Finger Knit a Trivet with CBTV Live

Chapter 1 - Finger Knit a Trivet

Finger Knit a Trivet

- Hi. Hi everybody. It's Faith Room Creative bug coming at you live like we do every Thursday at four o'clock. And I have a very special guest, my new best friend Ann Wheel. Yay. Hi. And who are you? What are you doing here? - I'm actually out in San Francisco for spring Break with my son, which I'm having a great time. We're doing a little foodie tour all around the city, so yeah, we're having fun. - It sounds delicious. It is good. And you are going to show us a project from your new book, which is so beautiful. - Thank you. So - Anna's a friend of the family, she's done several classes with Creative Bug. Also, please let us know if you've taken any of Anne's classes or if you are familiar with her exquisite blog, flex and Twine. That's it. That's it. It's one of my, I think it's one of the best and I'm obviously a connoisseur, hand knitting, hand weaving. Like you take projects and you take them off the loom or off the needles. You're very innovative. - Thank you. - And it's hard to be innovative with something that's been around for hundreds of years. - Well, I like to change it up a little bit and I like actually just to really simplify things and take it to its most basic essence. That's kind of - What I like, which is what this book is basically about. Thank - You. Yeah. - And how many projects are this book? - There are 25 weaving projects in that book. This is weaving within reach and I really wanted to give people a resource to do weaving from scratch. So I mean, we're not doing weaving today, we're doing finger weaving or finger knitting. But just to be able to take materials that you might have around home and for example, do basket weaving but do basket weaving with rope or make a really cool fabric out of t tool tape. You know, things like that where, how can you apply weaving and do it in a way that isn't scary, that isn't filled with big tool tools or looms, but is really simple. And so that's what that book is all about. There's stuff that's made on cardboard looms, on embroidery hoops on illustration board. There's a whole chapter on no looms at all. So stuff that, yeah, stuff that you can just do by hand. And then the last chapters making beautiful fabric with frame looms. So not tapestries per se, but weaving a fabric to make a dish towel coasters a clutch. Lots of beautiful things like that. A beautiful tote. And with each project I try and teach new techniques. So you're learning how to gradient weave, you're learning how to finish with a hemp stitch. You're learning how to attach a zipper, you know that, all that stuff, tear weaving. So I really think this is a good stepping stone. Absolutely. Doing all sorts of weaving projects. - And I told Ann already, but I should tell you guys that when I saw the book came out, I turned around to Courtney and I said, we need to order this right away. And she was like, girl, I got you already and had it in her hands. It's already here. That's, that's really exciting. And you have a chance to win it. Yes. We have one copy to give away and to enter, comment below and like and share this post. So three things like share, comment, and you can get your hands on this absolutely exquisite book. But as a sneak peek, we have a project from the book. No it's not, this one is not from the book. We have a project that is working with - Your hands. This project is literally one of my all time, most popular projects. Really. So we thought, and I've never ever done a video of it anywhere. - Perfect timing. - So this is exclusive to create a creative bug right now. - Thank you Ann. - So it was very exciting - For, forgive my misspeak. - No, no, that's okay. - So let's get started. What do you need to make this trivet? - So literally, this is really simple. All you need is 20 yards. Well 20 yards makes two trivets. So you need about 10 yards of quarter inch sashing cord. And basically this cord you find in a hardware store are on your local retail online, you know, but what

