

INVISIBLE JOIN WHEN CASTING ON FOR KNITTING IN THE ROUND

There are lots of ways of casting on for knitting in the round - as I was checking out YouTube videos I didn't quickly find one that does it as I do.

Casting On

I use two needles held together in my right hand and cast on over both needles.

I cast on all the stitches (usually 64 stitches for a women's sock) on both needles.

When I have the required number of stitches, I add one more stitch (you'll see later why I do that).



Next I carefully pull one needle out of the stitches - now I have the required number of stitches on a single needle that are somewhat loose and much easier to knit into for that first row.



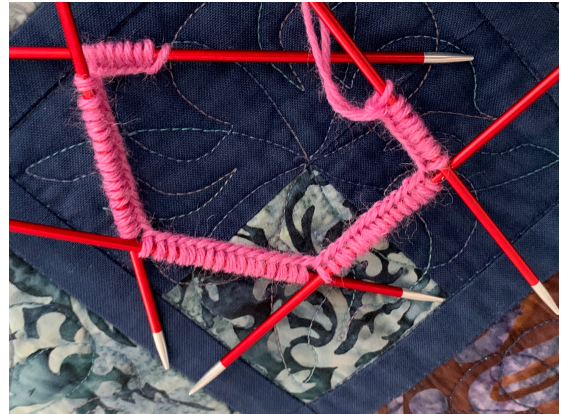
Invisible Join

Here's how I set up to knit in the round - I use double pointed needles because I find them easier than having to continually slide stitches along on a circular needle (when you can find one short enough for sock knitting)

With 64 stitches, I slip 8 stitches onto the first dp needle;



I slip 16 stitches onto the second; I slip 16 stitches onto the third, I slip 16 stitches onto the fourth - that leaves me 9 stitches on my last (original cast on) needle.



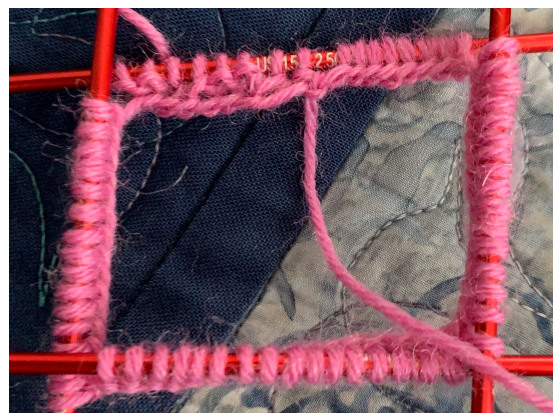
I bring the two end needles with the 9 stitches (on the right) and 8 stitches (on the left) together, knit the first stitch on the left hand needle,



slip what was the end stitch on the first needle (that is the extra stitch you added when casting on) over the first knit stitch - that secures the join.



Continue knitting - knit one more stitch (you've already knit the first stitch when making the join), purl 2, knit 2, purl 2.... What you've done is make the join in the middle of a needle - much easier to handle than trying to make the join between two needles.
[When you finish knitting that first needle you will have 8 unknit stitches and 8 knit stitches on one needle with the join in the centre.]



Here are a bunch of YouTube videos which show variations on the technique. Only one casts her stitches on over double needles, many are knitting with circular needles, but you'll see how the technique makes the join and be able to adapt it for yourself.

Using DP needles

<https://youtu.be/rrfSQNgROpM>

<https://youtu.be/svCAFOhq6SY>

Slipping end stitch with an extra stitch using a circular needle

<https://youtu.be/idghalAiuZQ>

<https://youtu.be/S-Wbay5fROg>

<https://youtu.be/wHaQyK-2kJo>

<https://youtu.be/fbvOEotpOIA>

Switching end stitches using circular needle

https://youtu.be/qxsPlcPp_tw