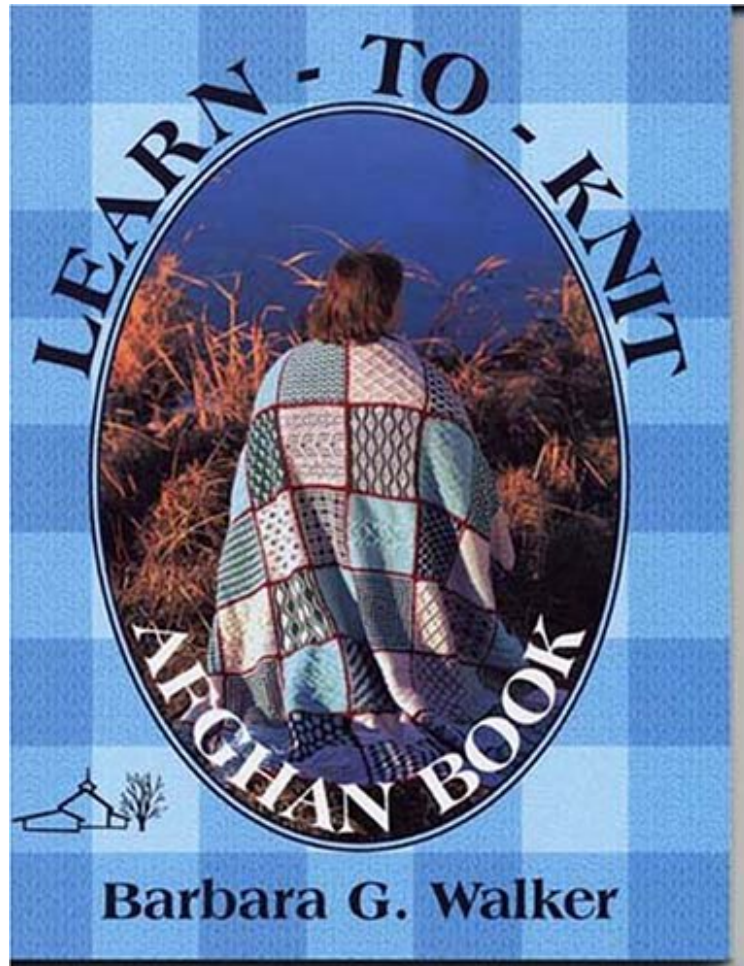


[Download free ebook] Learn-To-Knit-Afghan Book

Learn-To-Knit-Afghan Book

Barbara G. Walker

*DOC | *audiobook | ebooks | Download PDF | ePub*



[Download](#)

[Read Online](#)

#163078 in Books Schoolhouse Pr 1997-03 Original language: English PDF # 1 9.00 x 7.25 x .50l, .75 #File Name: 0942018133161 pages | File size: 33.Mb

Barbara G. Walker : Learn-To-Knit-Afghan Book before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Learn-To-Knit-Afghan Book:

7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. Great way to develop efficiency and understandingBy biltsThe project in this book walks you through creating an afghan with 63 squares, introducing new techniques or adding complexity to already-learned techniques along the way. It is a significant undertaking. Most squares took me 4-5 hours (I timed them), making the whole project take around 300 hours of knitting before blocking and construction. Expect to spend several months on it at least. Luckily, it's pretty easy to listen to TV or podcasts while doing most squares. It's called "Learn-To-Knit" but it's really about mastery. It will help even intermediate knitters become better at the craft. I found the book to be fantastic for two things: 1. Developing efficiency and muscle memory. This book isn't about understanding knitting or basic stitches (you can quite honestly find better resources for that online) it's about the mechanics. There's a big difference between knowing how to make a right twist and having had the

experience of made over a thousand of them in a pattern where a quarter of the stitches were right twists (square 29). You pick up muscle memory and efficiency by internalizing it. Beyond that, the project will make you care about speed and accuracy. Getting 25% faster could save you literally months. Finding ways to discover mistakes early or avoid them altogether can cut the time for a square in half. Note that the book doesn't actually teach you how to get more efficient, but it puts you into a situation where you have to find what works for you, and as such, it's a great learning tool. Personally, this provided me right cost/benefit for switching to continental knitting from my old technique that was just too slow on anything but runs of knits or purls, re-learning everything. For that alone, it was worth it.

