

Material Grrdz

MEET THE MATERIAL GRRRL: AMAZINGISH GRACE

THE MATERIAL GRRRL GUIDE TO ROSETTES

HOROSCOPES

CRAFTING AS SUBVERSION OF NEOLIBERALISM

COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS

ENGAGING WITH CRAFT TO BUILD COMMUNITY, ENGAGE POLITICALLY, AND PROMOTE SUSTAINABILITY

@MATERIALGRRRLZ

CREATED BY ALEXA KARI

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@materialgrrrlz
Created by Alexa Kari

word scramble

knitwear season is upon us and it's time to get your supplies in order!
unscramble the crafty words below to reveal your material grrrl mantra this autumn <3

ahterd	
heccrot ohok	
mesa pirepr	
spni	
ramerk	
iscosrss	
nrio	
anicmhe	<u></u>
ryan	_ <u></u>
denlese	<u>_</u>
rireu	<u>_</u> _
brcfia	
peat	

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knitwear season is upon us and it's time to get your supplies in order! unscramble the crafty words below to reveal your material grrrl mantra this autumn <3

Words to unscramble:

- 1. Ahterd
- 2. heccrot ohok
- 3. mesa pirepr
- 4. Spni
- 5. Ramerk
- 6. Iscosrss
- 7. Nrio
- 8. Anicmhe
- 9. Ryan
- 10. Denlese
- 11. RIreu
- 12. Brcfia
- 13. Peat

To reveal the mantra, write down the following letters from each unscrambled word:

- 1. First letter
- 2. Fifth letter
- 3. Third letter
- 4. Third letter
- 5. Fourth letter
- 6. Fifth letter
- 7. First letter
- 8. First letter
- 9. Second letter
- 10. Fourth letter
- 11. Fourth letter

12. Fifth letter

13. First letter



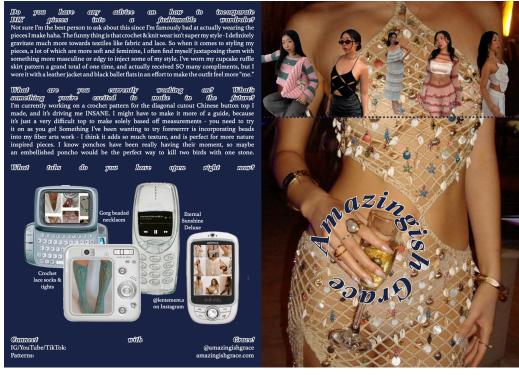
≈ Grace is an NIIC-based designer making knitting and arochetpatterns and pieces≈

Ifton difflyou lingth youthing with heattlines Corfus have shows had an inexplicible chockhold on me for as long as I can remember! started buying scrap fabric at grange sales and hand sewing them into new pieces when I was in first or second grade, and since I almost exclusively wore second hand clothes growing up, I quickly got into the habit of upcycling. I begged my morn and grandma to teach me to knit, which involved quite a bit of trial and error, but from there it was easy to pick up crochet on my own. Honestly my personal practice is a lot of triying to recreate designs I see online or envision in my head, but without actually learning any real technical skills foll). The definitely good at making it work, but I think leveling up my foundations & techniques, particularly with knitting, will really help elevate my designs as well as the complexity of pattern I can write!

All of the dispuss and dectures to your phease are so acasti Whate longiness disast. I honestly believe in the idea that nothing is original and everything has been done before in some way, so I do find almost all my designs are derivative of an idea I've already seen. Like every other fiber artist, I save a bunch of other artists work on Pinterest, Tiktok and Instagram, but finding inspiration outside the fiber artist work of Pinterest, Tiktok and Instagram, but finding inspiration outside the fiber arts world definitely brings a more unique perspective. Looking through runway collections and following artists of all mediums (sewing potter; jewely, rec.) gives me so much inspo! I'm most visually inspired by nature, so I really want to find ways to translate more abstract color schemes or light patterns into a garment rather than replicating clothing pieces.

Wildlis are throughly your pattlern design processes. How the your go from earnsepf to a flutblind proffset. I think my process is almost completely built on fucking around & finding out (excuse my language). What lack in technical skill or smart planning I make up for in sheer determination and willingness to frog. I'm famous among my friends and followers for undoing hours of work without feeling an ounce of emotion to me, the fun is in painstakingly trying over and over again until I get it exactly right I will say this makes pattern writing or designing for other people more difficult, since I have to go more off measurements & math instead of just trying the piece on every three rows. I really think people underestimate how much you can do with freehanding and pretty basic technique, as long as you have an understanding of garment construction (which I think I fortunately already have from sewing).

