

JOINING KNITTING

On the machine

- Horizontal seam [as in shoulder seam]
 - Finish edges with waste yarn
 - Rehang two pieces together - one stitch from each piece per needle
 - Knit one row and cast off on loose tension
- Vertical seam
 - Hang both pieces together as above, but without live stitches you will need to pick up stitches from the edges.
 - Two stitches per needle
 - Knit one row and cast off on loose tension
- Joining horizontal to vertical
 - Use live stitches if possible on horizontal by taking off on waste yarn
 - On vertical pick up the same number of stitches from the side and hang on needles
 - Knit one row
 - Hang horizontal piece on the same needles as the vertical piece
 - Cast off loosely
- Decorative vertical seam
 - When knitting first piece, make eyelets on the side[s] to be joined: alternate rows, when the carriage is on the other side to the eyelet side, transfer the penultimate stitch to the needle next to it [toward the middle].
 - When knitting second piece, make the eyelet as above on alternate rows, but this time hang the corresponding eyelet from the first piece on the end needle, and knit.
 - You will be joining as you go and have a decorative ridge in the middle of your work.
 - Alternatives could include a little bit of transfer lace work in the stitches nearby: e.g. making two adjacent eyelets by transferring a second stitch in the same direction [but only hanging one]
- I-cord seam
 - Knit both pieces to be joined
 - Knit a separate i-cord, but join the two pieces by picking up stitches from each in turn and hanging them on the edge of the cord as you knit it - alternate rows.
- Links to other seams
 - <https://youtu.be/emQLPCCiIOw> Knitting Machine Blanket Tutorial Braided Slip Join
 - <https://youtu.be/VWqqOGGP5co> Join seams on a flat bed knitting machine
 - <https://youtu.be/aS5xDXwjRRY> Diana Sullivan cable join
 - <https://youtu.be/bmI5I3ryay4> Diana Sullivan zig zag join

Off the machine

- Joining with crochet
 - I have used double crochet to work each edge to be joined, then double crochet again to join together. Trebles are also good.
 - <https://home-machine-knitting.co.uk/free-visual-pattern/> is a link to Anne Lavene's free pattern, where she describes a crochet join: she uses crochet a lot to link her pieces to wonderful effect
- Joining with sewing
 - Machine sewing - I would use a straight stitch for vertical seams, and prepare the knitting well beforehand, so that you can target one line in the knitting. For horizontal seams I would prefer zigzag, as there needs to be stretch.
 - Hand sewing - You tube links below
 - <https://youtu.be/wF2D5m-UFGI> mattress stitch: preferred by us, for its flat seams
 - <https://youtu.be/Yw01MZREzdU> whipstitch, mattress stitch, crochet
 - <https://youtu.be/7y1CSMyRcfU> various seams
 - <https://youtu.be/TYfCQmsb1iM> joining horizontal to vertical
 - Kitchener stitch <https://youtu.be/wIUDB3Sv0g8> which is used for grafting: be aware that this makes a seamless look, but is not as strong as other seams.
- Hairpin lace type join
 - Prepare the vertical edges for each piece by leaving a needle out of work on the last but one stitch.
 - When joining, you will be unravelling the end stitches gradually to leave long loops at the edge - don't unravel all at once!
 - Take a crochet hook, and two loops from one side. Pass them through the corresponding two loops on the other side, then take this loop through the next two loops on the original side. Proceed like this as a join, alternating sides. When all loops have been used fasten off.
 - <https://kickincrochet.com/hairpin-lace-make-a-basic-strip-and-join-strips-of-lace/> shows this done in crochet. Disregard the instructions for making the strips, but the join is essentially the same as the machine knitted join.