

PICKING UP STITCHES

Picking up stitches leaves a small ridge on the opposite side. Usually you will pick up stitches with the right side facing you, so this ridge will be on the wrong side. If you are making a collar that will turn down, it may lay nicer if you pick up the stitches with the wrong side facing you.

When instructed to pick up stitches, use one of the needles and the yarn that you are going to continue working with. Insert your knitting needle from the front to the back under two strands at the edge of the worked piece (**Diagrams #89** and **#90**). Put the yarn around the needle as if to knit, then bring the needle with the yarn back through the stitch to the right side, resulting in a stitch on the needle.

Repeat this along the edge.

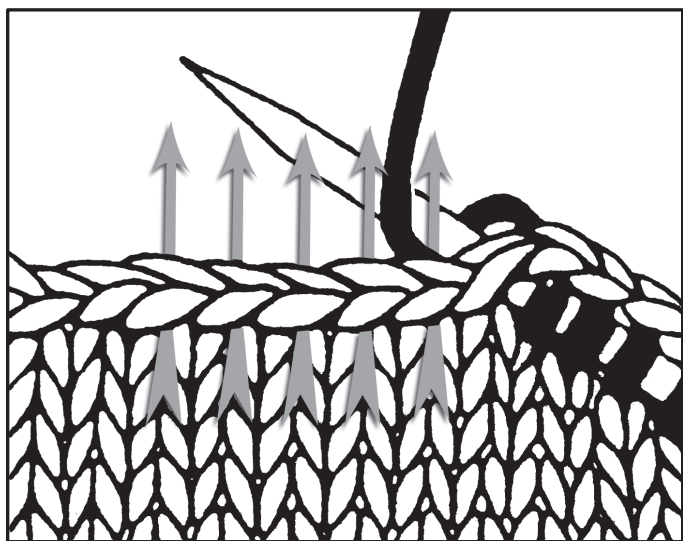


Diagram #89 — bound edge

If you have a large number of stitches to pick up, divide your work into quarters, marking the sections with pins. Pick up a quarter of the total stitches in each section. This will help keep your stitches even and well spaced.

If the instructions do not say how many stitches to pick up, follow this general rule: Pick up one stitch in each stitch along a horizontal or bound off edge and pick up three stitches in every four rows along a vertical edge. On a diagonal edge, pick up 1 stitch in each stitch or row. If it is easier, you may pick up stitches using a crochet hook, sliding each one onto your knitting needle.

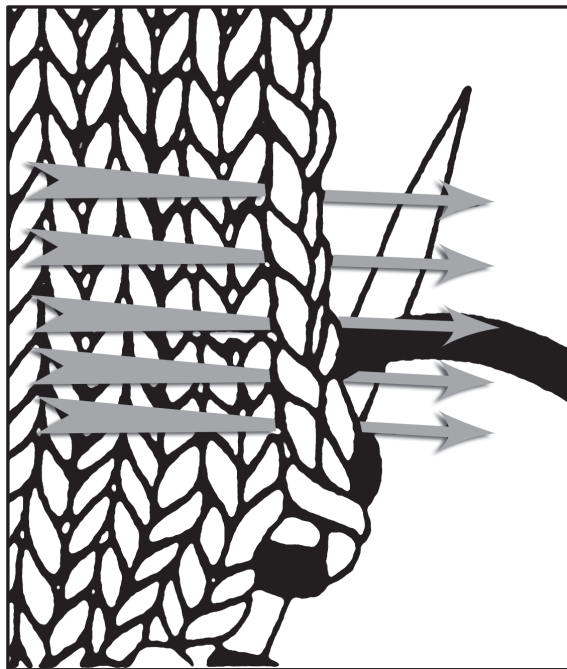


Diagram #90 — vertical edge