

SUMMER SWEATERS

When knitters think 'sweater', fall and winter are natural associations. But summer sweaters wear well, are often quicker to knit, and more forgiving in terms of fit!

Summer yarn tips:

Drape linen, viscose, & silk give great 'motion' to the fabric

Blends can give the softness of cotton while balancing the challenges

Swatching extra-large, and hung, swatches, are more important with summer yarns

Care many summer yarns are machine wash/dry, so be sure to treat the swatch that way, too!

Summer design tips:

Fit fluid fabrics marry especially well with slouchier, relaxed fits

Structure they also need seams (and often closed necklines) for structure

Stitch patterns lace looks really interesting in larger-gauged summer yarns; cables tend to droop & look heavy

Substitutions any fine-gauged pattern can make a great summer knit; just be aware of design needs when subbing for a wool!

SALES IDEAS FOR SUMMER YARNS

Summer sales tips:

Skills tanks make great first sweaters - seams are all straight & easy

Investment short-sleeved summer sweaters & tanks use way less yarn, and take way less time, than traditional garments

Materials a "summer swatch pack" allows knitters to try these yarns out before deciding on a design

Curriculum make a first-time summer sweater club to keep knitters engaged and lively through the warmer months

Amy's picks for beginner-friendly summer yarns

- **Rowan Creative Linen** larger gauge, super-light fabric, springy feel
- **Classic Elite Classic Silk** nubby, soft, holds a slightly looser gauge well
- **Fibre Company Savannah** tweedy with beautiful stitch definition
- **Berroco Remix** nice movement to the fabric despite larger gauge
- **Classic Elite Firefly** fabric has incredible drape & sheen
- **Harrisville Silk & Wool** light-as-air, slightly crunchy fabric
- **Elsbeth Lavold Hemptathy** super hard-wearing & great stitch definition
- **Spud & Chloe Sweater** a great basic wool/cotton blend
- **Rowan Softknit Cotton** the feel of cotton, a pleasantly large gauge, a light & springy chainette construction