What awardinus are you grantifust offe. I have everything I make x just kidding hala x 1 think until recently I had a tendency to make a lot of pieces that weren't at all my style, to I tended not to feel strongly about the end product Some of my recent faves though are my watercolor brushed sweater pattern: it just such a light, comfs, cute & WARM piece for winter, my diagonal cutout Chinese button top: it's definitely one of my more original designs and takes inspo from my culture, and the mermalid embellished dress I made for my friend's bachelorette - it's just the most elevated and 'couture' piece! Vereated thus far.



Meet the Material Grrrl: AmazingishGrace

Grace is an NYC-based designer making knitting and crochet patterns and pieces.

How did you begin working with textiles?

Crafts have always had an inexplicable chokehold on me for as long as I can remember! I started buying scrap fabric at garage sales and hand sewing them into new pieces when I was in first or second grade, and since I almost exclusively wore second hand clothes growing up, I quickly got into the habit of upcycling. I begged my mom and grandma to teach me to knit, which involved quite a bit of trial and error, but from there it was easy to pick up crochet on my own. Honestly my personal practice is a lot of trying to recreate designs I see online or envision in my head, but without actually learning any real technical skills (lol). I'm definitely good at making it work, but I think leveling up my foundations & techniques, particularly with knitting, will really help elevate my designs as well as the complexity of pattern I can write!

All of the shapes and textures in your pieces are so cool! What inspires them?

I honestly believe in the idea that nothing is original and everything has been done before in some way, so I do find almost all my designs are derivative of an idea I've already seen. Like every other fiber artist, I save a bunch of other artists' work on Pinterest, Tiktok and Instagram, but finding inspiration outside the fiber arts world definitely brings a more unique perspective. Looking through runway collections and following artists of all mediums (sewing, pottery, jewelry, etc.) gives me so much inspo! I'm most visually inspired by nature, so I really want to find ways to translate more abstract color schemes or light patterns into a garment rather than replicating clothing pieces.

Walk us through your pattern design process. How do you go from concept to a finished project?

I think my process is almost completely built on fucking around & finding out (excuse my language). What I lack in technical skill or smart planning I make up for in sheer determination and willingness to frog. I'm famous among my friends and followers for undoing hours of work without feeling an ounce of emotion - to me, the fun is in painstakingly trying over and over again until I get it exactly right! I will say this makes pattern writing or designing for other people more difficult, since I have to go more off measurements & math instead of just trying the piece on every three rows. I really think people underestimate how much you can do with freehanding and pretty basic technique, as long as you have an understanding of garment construction (which I think I fortunately already have from sewing).

What creations are you proudest of?

I hate everything I make <3 Just kidding haha - I think until recently I had a tendency to make a lot of pieces that weren't at all my style, so I tended not to feel strongly about the end product. Some of my recent faves though are my watercolor brushed sweater pattern - it's just such a light, comfy, cute & WARM piece for winter, my diagonal cutout Chinese button top - it's definitely one of my more original designs and takes inspo from my culture, and the mermaid embellished dress I made for my friend's bachelorette - it's just the most elevated and "couture" piece I've created thus far.

Do you have any advice on how to incorporate DIY pieces into a fashionable wardrobe?

Not sure I'm the best person to ask about this since I'm famously bad at actually wearing the pieces I make haha. The funny thing is that crochet & knit wear isn't super my style - I definitely gravitate much more towards textiles like fabric and lace. So when it comes to styling my pieces, a lot of which are more soft and feminine, I often find myself juxtaposing them with something more masculine or edgy to inject some of my style. I've worn my cupcake ruffle skirt pattern a grand total of one time, and actually received

SO many compliments, but I wore it with a leather jacket and black ballet flats in an effort to make the outfit feel more "me."

What are you currently working on? What's something you're excited to make in the future?

I'm currently working on a crochet pattern for the diagonal cutout Chinese button top I made, and it's driving me INSANE. I might have to make it more of a guide, because it's just a very difficult top to make solely based off measurements - you need to try it on as you go! Something I've been wanting to try foreverrrr is incorporating beads into my fiber arts work - I think it adds so much texture, and is perfect for more nature inspired pieces. I know ponchos have been really having their moment, so maybe an embellished poncho would be the perfect way to kill two birds with one stone.

