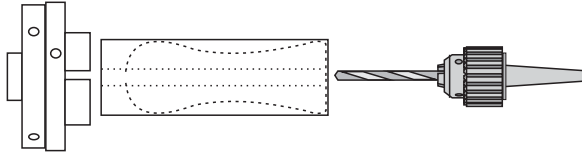


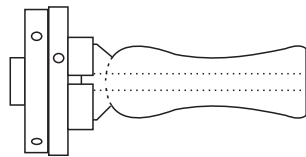


French Knitting

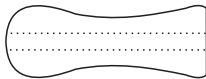
Spool knitting, corking, French knitting or tomboy knitting is a form of knitting that uses a spool and four nails to produce a narrow tube of fabric. Many things can be made from the resulting tube e.g. it can be wound in a spiral to produce a mat or rug, or if a larger spool with more nails in is used, a sock or a hat could be made.



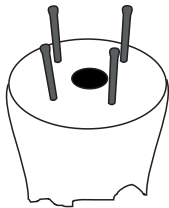
Start with a piece of wood about 40mm square and 120mm long. Grip this in a chuck. Drill a 7mm hole down the entire length (larger if you plan to use thick wool).



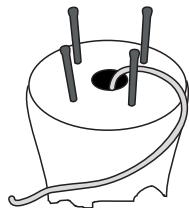
Cut the end nice and smooth. Turn the length of the wood to a nice hand-holding shape. Sand and finish the turned area. Be sure to sand into the drilled hole.



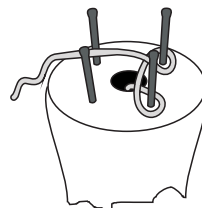
Part it off and hand sand the end.



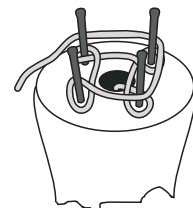
Hammer four small finish nails (with or without heads) at regular intervals around the center hole.



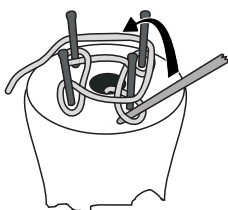
Thread the end of a ball of yarn down through the hole, and hold it in place with the left hand while working.



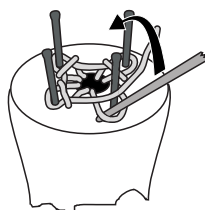
Wind the yarn in a counterclockwise direction around the set of nails and also around each nail.



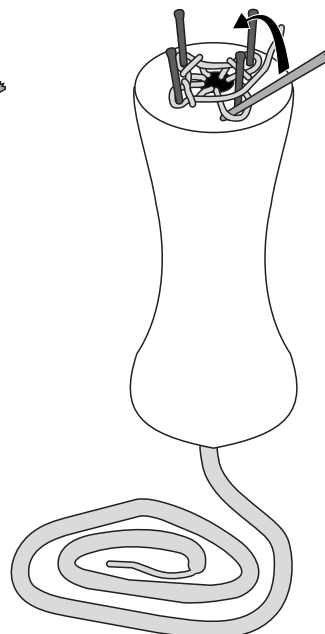
Take the yarn once more around the nails, but without looping it on each nail.



Using a tapestry needle or small crochet hook, lift the lower loop up over the yarn and over the nail.



Continue to work the yarn around the nails, without looping it on each nail, and lifting the lower loop over the new part of the yarn and over the nail.



Keep gentle pressure pulling the knitting through the hole. Continue in this fashion until you have made a length of knitting for your project.

To finish, slip all four stitches off the nails onto your needle. Pull the knitted braid up from the hole a little. Break the yarn from the ball and thread the end through all four stitches that are on the needle. Pull it tight.