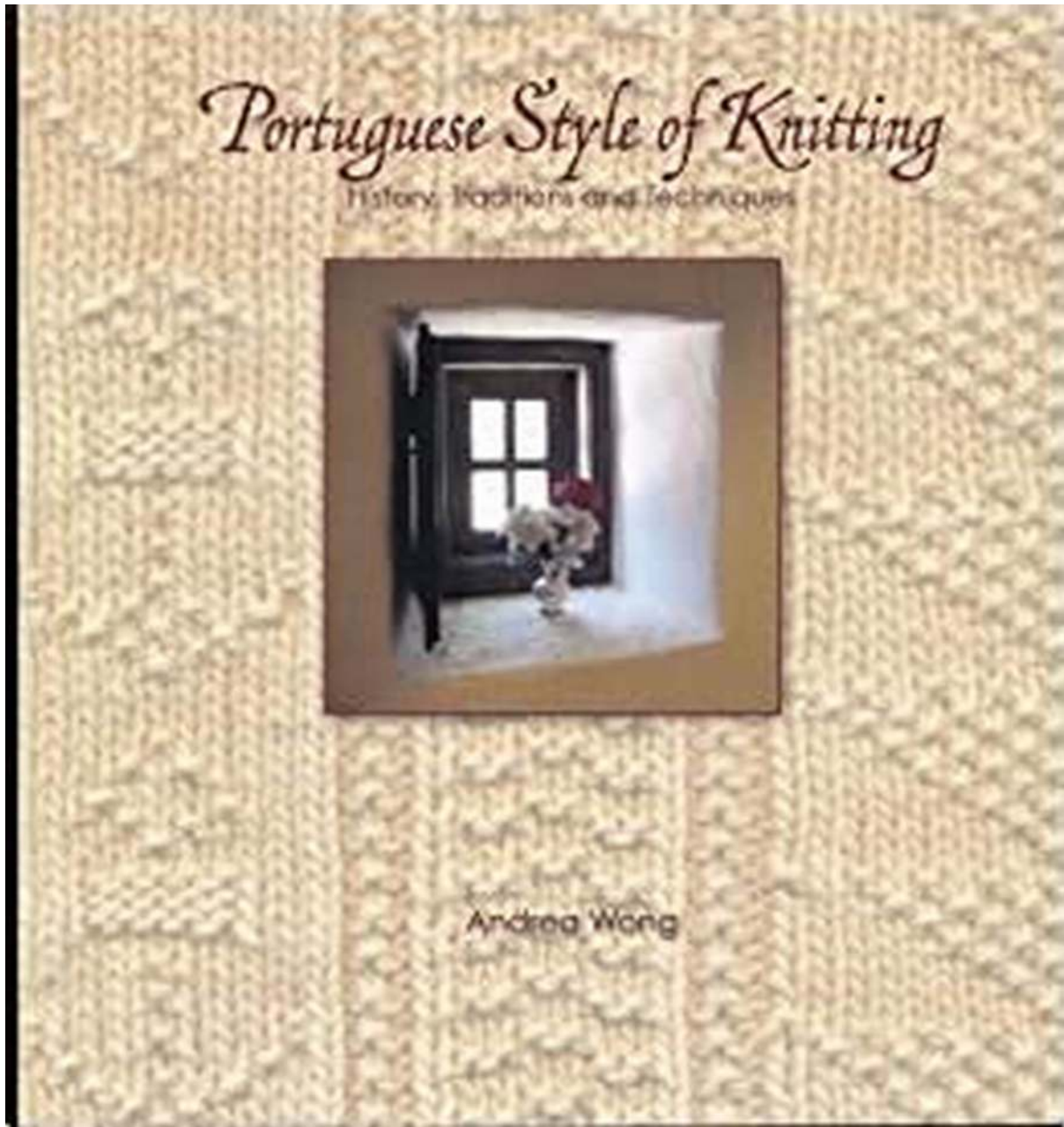


The Fascinating Story of Portuguese Style of Knitting: A Journey through History, Traditions, and Techniques



Knitting is an ancient craft that has been practiced across the world for centuries. Each region has its unique knitting style, deeply intertwined with its cultural

heritage. One such remarkable style is Portuguese knitting. Originating from Portugal, this style stands out for its distinct traditions, ergonomic techniques, and intricate patterns. Join us on this enchanting journey as we uncover the history, explore the traditions, and delve into the fascinating techniques behind the Portuguese style of knitting.

The History of Portuguese Knitting

Portuguese knitting has a rich history that dates back several centuries. It is believed to have originated in the northern regions of Portugal, where it was primarily practiced by fisherfolk to create warm garments that could withstand the harsh conditions at sea.



Portuguese Style of Knitting: History, Traditions and Techniques by Maggie Weldon (Kindle Edition)

★★★★☆ 4.7 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 19286 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Print length : 239 pages
Lending : Enabled



The distinctive characteristics of Portuguese knitting were shaped by the fusion of local knitting traditions and influences from neighboring countries. Portuguese sailors, who extensively traveled the world during the era of exploration, brought back techniques from various cultures that blended with the existing knitting techniques in Portugal. This intermingling led to the development of a unique knitting style that showcased a blend of traditions, narratives, and artistry.

