Cable Knitting Chart Symbols & Written Instructions

knittingchart.com/cable-knitting-chart

A cable symbol spans one square per stitch in the cross. Compare modern Craft Yarn Council names (2/2 RC, 3/3 LC) with classic names (C4B, C6F, T3B, T3F).

Right Cross (RC / "B" = Hold in BACK)
Top lines slant UP TO THE RIGHT (/). Slip stitches to cable needle, hold in BACK, work next stitches, then work from cable needle (e.g. 2/2 RC = C4B).

Left Cross (LC / "F" = Hold in FRONT)
Top lines slant UP TO THE LEFT (\). Slip stitches to cable needle, hold in FRONT, work next stitches, then work from cable needle (e.g. 2/2 LC = C4F).

14 Most Common Cable Cross Symbols (Right-Side Row Instructions)


2 sts

1/1 RC (also C2B, RT)
Slip 1 to a cable needle and hold in back, k1, then k1 from the cable needle.


2 sts

1/1 LC (also C2F, LT)
Slip 1 to a cable needle and hold in front, k1, then k1 from the cable needle.


2 sts

1/1 RPC (also T2B)
Slip 1 to a cable needle and hold in back, k1, then p1 from the cable needle.


2 sts

1/1 LPC (also T2F)
Slip 1 to a cable needle and hold in front, p1, then k1 from the cable needle.


3 sts

2/1 RC
Slip 1 to a cable needle and hold in back, k2, then k1 from the cable needle.


3 sts

2/1 LC
Slip 2 to a cable needle and hold in front, k1, then k2 from the cable needle.


3 sts

2/1 RPC (also T3B)
Slip 1 to a cable needle and hold in back, k2, then p1 from the cable needle.


3 sts

2/1 LPC (also T3F)
Slip 2 to a cable needle and hold in front, p1, then k2 from the cable needle.


4 sts

2/2 RC (also C4B)
Slip 2 to a cable needle and hold in back, k2, then k2 from the cable needle.


4 sts

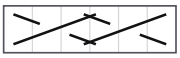
2/2 LC (also C4F)
Slip 2 to a cable needle and hold in front, k2, then k2 from the cable needle.


4 sts

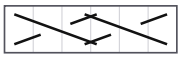
2/2 RPC (also T4B)
Slip 2 to a cable needle and hold in back, k2, then p2 from the cable needle.


4 sts

2/2 LPC (also T4F)
Slip 2 to a cable needle and hold in front, p2, then k2 from the cable needle.


6 sts

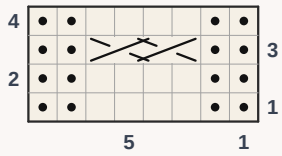
3/3 RC (also C6B)
Slip 3 to a cable needle and hold in back, k3, then k3 from the cable needle.


6 sts

3/3 LC (also C6F)
Slip 3 to a cable needle and hold in front, k3, then k3 from the cable needle.

Worked Cable Examples (Flat: Odd RS Rows <- , Even WS Rows ->)

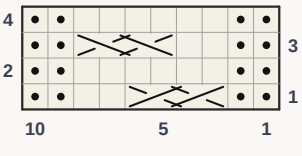
4-stitch rope cable (C4B)



Row 1 (RS): p2, k4, p2. (8 sts)
Row 2 (WS): k2, p4, k2. (8 sts)
Row 3 (RS): p2, 2/2 RC, p2. (8 sts)
Row 4 (WS): k2, p4, k2. (8 sts)

The first cable most knitters learn: four knit stitches between purl columns, crossed to the right every fourth row.

Three-strand braid (C4B and C4F)



Row 1 (RS): p2, 2/2 RC, k2, p2. (10 sts)
Row 2 (WS): k2, p6, k2. (10 sts)
Row 3 (RS): p2, k2, 2/2 LC, p2. (10 sts)
Row 4 (WS): k2, p6, k2. (10 sts)

Six knit stitches crossed alternately on the right four and the left four, so three strands weave over and under each other.