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they use this cord for is they used to use it well. And if you have an old house, you probably know what this is, but basically those really old windows that this, you know, is, - Oh my goodness, - That's what it's used to in the sash to hold the tension on the window up and down. That's what this is. So it's really simple. Everyday rope, nothing fancy. It is cotton. I like to use cotton. That to me is you don't wanna be setting a hot pot on plastic. So definitely cotton. And when I start, what I like also about this is it's braided, it's not twisted. So if you had twisted rope, it would come undone really easily. But this doesn't, and I cut these little pieces out of like printer label, like clear printer label. And if you wanna put this on the end, you can use packing tape or you know, regular, you could use masking tape. I would try and use something dull because I do end up leaving, of course I'm having a problem getting this. But I end up, you end up leaving the tape on the end as it's woven into the trit. Oh, it acts as kind of a needle. Well no, no it doesn't. I mean it does a little bit, but I leave it on there just because you're gonna be using this and it ever comes off and you don't need to do that whole length. You can, I'm just gonna trim this off here and here so that it's on there so that, so you could just trim your end here. Thank you. Just like that. You're welcome. So, but what you don't want is like a super shiny piece sticking out. I see. So the reason I like this like clear label is it just ends up looking very white, but it gets tucked into the end. You can see you don't see it here, but if it ever pokes out. - So you wouldn't use was tape? - No, I wouldn't use washer. Okay. Unless you wanted like a really fun, you know. Okay. I don't know how washy would tape would hold up with a hot tube pot either. So anyway, so we're gonna start finger knitting. Now there's four finger knitting, meaning you use all four fingers to finger knit or there's two finger finger knitting. And I actually cover all the details of all this stuff in my first book, which is called Knitting Without Needles. And that's all about finger knitting. All about arm knitting. So anyway, we're gonna do these two fingers. So we're gonna start with about an eight inch tail. So you wanna leave a little bit to help finish it and we're gonna hold it between our thumb and our forefinger or our thumb in our palm pretty much. And what we're gonna do is we're gonna take the rope over our forefinger and under our middle finger and now we're gonna bring it around that middle finger and under the forefinger then over the forefinger and around the middle finger. So you can see it's called two finger finger knitting. 'cause we're only gonna be finger knitting on two fingers, not four. And you've got, your rope should be kind of hanging off the back behind your hand and you're still holding onto this first one. So now what we're gonna do is we're gonna take the one, the lower ring on our middle finger, the lower strand, and we're gonna pull it up over the top one. And we're gonna do that with this bottom one as well. Even though it's a loose tail, we're just gonna bring it over and between our middle and forefingers. And so that's, we just finished our cast on and our first row. And that's, - That's really exciting. - Really easy and really exciting. So now we take, and when I like take this rope, I call this the working okay yarn or the working rope, we're gonna take the working yarn and we're gonna bring it around our forefinger under our middle finger around. And then that's it. We're gonna take the lower strand on, start with your middle finger, lower strand on your middle finger and bring it over lower strand on your forefinger. Bring it over. And basically you can see here, like what we're gonna do is we're just gonna make a long chain of finger knit rows. And so we keep doing this, you what you end up needing for a, I think it's about a six and a half inch trit is about 38 or 40 inches long of a piece of finger knitting. So we've got a little bit of finger knitting to do here. So we're gonna just keep doing this. So I'm gonna, I'll walk you through it again around your forefinger, under your middle, around your middle, pick up the lower one, bring it over the upper strand on your middle and do the same on your forefinger. And you can kind of push it back down on your fingers if it starts riding up towards the top. You can also pull on this, you can start to see it