What tabs do you have open right now?

Beaded necklaces, Eternal Sunshine Deluxe, crochet lace socks and tights, @lentement.s on Instagram

Connect with Grace

@amazingishgrace on Tik Tok, Instagram and YouTube Patterns on amazingishgrace.com



The Material Grrrl Guide to Rosettes

Coco Chanel famously said "Before you leave the house, look in the mirror and take one thing off." We'd like to propose "Before you leave the house, look in the mirror and add at least one rosette somewhere" as the new adage to live by.

Beloved by horse girls and pageant queens everywhere, the rosette has become a staple material grrrl accessory. After making hundreds together at events, it's time to share our complete guide to making them in every medium, so you're never caught without one on hand.



Pattern: Glued Rosettes

Upgrade an old button by gluing scraps of ribbon around it to create an upcycled rosette.

Materials

- 1 button badge
- Ribbon scraps
- Hot glue

- Cut or pleat ribbon into desired shape and lay in place around your button
- 2. Hot glue ribbon to the back of the button, beginning with the button edges and ending with 3+ pieces hanging from the bottom



Pattern: Crocheted Rosettes

Crochet a flower and add chains to create a waterfall rosette shape

Materials

- Size 4 yarn
- 5mm crochet hook
- Tapestry needle

To make it bigger: Create a longer initial chain, or use a larger size yarn and crochet hook

To make it smaller: Use a smaller size yarn and crochet hook

- 1. Chain 70
- 2. Skip 5 and dc into 6th stitch
- 3. Repeat (skip 2, dc into 3rd st, chain 3, dc into same st) across row
- 4. Chain 1 and turn
- 5. Repeat (sc into first chain space, 6 dc into next chain space) across row
- 6. Tie off, leaving a long string of yarn to sew the rose together
- 7. Coil into a rose shape and use a tapestry needle to sew together from the back. Tie off and weave ends in.
- Insert crochet hook into the back of the rosette and begin creating a chain. Continue until the chain measures 6.5 in/16 cm or desired length. Tie off and weave in ends. Create 6 more chains.
- 9. Add a safety pin to the back



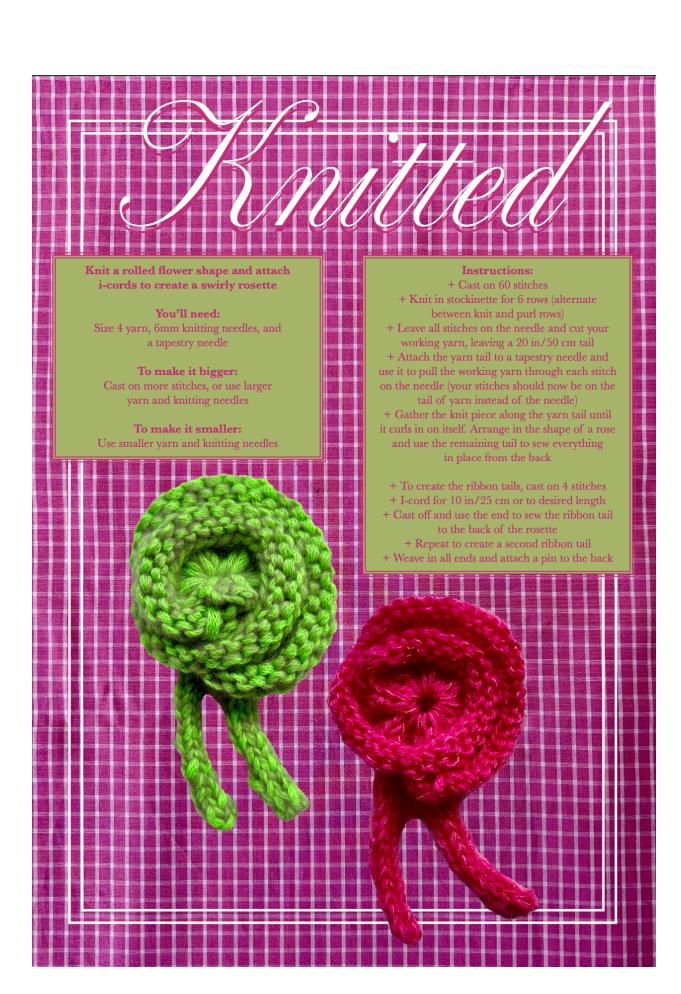
Pattern: Sewn Rosettes

Use a sewing machine and basic hand sewing methods to make a scrappy rosette.

