

# Japanese Knitting - For the Adventurous Knitter

*Some of my favourite titles to add to your bookshelves*

by Marsha White, The Needle Arts Book Shop

[www.needleartsknitting.com](http://www.needleartsknitting.com)

One of the most captivating aspects of being a knitter is that there is always more to learn. Just when you are feeling quite clever and accomplished, you discover an innovative design or new stitch technique that amazes you. We have all felt that excitement at one time or another. Hold that feeling in your mind, then spin up the dial! This is how it feels when knitters immerse themselves in the knitting world of Japan. Their exquisite stitches and well-designed garments have inspired many Western knitters to become “Adventurous Knitters.”

Beauty, elegance and complexity define Japanese knitting design. These qualities have set knitters' hearts aflutter worldwide over the past decade. It was love at first sight when I first saw the work of Japanese knit designer Hitomi Shida, in her “Couture Knit” series of books.

Below are some of my favourite stitch dictionaries and some of the latest books to arrive, all listed on the web site [www.needleartsknitting.com](http://www.needleartsknitting.com) . There is also a free pdf with book orders - [Interpreting Japanese Knitting Patterns](#) – an 8 page pdf to help knitters read the common symbols used on charted garment patterns.

*As always, Enjoy! Marsha*



[Clear & Simple Knitting Symbols](#) – an excellent reference book



[100 Aran Knitting Patterns](#) charted stitch dictionary



[Knitted Patterns 300 Lace](#) charted stitch dictionary



[Knitting Patterns Book 500](#) charted stitch dictionary



[Let's Knit Series Couture Knit 19](#) by Hitomi Shida charted garment patterns



[Kazekobo's Favorite Colours](#) – charted colour stitch patterns



[Keito Dama 2014 163](#) quarterly book of charted garment patterns



[European Hand Knit 2014](#) charted garment and accessory patterns