

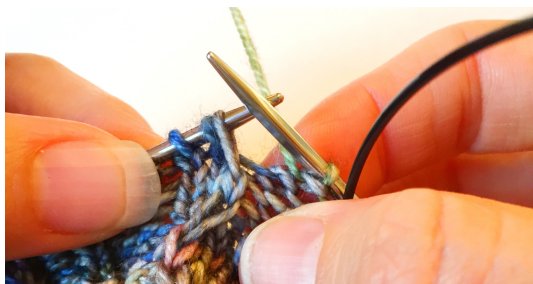


## Tutorial: Cabling without a Cable Needle

### Left Cross (aka front cross)

The trick to cabling without a cable needle is that we don't rearrange the stitches while also working them at the same time like typical cabling. We do all the rearranging first and then all the knitting.

(Here I'm doing a 1-over-2 cross, but you can apply this tutorial to any left-leaning cable. The principle is this: always insert the needle from the back of the work into the stitches that need to go to the back. So in a 2-2 cable you would insert the needle into stitches 3 and 4 from the back, leaving the stitches 1 and 2 to hang free and be picked up. This will make more sense once you've worked through cabling this way.)



This tutorial uses a cable that starts with a slipped stitch (the grey). This makes it easier to work without a cable needle since any tugging you do on the stitches on this row doesn't affect that stitch. But you can apply this to cabling ordinary stitches.



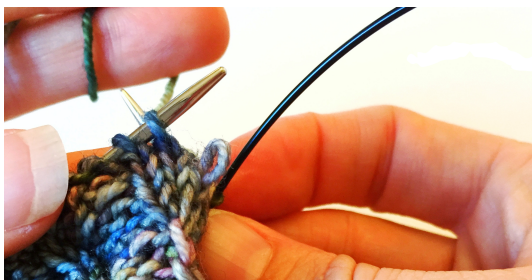
Insert the right needle tip into the 2nd and 3rd sts on the left needle from the back of the work.



Using your right hand, pinch the three stitches between your thumb and finger.



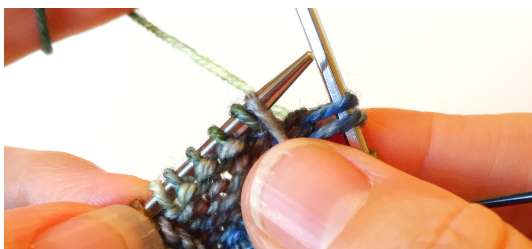
Gently pull the left needle tip out of the three stitches. The 2nd and 3rd stitches are held on the right needle while the first stitch hangs free.



See it hanging free beside my needle cord? No stress. It's fine there. As long as you're not tugging the stitches on either side, it's not going anywhere before you...



...insert the left needle tip into that loop.



Phew. Don't you feel better now that every stitch is on a needle?

Now let's put those 2 stitches on the right needle back onto the left needle so we can knit them.



See, there they are: all back on the left needle, rearranged and ready to just be worked as normal.

Ta Da!

There you have those three stitches worked as a 1-2 Left Cross.