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form. Oh my goodness, that pretty braid. And we're gonna keep going. So that is really it. And it's about 50 to 55 rows depending on how tight or loose your finger knitting that is so simple. Yeah, really easy. It's like - Figure eights. - Yeah, it's a figure eight. - And I should, in case you're like, oh, faith's learning so effortlessly. She did send me the instructions ahead of time and she's very clearly written because you're very good at instructions. - Yeah. And if you want like this exact rope and my exact instructions in addition to this video, I do sell kits in my shop at Flax and twine shop.com, - Flax and twine shops.com. Allie will be posting a link below. - I actually just posted it. - She just posted it. Perfect. Ev everyone's anticipating my very neat, I need this book, I need a link posted. It just happens. It's the creative bug magic. And we are gonna be stitching for just a few moments. So if you have any questions for Anne or about finger knitting or weaving off looms, here's your chance. - Yeah. - How did you start doing it? Were you - Finger knitting we - Or were you without your needles one day but just needed to knit? - No. Do you know how this actually, it all all started with finger knitting? My Really? Yes. My kids were, well, I mean I go back making years and years, but the whole finger knitting craze started when my kids were three and five and I was trying to knit, I was on the couch trying to knit and they wouldn't let me do it. They were bugging me. So I like picked up a ball of yarn and I'm like, just do this. And I picked up the yarn and I started doing this without even knowing what I was doing. Like I didn't set out to teach finger knitting, all of a sudden it was like this total muscle memory of when I was a kid. And I had obviously done it when I was in kindergarten or preschool and just started doing it, doing it, doing it. And then we all got obsessed with finger knitting. And my son, who was five at the time, I kid you not made a ball of finger knitting this big, - It's really impressive. - It's so great for kids, like if they're like little busy buddies and boys especially love finger knitting to just teach them how to do this and you can do two or four fingers and they just will knit miles. And so with all those miles of finger knit, I was like, what in the world? - Oh - Am I gonna do with this? - Let's make this useful. - Yeah. So let's make beautiful projects. - All right. Our first question comes from Clovis and Clovis wants to know, how long have you been finger knitting? - Well, I really think since I was super young, I, because it was built into my brain when I taught it to my son. So my son's now 15 himself. So 10 years ago was when I started picking it up again. But I had obviously done it when I was a child because it, I didn't, it just was in me to do it. I don't know. Right. It was just in my body muscle memory. You're like, what are they doing? I'm like, what am I doing? What am I? Oh my god, I'm making something. So yeah, it was very cool. What - A wonderful sensation. - Anyway, that all led to the first book 'cause I was like, there's gotta be a way to make really beautiful projects and maybe attach it to itself and make a wider fabric or do just lots of different things. So we weave with it. My son with that huge ball ended up weaving a hula hoop rug for his room. - Oh my gosh, that's - A great idea. So yeah. And that goes way back on my blog, right when my blog first started. So there are directions on how to weave a hula hoop finger net rug. Awesome. It's very cool. - Our next question comes from, we got a couple coming in comes from Courtney. Courtney wants to know, does this rope come in other colors and what's the weight of the rope? - I don't think about it in terms of weight. It is a quarter of an inch or slightly smaller than a quarter of an inch and you can find it. So like from a millimeter perspective, I'm trying to think how that would translate you. So what I'm thinking about is there is cotton yarn available in all and starting to be in really pretty colors. Like I know modern macrame has a bunch of colors and they have both. That's Emily Katz's company, but that's three millimeter and five millimeter. So this would probably be closer to her five millimeter size. So, and you can, they have beautiful rows and forest green and mustard and really beautiful colors. The other resource you could use that I love is love fest fiber. They don't have rope but they have felted

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yarn and that could make a really cool trit. So a felted wool trit would be very cool as well. And that comes in gorgeous colors. - And if this is a cotton, it does seem like it could be dyed. - Yeah, oh definitely. You could definitely ye it. I've di dyed these before in different colors and that would be really fun too. Yeah, good idea. You're so smart. I'm a professional. - Next question comes from Nicole and Nicole wants to know how do you attach panels when you finger knit a blanket? - Oh, so - Yeah, people are getting really excited. - No, no, this is super exciting on the book Nicole. So, so that is something I came up with when I was working on the book. I was like, there's gotta be a way to knit wider fabric. And so all the details are in my book. So you should buy knitting without needles, but after, and if you're making a wider fabric, I would knit four fingers. And the way it works is you basically like, so let's say I had this strand, you would turn it and then knit here I'm gonna do this, it's a little hard 'cause I wouldn't normally do with this rope, but I would stick this one on my finger and like get this on there. And then I would finger knit like this, sorry, it's really hard with this rope, right? So then I'd have three strands on here and I'd pull these, this one over and then these two over. And then you would go the next one, the next one, the next one, the next one. Awesome back. So in doing that, it basically, as I fingered it here, it attaches back. Cool. All the way, all the way. That's amazing. Anyway, it's very cool technique. So that's really fun. So there's like a blanket in the book and a scarf like a wide, you know, 10 inch wide scarf and okay, here's another one. What do you do if it comes off your fingers? - Ah, - Ooh. Right. So you can start to pull this apart a little bit and look and see that you want this to be coming off. Let's see, it's harder with this. So if you pulled apart, you can kind of see that this is the pearl side and this is side. Oh my gosh, you can so see when it comes off, it rolls up and like looks like this square cube. But if you pull this apart, you can see this pearl side. And basically when you do this, you want, the knit side is away from you. So you know the - Knit side is away from you. - No, the knit side is towards you, towards your hand. Sorry. Whoops. So you want that knit side toward your hand and you want this coming out. - Oh, - So yeah, so you can see here that the pearl side is away from me and the knit side is towards my hand. And then you wanna make sure the yarn is coming from your forefinger and then you go back and start finger knitting again. Oh, oh, oh, - Okay. - So you see that? - Yeah, yeah. - Was mimicking you. Yeah. Yeah. You good? I think I got it. Nice. Yes. That wasn't that bad. So yeah, and if you have four you can do the same thing. You can kind of take 'em off and pull until you feel like, okay, this is where I want it to be. This is the knit side, this is the pearl side. So I'm gonna put the knit side facing the back of my hand and keep going. I think I, that's - How you, I think I wrap my brain around that. Yeah. - Our next question comes from Joanne. And Joanne wants to know, can you do this with all sizes of rope yarn, et cetera? - Definitely. Right now we are doing this with this really, really big yarn. And I actually had, I'm gonna go back a couple 'cause I did a little funky thing, but, but yes, you can do it with all kinds of ropes and sizes and yarn. So I've done it with like really, really thin yarn. I've doubled up really thin yarn like lace, weight, yarn, I've, it gets to the point where it gets too chunky to do anything bigger, much bigger than this. And this rope is pretty stiff. So it, it's, this is probably your max and I've done it with super bulky yarn. But when you get into the like uber jumbo yarns, that really gets tough as well. And there, if you're looking for kind of some more finger knitting instruction on video, I do have a finger knitting video one for creative bug where we weave a rug, which is very cool. And then I also have a finger knitting video on my YouTube station that goes through a bunch of different yarn weights and shows you what they look like. So that's another resource. - How many more stitches do we need, Ann? - Okay, so as you're going it's about 50 to 55 oh rows. So we've got a ways to go. Okay. So if you want we can move into, I've got one all ready to go. - Yeah. - Okay. You keep finger knitting. - Okay. All right. Next question comes from Barb. Barb