Traditions and Cultural Significance

Portuguese knitting is deeply ingrained in the cultural fabric of the nation. It serves as a symbol of heritage, reflecting the resilience and creativity of the Portuguese people. Knitted garments, such as the traditional Portuguese fishermen sweaters, hold historical significance and are considered iconic representations of the knitting traditions inherited through generations.

Knitting has traditionally been a communal activity in Portugal, with families and friends coming together to share stories, pass down techniques, and create beautiful garments. The craft fosters a sense of togetherness and community, connecting generations and preserving cultural identity.

Distinctive Techniques: Purling with the Neck and the Portuguese Knitting Pin

What sets the Portuguese knitting style apart from other knitting techniques is the prominent use of the neck and a specialized knitting pin, also known as the "Portuguese knitting pin" or "rowing pin". While in most knitting styles the working yarn is held in the right hand, in Portuguese knitting, it is held around the neck with the help of a pin. The yarn is then tensioned using the index finger, enabling quick and even stitching.

This ergonomic technique not only allows for speedier knitting but also helps to minimize strain on the hands and wrists, making it an ideal method for individuals with arthritis or other hand-related conditions. The unique purling technique involves the movement of the thumb to wrap the yarn around the needle, resulting in a pronounced texture and stunning stitch patterns.

Portuguese Patterns and Designs: A Feast for the Eyes

The intricate patterns and designs found in Portuguese knitting are a visual delight. The stitches are often accompanied by motifs inspired by Portuguese architecture, tiles, and traditional folk art. These eye-catching patterns create stunning textures and bring a touch of Portuguese culture to knitted garments.



Modern Revival and Global Recognition

In recent years, there has been a renewed interest in Portuguese knitting, both within Portugal and internationally. Knitters from various parts of the world have embraced this unique style, captivated by its ergonomic techniques, cultural significance, and beautiful designs.

Many knitting enthusiasts and designers incorporate Portuguese knitting techniques into their projects, exploring its versatility and adding a distinct touch to their creations. Workshops and classes dedicated to teaching the Portuguese style of knitting have also gained popularity, enabling knitters to learn and master this beautiful technique.

In

The Portuguese style of knitting is a treasure trove of history, traditions, and techniques. It is a reflection of the rich cultural heritage of Portugal and serves as a bridge connecting past and present. From the resilience of the fishing communities to the intricate patterns inspired by traditional folk art, Portuguese knitting embodies the spirit of creativity, unity, and a passion for craftsmanship.

Whether you are an avid knitter seeking to expand your knitting horizons or simply someone intrigued by the artistry behind knitting, exploring the Portuguese style of knitting will undoubtedly leave you awe-inspired and appreciative of this remarkable tradition.



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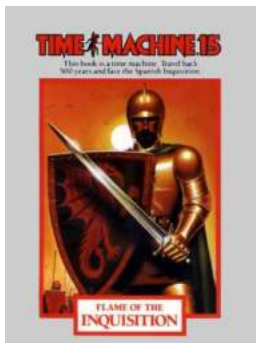


Andrea Wong teaches many knitters how to knit in the way that her mother taught her, Portuguese-style knitting. Now, for the first time, she offers an in-depth look at this ancient technique.

Portuguese Style of Knitting includes a brief history of Portugal and its crafts of knitting and spinning. Her travel photos open a window on the colorful world of Portugal.

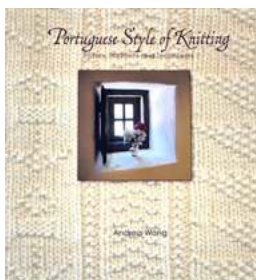
Detailed images and explanations offer knitters the opportunity to practice this style of knitting - a style that, once mastered, is easy on the hands and relaxing.

Andrea also offers ten garment patterns that she designed specifically to practice different aspects of Portuguese-style knitting. These are inspired by traditional garments as well as the richly patterned environment of Portugal.



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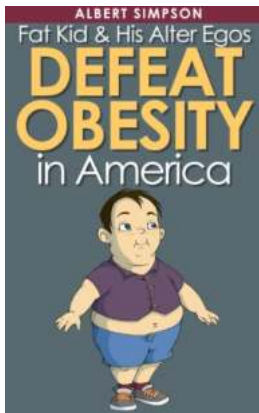
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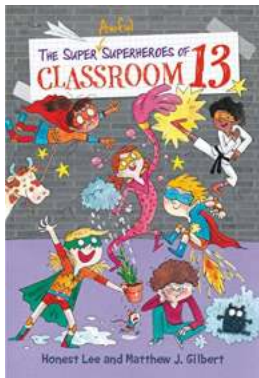
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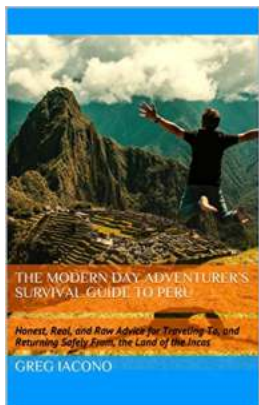
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