



The first increase most knitters learn (often by mistake) is the **yarn over (yo)**. This simple technique creates a new stitch between two existing stitches.

To make a yarn over, bring the yarn up across the front of the needle, over the top and down the back. If the next stitch is a knit, you are in position and good to go. If the next stitch is a purl, bring the yarn forward under the needle into position to purl.



Yarn over before a knit stitch.



Yarn over before a purl stitch.

Yarn overs are easy to work and won't disturb the stitches on either side of the new stitch, but they also create a hole in the fabric. Some knitters view this as an effective decorative detail.

Increase How Tos:



[Yarn Overs](#)



[Knit in the Front and
Back of the Stitch](#)



[Make 1 \(Left or
Right\)](#)



[Lifted Increases](#)
[\(Left or Right\)](#)



[Eyelets](#)



[Twisted Yarn Overs](#)

[Read the full article, *Increasing your Options.*](#)

Sandi Rosner is a knitter who wears many hats: designer, technical editor, writer and teacher. She loves the little details that elevate a knitting project from homemade to handmade. Follow Sandi's blog at <http://www.knittinginwinecountry.blogspot.com>.