2. Understanding how patterns work. By exposing you to many different patterns and variations on patterns, you end up getting a pretty deep understanding of how things like cables and slipped stitches can be used to make various shapes. Usually I find myself following a pattern for a few rows, then just understanding what it's doing and how it works and taking it from there. Apart from that, the book is very well organized and fairly comprehensive in terms of teaching techniques found in real-world patterns. Now, there are a couple of things I don't like about this book:

- * Formatting. Whoever put the latest edition together paid no attention at all to formatting. Patterns usually span two pages, making them hard to follow while knitting. Images are often not on the same page as the pattern they show. The first letter of every pattern is capitalized as a word processor auto-correct would do "K3 p1 k3 ..." I ended up transcribing every pattern into a small spiral notebook before knitting because they were so hard to use in the book.
- * Mosaics. Eight consecutive squares early on (9-16) are two-color mosaics. The last six of them are garter stitch and have a very high stitch count compared to almost everything else in the book. If you follow the instructions in order, you will do 21,758 consecutive knits and slips without seeing so much as a purl. Beyond that, they're error-prone, tend to require a lot of attention and counting, and are (subjectively) a little ugly. After about two of these, you're not really learning anything new. It'd be nice if there were only, say, two patterns with this techniques and a few more multi-color techniques represented.
- * Lack of help with construction. After spending hundreds of hours and several months on a project, the last thing you want is to mess up the final step of joining the pieces together. The book gives 5 different options for assembling the squares, with one brief, hand-wavy paragraph each, comprising a total of two pages. Construction is actually a bit tricky because in many cases you're joining different types of edges with different stitch counts. It requires thought.

Some other thoughts about the book and tackling this project:

- * Spend time planning out your colors and feel free to ignore the book's suggestions about colors. I found a bunch of the patterns, especially the two-color patterns to be ugly (worth doing to learn the technique, but ugly). Because of this, I planned ahead to make sure those patterns were low-contrast. Meanwhile, some of the patterns are very nice and just scream out for a particular color.
- * As mentioned above, many of the patterns are great for an afghan like this and especially for mastering a technique, but are not ones you'd want to use elsewhere unmodified. As such, I don't think this book is the best option as a pattern reference, so I would only buy it if you're planning to actually tackle the project.

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Great Approach - Layout Sometimes Makes Following Along Challenging

By Minnie I. I had the 1972 version of this text and when I finally got around to actually DOING this afghan, the book fell apart. This is an identical replacement of that book. The squares in this book build competencies in different knitting skills. I think it's one of the best examples of competency-based learning I've seen. While the instructions on how to do the stitches can be a bit confusing, a trip to YouTube provides all the illustration you need to learn how to do each block. The only reason I gave this a four instead of a five is because the people who did the layout stupidly split instructions across pages, which makes it difficult to follow the instructions on some blocks. I scanned the instructions on those pages and then pasted them together on one sheet to make it easier to follow along. Over all, this is an excellent project book to help you learn stitches.

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Depends on what you want this book for

By Sarah Allen This book is great for a beginner or lower intermediate who is looking for new knitting textures to try, but I don't recommend this book as an afghan book. It's fun to make the squares listed inside but there are so much better and/or easier patterns out there if you want to make an even semi-nice blanket for someone. I'd say that the "Learn to Knit" part of the title is fairly accurate, but don't buy it because of the "Afghan Book" part. It does get some points for the pictures (not color though) and the very detailed instructions. Overall, it's an okay buy and depends on what you want it for. Personally, I think you're better off seeing if your local library has a copy.

This excellent learn-to-knit book is ideal for new and intermediate knitters. Following instructions for basic casting on and stitch structure, a logical progression of patterns will lead you through: knit-purl, mosaic, slip stitch, twist-stitch patterns, cables, increase/decrease, and lace. When the 63rd square is finished, there will be very little you do not know about stitch-pattern techniques, and you will have a snug and beautiful afghan as a bonus.