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wants to know, can this method be used to create baskets? - Yeah, that was a good question. And I think it could be it. I have never tried it, but now you have me thinking basically to, well certainly what we're doing right now, we're just going around and around. So you could just start to, as you loop it, you could, I'm sorry, I'm looking at which 'cause I wanna show you. Yeah. Okay, so this is the tail. So if you imagine you're going and you do this base, you would have to kind of stitch it together. But because when we do the trivi, we only use like one strand to hold it together. And if I were to do a basket, I would use another strand to kind of give it the structure through here. So maybe I'll come back and do that next year, another time or something like that. It's a very cool idea. We're not gonna do that today, but because the way we do the trivi, we would only have one strand going through. So you'd have these kind of flopping open and I'll talk about kind of the additional structure in the trivi when we do it as well. Okay. So I wanna show you how to make this. So here's the part that came off our fingers. Let me make sure that's the right end here. Or if this is 'cause sometimes at the very end you wanna adjust how long your strand is. So yeah, so this is the beginning. So basically let's say you get to about 40 inches and you're ready to put it all together. You're gonna loop it up and you'll see that when we wanted to finish off, you wanted to finish off at a very specific spot opposite where you're weaving the yarn through. You'll see this all happen. So if it ends up being like really much longer, we're gonna rip out a couple rows so that will happen. But basically what we're gonna do is we're gonna take our finger naming strand and we're gonna twist it that tail in. And then we're gonna tuck the tail from the end of the finger knitting into about where it would be when you got that first coil. And I'm gonna just pull that through. And I like to go under three strands here so it's hidden from the top. That's gonna go there. And then you're just gonna keep passing around. So this is coming out here and we're gonna come, actually this went through the wrong way. Let me do this one more time. Okay. So we're gonna twist it and yeah, here's the third one. So you can see there's this V here and if I just went under that V here, that would work, but it wouldn't hide this as well. So see this next tail here from the next one, I'm gonna go right under there so that when you do that, see how you can't see that now it's tucked in and it's not pulling out anything funny there as well. So now we're gonna rotate this around and you can see it would probably go about there if it were coming straight out from where it is. So we can now open this up a little bit and I'm gonna go under this V and I'm also gonna stick it underneath this strand. So it's going under those three. And this is the other thing, that little tape helps because if you have that tape on the end, it will keep it from fraying and it helps to kind of poke it through. So now we have the round two done. So then we bring it around again and you can see it would go about there. So I'm gonna go under one. - This seems like a really fabulous project if you, if you have like a general store but not a craft store, which you are at a cabin and it's in New Hampshire maybe. Yeah. And you need like a project - To do. You can, this is great. You just go get your sashing cord at the local hardware store and like do it up. Yeah, it's good. And here's the thing that's great about this project is you know, we're making six and a half inch trit, but like you could make a big soup pot trit if you wanted. You just would need to keep finger knitting longer and you can always just check how long it needs to be. So here I am coming around to the fourth round and I wanted this to come and you can see like where, where it would go through is about here, which isn't quite at the end. So I did that on purpose to show you. Oh. But anyway, so I'm gonna tuck it under here. And so sometimes here I'll show you that was quite right, but sometimes if you, if you tuck it like too far, you'll get a gap here and then you just wanna pull it out and do the next one back to to do that. But here, I feel like that's pretty good and I'm just gonna pull out one row here out of my strand. Oh my gosh. So don't panic, we're just gonna pull out the yarn and I wanna show you how to finish off