Materials

- 1 flower body: 2.5 in/6.5 cm wide by 40 in/100 cm long
- 1 backing circle: 3.5 in/9 cm diameter
- 3 ribbon strips: 1 in/2.5 cm wide by 10 in/25.5 cm long
- 1 small piece of fabric to cover a safety pin or magnet

- 1. Serge or zig zag stitch along the edge of each piece of fabric
- Adjust your sewing machine to a long straight stitch. Sew down along one long edge of the flower body piece and do not backstitch at the end. Use the loose threads to gather the fabric strip until it measures approximately 20 in/50 cm
- 3. Swirl the flower body in on itself to create your desired rose shape
- 4. Using a hand sewing needle and thread, sew the rosette in place from the back by sewing all folds together
- 5. Continuing with the sewing needle and thread, hand sew each ribbon strip to the back of the rosette in your desired position
- 6. Attach a safety pin or magnet in the center of the backing circle by sewing a small piece of fabric over it to hold in place
- 7. Hand sew the backing circle onto the back of the rosette, covering up all ruffles and ribbons



Pattern: Knit Rosettes

Knit a rolled flower shape and attach i-cords to create a swirly rosette.

Materials

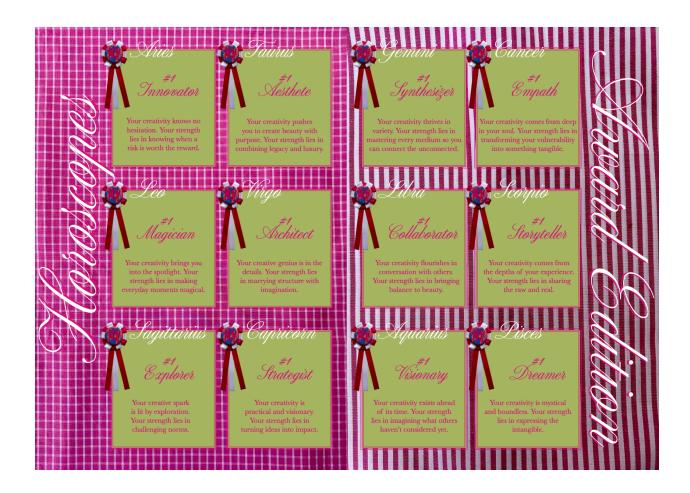
- Size 4 yarn
- 6mm knitting needles
- Tapestry needle

To make it bigger: Cast on more stitches, or use larger yarn and knitting needles

To make it smaller: Use smaller yarn and knitting needles

- 1. Cast on 60 stitches
- 2. Knit in stockinette for 6 rows (alternate between knit and purl rows)
- 3. Leave all stitches on the needle and cut your working yarn, leaving a 20 in/50 cm tail
- 4. Attach the yarn tail to a tapestry needle and use it to pull the working yarn through each stitch on the needle (your stitches should now be on the tail of yarn instead of the needle)
- 5. Gather the knit piece along the yarn tail until it curls in on itself.

 Arrange in the shape of a rose and use the remaining tail to sew everything in place from the back
- 6. To create the ribbon tails, cast on 4 stitches
- 7. I-cord for 10 in/25 cm or to desired length
- Cast off and use the end to sew the ribbon tail to the back of the rosette
- 9. Repeat to create a second ribbon tail
- 10. Weave in all ends and attach a pin to the back



Horoscopes

Award edition!

Aries

#1 Innovator

Your creativity knows no hesitation. Your strength lies in knowing when a risk is worth the reward.

Taurus

#1 Aesthete

Your creativity pushes you to create beauty with purpose. Your strength lies in combining legacy and luxury.

Gemini

#1 Synthesizer

Your creativity thrives in variety. Your strength lies in mastering every medium so you can connect the unconnected.

Cancer

#1 Empath

Your creativity comes from deep in your soul. Your strength lies in transforming your vulnerability into something tangible.

Leo

#1 Magician

Your creativity brings you into the spotlight. Your strength lies in making everyday moments magical.

Virgo

#1 Architect

Your creative genius is in the details. Your strength lies in marrying structure with imagination.

Libra

#1 Collaborator

Your creativity flourishes in conversation with others. Your strength lies in bringing balance to beauty.

Scorpio

#1 Storyteller

Your creativity comes from the depths of your experience. Your strength lies in sharing the raw and real.

