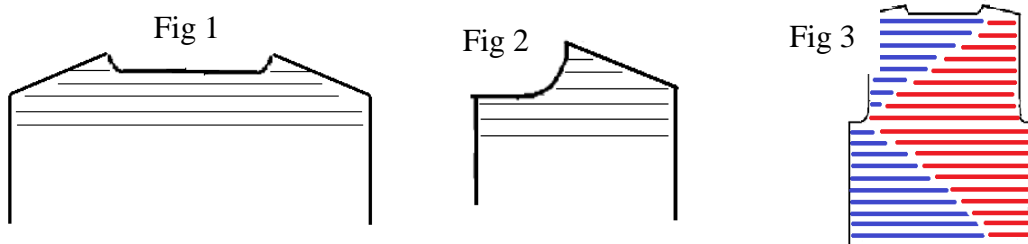


Partial Knitting aka Short Row Knitting on the Knitting Machine

Partial knitting or short-row knitting is knitting a portion of a row; some needles on the knitting machine bed will be in hold position while other needles remain in work position.

1. **Manual Wrap** – Put needles in hold on the opposite side from the carriage; a row is knit then the yarn is manually wrapped by putting the yarn under the first needle in hold position closest to the needles in work position. Take care that the yarn does not catch on a sinker post or on other needles in performing this manipulation.
2. **Automatic Wrap** – Put needle in hold on the same side as the carriage; a needle is put in hold and the yarn carries over that needle then knits the other needles in work position. This is called an automatic wrap. Another example of this technique would be to put one less needle on hold opposite the carriage than a pattern calls for; knit across then pull the last working needle next to the needles in hold into hold position. This creates the automatic wrap on that needle. This technique works one needle at a time only.
3. **No Wrap** – Putting needles in hold without using either of the wrap techniques above will leave a hole in the knitting between the needles in hold and the working needles. In this instance the holes can become a design element of your garment or knit item.

As in the diagrams below this technique can be used in garment shaping as in neckline, shoulder, bust darts, color work, and for circular knit items such as doilies or blankets.



The diagrams above (Fig 1 and Fig 2) show partial knitting used in shaping a garment by decreasing the amount of stitches in work. In doing shortrowing for color work (Fig 3), one section/color is knit at a time: the under/blue section would be knit to the underarm; then the upper/red section to the shoulder; followed by the upper/blue section. To prevent holes between the needles in work position and needles in hold position, the needle in hold closest to the needles in work position is wrapped.

The figures below show the manual wrap technique, both on the right (Figs 4-6) and left side (Figs 7-9), as well as an example of short-rows on both sides at the same time (Fig 10). As shown the yarn is taken from above the needle and positioned under the hold needle to form the wrap. Another way to perform this is to very carefully push the needle to be wrapped back to allow the yarn to drop below it and then bring the needle back out, being careful to not drop the stitch on the needle.

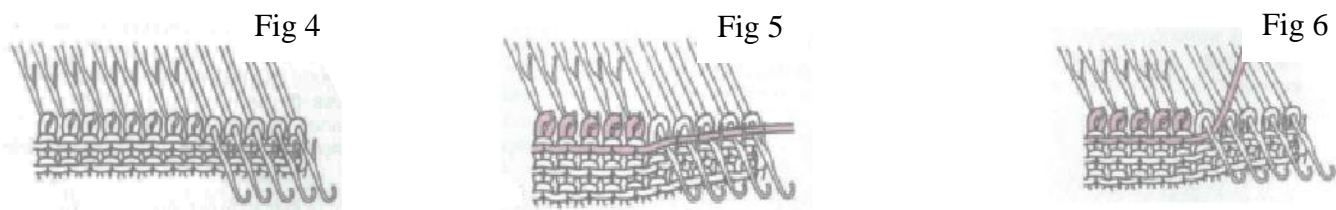


Fig 7

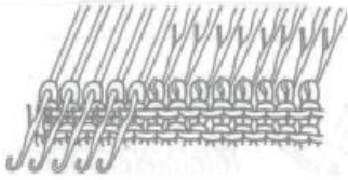


Fig 8

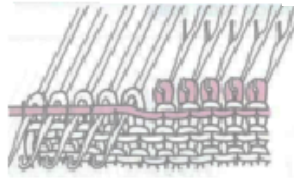


Fig 9

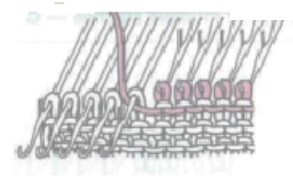
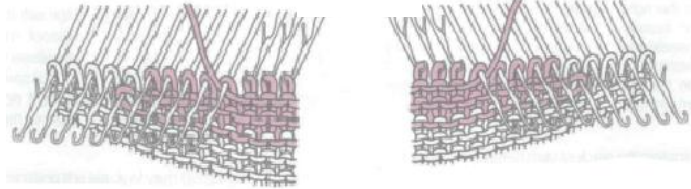


Fig 10



The above examples are partial knitting by decreasing the number of stitches being knit. More than one needle at a time may be put into hold to create a steeper slope.

Reverse short-row is increasing the number of stitches being knit; moving needles from hold position back to working position. The diagram on the left (Fig 11) shows 5 needles in upper working position ready to be knit; Fig 12 shows reverse short rowing on both sides.

Fig 11

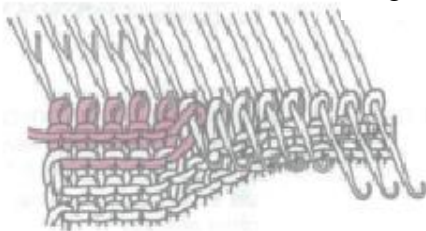
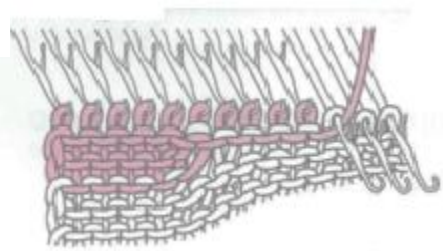
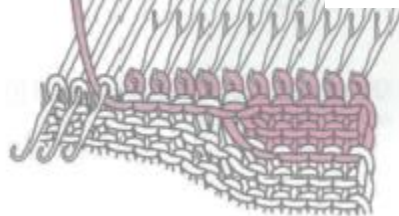
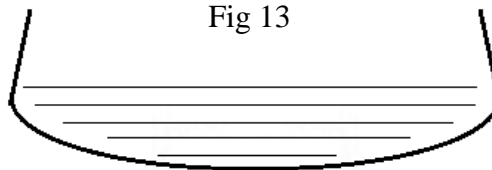


Fig 12



Reverse partial knitting is to bring stitches into work that have been in hold. This can be done by bringing one needle back into work position at a time or by bringing groups of needles back into work at one time.

Fig 13



All the examples above are partial knitting using the manual wrap technique, with a stitch or stitches opposite the carriage placed into hold then the end needle closest to the first working needle is wrapped by the yarn carried over by the carriage.

Some rules to remember:

- Use weight as the process evolves, moving the weight up every few rows following the slant of the partial knitting. The stitch on first working needle closest to the needles in hold is prone to drop if there is no weight to help anchor it in place.
- To decrease a stitch or groups of stitches needles are brought into hold opposite the carriage – for an automatic wrap only one stitch at a time should be put into hold on the carriage side.
- To increase a stitch or groups of stitches needles are brought into upper work position opposite the carriage.