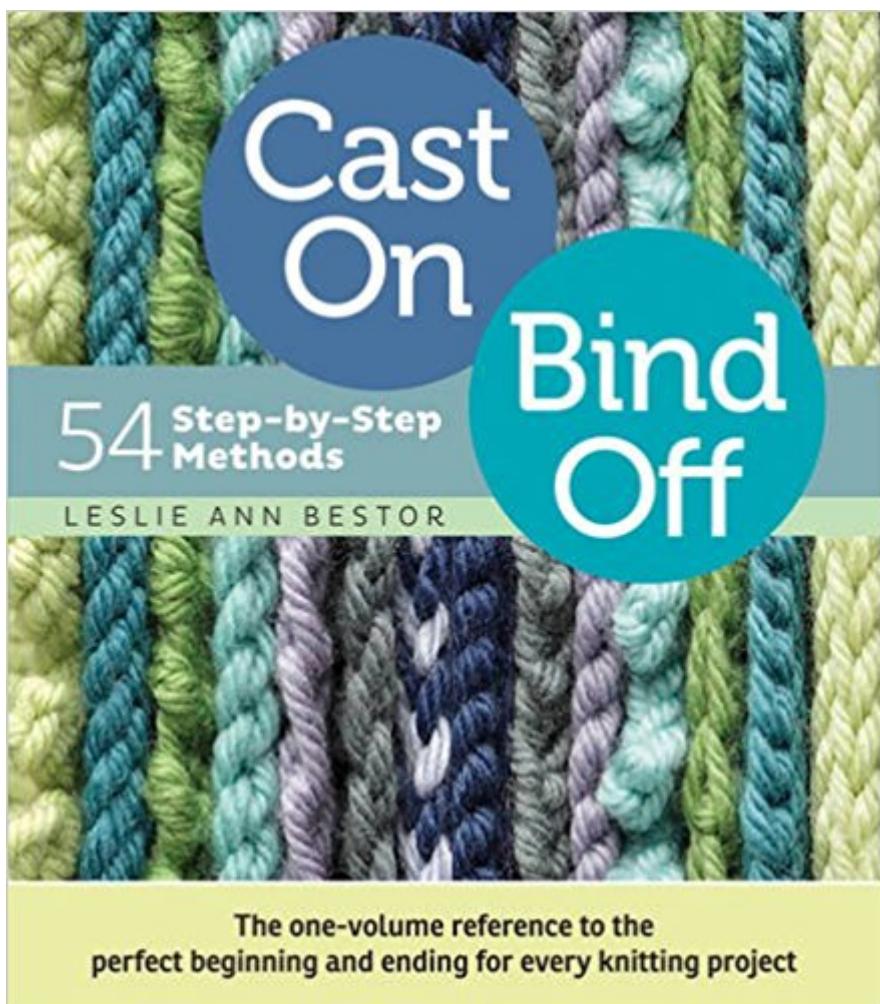


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# Cast On, Bind Off: 54 Step-by-Step Methods; Find The Perfect Start And Finish For Every Knitting Project



## Synopsis

Discover the perfect beginning and ending for every knitting project! Detailed instructions for each technique are combined with step-by-step photography to help you create edges that are tighter, looser, stretchier, or lacier. No matter what you're knitting, Leslie Ann Bestor has the cast on and bind off that will give your project the perfect edge.Â

## Book Information

Age Range: 10 and up

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## Customer Reviews

âœKnitting teacher and fiber artist Bestor turns this deceptively simple topic into a fascinating readâ | This is a great reference for the knitter looking to customize her own projects, and is an ideal companion for anyone who dares to try her own hand at design.â • (The Oregonian)âœIn the era of YouTube, how useful is a print guide to knitting cast-ons and bind-offs? Very, especially if you're designing your own knits, looking for alternate cast-ons or bind-offs to change an existing pattern, or trying to choose among a variety of options in a pattern. [Leslie Ann Bestorâ™s] collection is comprehensive and well organized, and the directions are easy to follow.â • (The Oregonian)âœThis spiral-bound book is a gem, chock-full of techniques to improve your knitting projects from start to finish. I love the organization of the book ...In addition to the handy spiral binding - so great when you're trying to follow along - there are photos of every step of the techniques, plus photos of projects using the techniques. Paws up!" â • Austin American Statesman's knitting blog, Knittin' Kitten (Judy Becker, Author of Beyond Toes: Knitting Adventures

with Judyâ™s Magic Cast-On)âœThe very best knitting books are the ones that educate, inspire and open up new knitting worlds. As so it is with "Cast On, Bind Off," a terrific new reference book that walks knitters through more than 50 -- I'll repeat that, because it merits it -- more than 50 ways to start and end your projects. â | And that, folks, is why every blessed one of us needs this book. Like, now. â | I've seen a number of these techniques elsewhere, but never all of them together, and absolutely never in such a clear, easy-to-use format. This is a must for any knitter's library. You'll go back to it time and again, and you'll never again have a glorious project wrecked by the wrong technique. (Anyone who's ended up with a too-tight bind off on a sweater neck knows what I'm talking about.) Buy the book. Your knitting will thank you, and you'll thank Leslie Ann Bestor for writing "Cast On, Bind Off."â • â •The Oregonianâ™s knitting blog, OregonLive.com (Margaret Radcliffe, knitting designer, teacher, and author of Circular Knitting Workshop)âœStep-by-step instructions and accompanying close-up photographs are the perfect format for this go-to guide. Youâ™ll be amazed at what youâ™ve been missing!â •

**Elegant Edges for All Your Knitting Projects** If you're still using the cast-on and bind-off methods you learned when you began knitting, it's time to explore new possibilities! Leslie Ann Bestor's creative edges are just what you need to begin and end every project with flair. Choose from among 33 cast ons and 21 bind offs to give your next project the perfect edge.

