1,300 others. "In the same way that fishing is not just about getting something to eat, knitting is not just about making something to wear", she says.

So it's not just about ending up with **woolly** socks and scarves to give as birthday presents to family and friends. Whether those who attend go to **spin** a **yarn**, gossip or end up in **stitches**, it seems knitting can provide a **therapeutic** break in our modern lifestyles.

词汇表请参看答案与词汇部分

Quiz 测验

阅读短文并回答问题。

1. Read the article. Is the following statement true, false or not given: knitting is becoming less popular?
2. Why is knitting related to mathematics?
3. What do people do when they attend a 'Knit and Natter' group?
4. Which verb in the article means 'to view as inferior'?
5. Which expression in the article means 'to laugh a lot'?

Exercise 练习

请你在不参考课文的情况下完成下列练习。从每个表格中选择一个意思合适的单词填入句子的空格处。

1. For my husband's birthday, I've knitted him a _____ scarf. I hope he'll like it.

close-knit	mathematical	woolly	weaving
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2. I think I'll buy this wallpaper – the floral _____ is really pretty.

garment	curve	challenge	pattern
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3. Katherine loves to _____ - she really can talk for hours.

knit	craft	natter	weave
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4. _____ great films has been made this year. I've made a list of those I want to watch.

Strings of	Yarns of	A rope of	A string of
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5. For me cooking is _____. I feel really relaxed when I've made a nice meal.

therapeutic	popular	feminist	intricate
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Answers and Glossary 答案与词汇

Quiz 小测验

1. Read the article. Is the following statement true, false or not given: knitting is becoming less popular. False. Knitting is undergoing a revival, which means it's becoming popular again.
2. Why is knitting related to mathematics? Some knitters explore mathematical concepts through knitting, as creating knitted patterns can lead to a better understanding of an idea or shape.
3. What do people do when they attend a 'Knit and Natter' group? They knit and chat at the same time.
4. Which verb in the article means 'to view as inferior'? To look down on.
5. Which expression in the article means 'to laugh a lot'? To be in stitches.

Exercise 练习

1. For my husband's birthday I've knitted him a woolly scarf. I hope he'll like it.
2. I think I'll buy this wallpaper – the floral pattern is really pretty.
3. Katherine loves to natter - she really can talk for hours.
4. A string of great films has been made this year. I've made a list of those I want to watch.
5. For me cooking is therapeutic. I feel really good and relaxed when I've made a nice meal.

Glossary 词汇表

to knit	(手工) 针织毛线活儿
to weave	编织, 纺织
a craft	一门手艺
knitter	(手工) 针织者
a needle	针
a yarn	纱线
a garment	成衣
a curve	曲线
a pattern	花样, 图案
intricate	复杂精细的
close-knit	关系紧密的
to natter	闲扯, 瞎聊
a handicraft	一个手艺, 一件手工艺品
a string of	一连串
woolly	羊毛的, 毛茸茸的
a scarf	围巾
to spin a yarn	纺线, (成语比喻) 讲故事, 编故事
in stitches	缝针, (成语比喻) 忍不住大笑
therapeutic	有理疗作用的, 使人放松的