



## **Knitting (hand)**

- ◆ Are there extra marks for an original design?
- ◆ If adapted pattern, should this be included together with supporting notes?
- ◆ Can crochet edgings or surface embroidery be included?

The design must take into account the intended use, with originality or adaptations rewarded with additional marks.

Yarns should be suitable for the chosen item and the substitution of alternative yarn or mixing of yarns is encouraged.

Tension should be consistent to provide a suitable fabric and texture.

Finishing techniques are as important as the knitting. The choice of the casting-on technique should be carefully selected, the seams should be invisibly joined and patterns matched from the right side; stitches should be picked up carefully to avoid holes; shoulder seams invisibly grafted or finished with extra skill; matching casting off with elasticity; neat buttonholes which show imagination in their arrangement (not necessarily equidistant). Yarns should be joined at the edge and loose ends darned in neatly.

Blocking is preferable for presentation for most natural yarns but synthetics should be finished without pressing. Garments should be unworn and attractively presented in accordance with the schedule.

Baby garments have additional features: no lacey patterns or fabrics and no ribbons at neck or round face, should be replaced with buttons.



## Knitting (machine)

- ◆ If **hand** is not specified, then **machine** knitting is also acceptable.
- ◆ It is helpful to attach a note stating machine used.

Seams should be secure, even, inconspicuous or invisible, with a stretch compatible with knitted fabric. They may be joined by machine or hand. The cut and sew method of making-up may be used where suitable, using dressmaking principles, with seams overlocked. Floats on back of Fair Isle should be kept as short as possible or treated appropriately. Intarsia and single motif designs should not have a hole where the colours meet. Twist yarns together with ends neatly woven on back. Button holes finished on machine do not need to be reinforced with a button hole stitch. Appliqué should not distort the knitting.