Sagittarius

#1 Explorer

Your creative spark is lit by exploration. Your strength lies in challenging norms.

Capricorn

#1 Strategist

Your creativity is practical and visionary. Your strength lies in turning ideas into impact.

Aquarius

#1 Visionary

Your creativity exists ahead of its time. Your strength lies in imagining what others haven't considered yet.

Pisces

#1 Dreamer

Your creativity is mystical and boundless. Your strength lies in expressing the intangible.



Crafting as Subversion of Neoliberalism

Craft is political: Q3 recommendation

YouTube rec: "Knitting and Crafting as Subversion of Neoliberalism" by The Knitty Professor

Neoliberalism is an economic and political ideology that advocates for increased consumption, privatization, and free trade, with the aim of increasing the power and profitability of the private sector.

Author Virignia L Lewis, aka The Knitty Professor, shared a YouTube video full of empowering knowledge about the ways that participating in craft subverts neoliberalism by resisting the idea that "people are only effective when they're consuming." By valuing the making process and prioritising the use of an item over its market value, we create communities and economies where workers are respected, objects have sustainable life cycles, and people have more meaningful relationships with the things around them.

Craft is a space where we can slow down and intentionally make decisions that value community over self-interest:) We put together a manifesto inspired by all the crafty affirmations Lewis shares in this video. Tear it out, hang it on your wall, tattoo it on your arm, and wear with pride!

Pull out your knitting project and click this link to watch the video.

A Material Grrrl Manifesto

Inspired by "Knitting and Crafting as Subversion of Neoliberalism" by The Knitty Professor

I resist commodification by making things myself!
I reject mass production by creating slowly and with intention!
I prioritise people over profit by advocating for workers!
I emphasize solidarity over competition by supporting other makers!
I cultivate cultural memory by participating in intergenerational learning!
I exercise my right to repair by mending instead of buying new!
I combat isolation by investing in creative community!
I show up for my community by educating myself!

CRAFT BINGO

TRY A
PATTERN
FROM
A NEW
DESIGNER

ATTEND A
CREATIVE
E V E N T

SOURCE A SECOND H A N D MATERIAL

MAKE A
PROJECT
USING
YARN
SCRAPS

LEARN A NEW STITCH GIVE A DIY GIFT

FINISH AN OLD W I P MAKE A MATERIAL GRRRLZ PATTERN

TRY A
N E W
YARN OR
FABRIC

Back to school: craft edition! Treat this bingo board as your creative assignment for the autumn :)

Craft Bingo

Back to school: craft edition! Treat this bingo board as your creative assignment for the autumn:)

Bingo items:

- Try a pattern from a new designer
- Attend a creative event
- Source a secondhand material
- Make a project using yarn scraps
- Learn a new stitch
- Give a DIY gift
- Finish an old wip
- Make a Material Grrrlz pattern
- Try a new yarn or fabric

COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS

Material Grrrlz is a worldwide community of crafters connecting online & IRL through a quarterly print & digital magazine, Instagram meme page, and events in London, UK.

PRINT SUBSCRIPTIONS

Get every new issue of Material Grrrlz sent to your door (in a made-for-junk-journaling pink package) by signing up to our Snail Mail Grrrl subscription on MaterialGrrrrlz.com. Through this subscription, you will pay a monthly fee, receive a welcome merch pack, and print copies of each new mag.

FREE PATTERNS

Every past issue of Material Grrrlz magazine is available to read FREE on MaterialGrrrlz.com! Log on to read all 13 mags and explore our free pattern library featuring dozens of knitting, crochet, and sewing projects that have been published in the magazine over the past two years:)

LET'S HOOK UP!

We're gathering the grrrlz in person to make anything hot pink and glittery. We host monthly girlhood birthday party inspired craft workshops in London, UK, making everything from ribbon rosettes to upcycled clothing. Keep an eye on our events page to join us for one!

Not in London? We want to help every material grrrl get connected to a local craft community! We've launched a craft club finder featuring clubs in nearly 20 countries. Head to our site to find one near you <3

Keep the community going online by following the @materialgrrrlz meme page and joining our broadcast channel. Along with your daily dose of niche fiber art memes, join us to share your latest projects, get inspired by other crafters, find shop and event recommendations around the world, and more.



@MATERIALGRRRLZ



MATERIALGRRRLZ.COM

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Playlist

<u>Click this link</u> to listen to the latest Material Grrrl playlist.