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'cause we didn't do that, how to finish your strand. But see these two strands here, those were the two that were on your finger. And you can see this is the yarn coming out of your last stitch. So you want to come in through this loop and come through. But if you could put that on your finger, I wanna show you something. Oh yeah. So now I'm gonna tighten this down. And we have this all here. So we have our pretty trit and I'm gonna flip it over and we're gonna just tie a knot right here. And then what I'm gonna do, and you can tie it again if you want, but I don't want it too obvious. So I'm really gonna just tuck it in from here. So basically I'm gonna take this through and tuck it into, so I flipped it over and I'm now tucking it into the underside of the trit. And I use this as an opportunity to kind of reinforce the trit. Okay. Oops, I'm gonna pull that in there. And then this one you can do the same thing with. You're gonna tuck it under, I don't have tape on this one, but tuck this under here. And so if you want to keep tape on there, you would need to re-tape after you trim. Or if you're okay with kind of how that is, you're fine there too. So for example, if you wanted to tape those, you could retape the ends, but unless they're like fraying really badly, like this rope is pretty slick, you know, it just stays in there. So I'm pretty happy with that. And you cut it right there against the edge and then you flip it over and there you go. That's - Beautiful. - Isn't that cool? It's so nice. It's really simple and pretty and I love that. So now the one thing is you do have this, oh, instability to it because we only secured it through one. So if you are, oh my gosh. I mean to me I just pick it up, right? Put it down and use it. So if you want to secure that, you would just take this rope and feed it all the way across the same way we did the other way. It's just takes a little manipulation to like stick it all through - There to Sure. - And you could do it, you know, multiple places. You could also like do it and do some fun ties or something like that too. So lots of cool things you could do. So what we didn't talk about is how to finish this off. So when you get to your 40 inches or so, or however many you need to make your rounds, I'm gonna cut it here so you have some, like let's say when you looped yours up, you, you were short, you want to be able to have a little bit of extra to maybe do another row or two if you need. But you can see that this is coming from your forefinger. So to finish this off, you wanna go underneath the loop on your middle finger first, and then you wanna bring that end and go under your forefinger and then you take this off your fingers. Oh. And tighten that down. - Oh my goodness. - So that's how we end that. It - Is nothing. - Yeah, no big deal. And so then after you wind it up, you can just, if you wanna make it shorter or longer, you just undo this. Let's say we wanted to make it shorter, we're gonna pull out one. Okay. We pulled out two rows there. And to finish it off, we're just gonna go through the empty row or the empty loop and then the one with the tail last and tighten it down again. Just like that. - Fabulous. So if you didn't catch to the very beginning, you can win this beautiful book. Yay. It's exquisite. Yay. It's just very soothing to read to you. Thank you. Your aesthetic is so calming and ex aw, exquisite. - Thank you. - Like, comment, share. Oh, here's this beautiful, here's the beautiful book. - Yay. - Like, comment, share this post and thank you and so much for joining us. - You're welcome. I'm so happy to be here. - And thank you all for joining us as well. We'll see you next Thursday. - Bye.

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