

# Protest Knits: Got Needles? Get Knitting!

In a time of global upheaval and uncertainty, many people are turning to creative outlets as a way to cope and connect. Knitting, in particular, has seen a resurgence in popularity as a therapeutic and empowering activity. And with good reason: knitting is not only relaxing and enjoyable, but it can also lead to the creation of beautiful and meaningful objects that can be used to express oneself, make a statement, or simply bring joy to others.

## The Power of Protest Knitting

Knitting has a long history of being used for protest and activism. In the early 1900s, suffragettes in the United Kingdom and the United States used knitting as a way to show their support for women's suffrage. They would often knit while attending rallies and protests, and their knitted items were often adorned with slogans and symbols of the movement.



### Protest Knits: Got needles? Get knitting by Olga Ritchie

★★★★☆ 4.4 out of 5

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In more recent years, knitting has been used to protest a wide range of social and political issues, including war, poverty, and climate change. Knitters have created everything from knitted peace signs to knitted pink

hats to protest the Trump administration's policies. Knitting has also been used to raise awareness for important causes, such as breast cancer and AIDS.

## **How to Start Protest Knitting**

If you are interested in getting involved in protest knitting, there are many ways to do so. You can join a local knitting group or start your own. You can also find patterns for protest-themed knitted items online or in knitting magazines. Once you have chosen a pattern, simply gather your materials and get started.

Knitting is a relatively easy craft to learn, and there are many resources available to help you get started. If you are new to knitting, you may want to start with a simple pattern, such as a scarf or a hat. As you become more comfortable with knitting, you can move on to more complex patterns, such as sweaters or blankets.

## **Tips for Protest Knitting**

Here are a few tips for protest knitting:

- **Choose a pattern that is meaningful to you.** The best protest knitted items are those that have a personal connection to the knitter. If you are knitting for a specific cause, choose a pattern that reflects your beliefs and values.
- **Use high-quality materials.** The items you knit for protest will likely be used and abused, so it is important to use high-quality materials that will stand up to wear and tear.

- **Be creative.** Protest knitting is not about following the rules. Feel free to experiment with different colors, textures, and patterns to create unique and eye-catching items.
- **Have fun!** Knitting should be enjoyable, so don't take it too seriously. If you are having fun, your knitting will show it.

## **Getting Involved in Protest Knitting**

There are many ways to get involved in protest knitting. You can join a local knitting group or start your own. You can also participate in online knitting challenges and events. And, of course, you can simply knit whatever you want, whenever you want. The important thing is to use your knitting to make a statement and to connect with others who share your values.

Knitting is a powerful tool that can be used to express oneself, make a statement, and bring about change. So get your needles out and get knitting!

## **Additional Resources**

- Ravelry: Protest Knitting Group
- Knit for Peace
- Pink Pussyhat Project

*Image credits:*

- Knitting Fool
- Sweet Georgia Yarns
- Pink Pussyhat Project



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