I was excited when I saw this book coming out and pre-ordered it. I am sort of glad to have it in my library, but only as a quick-glance reference list. I do not think it is at all good for \*learning\* specific cast-ons/bind-offs, though it touts itself as a step-by-step guide. Pros:- Spiral bound- Each CO/BO has a list of "Characteristics" (i.e., invisible beginning, can be a little loose and sloppy), and a list of "Good For"s (i.e., toe up socks, bags, top-down hats and mittens)- Each CO/BO has a few close-up "finished" photos that show you what it's supposed to look like.- The CO/BOs are categorized for quick reference; for example, the CO categories and number of COs referenced:--- All Purpose (8)--- Ribbing (moderate stretch) (4)--- Ribbing (a lot of stretch) (8)--- End-of-Row (5)--- Super Stretchy (10)--- Decorative (9)--- Temporary & Hems (5)--- Toe-Up Socks (3)--- Circular (2)--- (Note, the BOs are far fewer, 22 total)- The book is designed pretty well & has an index Cons:As I said, this book is not, IMO, good for learning any of the CO/BOs referenced in it. Perhaps I am spoiled by YouTube and TECHKnitter's blog (and many other \*free\* online resources that have set the standard, in my mind, for exceptional explanations of knitting methods), but for every CO/BO I have referenced in this book, I had to look it up on YouTube to understand how its done. Here's why:-

The instructions are very sparsely worded and quite a few times haven't made sense to me- The photos are RIDICULOUSLY small and waaay too zoomed-out to see what the needles/yarn-strands are doing. This actually pisses me off because there is TONS of space around the photos for more photos or larger photos. Also, these photos clumsily attempt to "line up" with the steps they are associated with; however, there are no notations in the photos to reference back to the step in which they belong. It's also not readily apparent which part of the corresponding step the photo belongs to as some of the steps have many comma-delimited parts. In summary, I see this publication as a glorified reference book, and not a terribly bad one, but it, for me, is not at all a how-to. On the cover it states the book has 54 "step-by-step" methods, but the step-by-steps feel lacking and lazy, especially compared to the decent work done on organizing its content. Interestingly, the book references specific YouTube videos in its Resources appendix. It would have been nice to have those inline with their corresponding CO/BO, however. If half-stars were permitted, I would give it 2.5 stars.

I've been knitting since I was 9 years old...over 50 years. I've knit every style imaginable with every technique. I knit right handed, left handed, English, Continental & Portuguese. I've got more knitting pattern books than is rational for anyone to have, and more yarn than many knit shops. So when I buy a knitting book, it has to be really, really useful. And this one is. Really, really useful. First - the reviewers who say they can't see or use the charts should likely have their cataracts removed. I did and this book is totally useable. Don't know what they're talking about! Second - You've gotta love a book that fits in your knitting bag. I take it with me to knit gatherings and have used it dozens of times to help someone solve a cast on or bind off dilemma. 3rd - I like the fact that each type is in its own category, and that there are several choices within each category. 4th - There are other, perhaps more comprehensive tomes on cast on, bind offs...but really...who wants to drag a 5 lb book along with you whenever you go to your knit group, shop, seminar etc.

I purchased the kindle version of this book so I could reference easily on my iPad. That was a HUGE plus for me as it reduces drastically what I have to carry around with me and it's at my fingertips whenever I want to reference it. I have been knitting since I was a child, over 40 years, and I love having this type of reference book handy because I learned CO and BO techniques my grandmothers and stepmother used but, it's true and sometimes the main parts I am really happy with but the edges just don't look good for the project. If you have a tablet or laptop I HIGHLY recommend purchasing the electronic version. I know some people said the binding in the physical

book was not good. I know the kindle app lets you bookmark and write notes. I know I always change some things from the original pattern and like to write that so I remember. As for techniques and pictures I understand if you are a beginner that you might need to look at a video but, for me, the pictures and descriptions are perfect to make me look and know what she is telling me to do. I'm guilty of not being able to think outside what I know a lot of the time and need something to make me say, why didn't I think of that?

... and bind off. It is annoying to make the effort to cast on or bind off differently than one was originally taught so the tendency is to do the same thing with every project. You just want to get going or get on to something else. This is the problem with learning new cast ons & bind offs: impatience. But different ways of starting & ending a project has an impact on the look & function of an edge. The impact can be sufficiently small to not pay too much attention. Which isn't to say it doesn't make any difference. The fit & function can be improved. You don't have to settle for "good enough." You can step up your knitting game. With nothing more complex than learning one new cast on & one new bind off that works well with that same cast on you can improve your knitting projects. One or two a year? Really? Come on... you'll be glad you made the time. Plus, there's always Internet videos, some linked in the eBook version, if you feel a little stuck. The photos are very clear. The written explanations work well with the photos. Suggestions for which cast on & bind off works well on what situations are very valuable. Everything is concise & easy to follow. Definitely worth adding to any knitter's reference library. I invested in the Kindle version so I've always got it on my iPod Touch, where ever I happen to find myself in need of reminders.

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