



ORGANISING THE EVENT

Fact Sheet 3

Volunteers are the key

- To make each event a real success you will need a key group of knitting and crochet enthusiasts who will volunteer their time and share their knowledge with others. This project is ideal for local knitting or crochet guilds because it raises awareness of the crafts through a group's activities.
- Produce a timetable leading up to the event
- Designate managers to oversee these three main areas:
 1. Finding a site and organising the layout.
 2. Scheduling events and appointing volunteers before and during the event.
 3. Promoting the event.
- Prepare a rough layout of where different events and volunteers will be located making sure you leave enough space to walk around tables and activities. Staging fashion shows or 'show-and-tells' will attract attention, but ensure that there is a cordoned-off area where models can change.
- When picking volunteers, evaluate each person's strengths. If someone has an eye for style, they could organise the fashion show. If another is an excellent children's teacher, they would be ideal to run the children's how-to area.
- Arrange to have enough volunteers early in the day to set everything up and at the end of the day to help clear away.

Presentation ideas for your event

Learn to knit and crochet areas

Teaching people how to knit or crochet and providing a place for everyone to join in the fun is the essential mission of your NKW event. Aim for an informal and friendly atmosphere and remember, keep it simple!

Fashion Show

Here are some ideas on how to organise a fabulous fashion show:

- Contact a local crochet or knitting guild and ask for their assistance. They may have mannequins that they would be willing to lend or perhaps garments provided on loan from a yarn manufacturer that they would consider presenting.
- The 'show & tell' portion of the NKW event can be developed into an informal fashion show with knitters sharing their project ideas. Show & Share or Bring 'n Brag, as it is sometimes called, is always a crowd pleaser. Knitters bring or wear finished garments or accessories and discuss how they were made.
- If there is a design school or textile department at a local college, consider contacting them for ideas and garments.
- You may find a source of non-professional models at a local school or college who would love the experience.

It's also handy to have a script prepared that will help the audience understand how a garment is made and what they need to know in order to complete a similar project.

Supplies

Yarn, knitting needles and crochet hooks are the basic supplies that you will need. If you already knit or crochet, you may have plenty of yarn tucked away somewhere that you would be willing to donate. If not, you could try posting a request for yarn at work, church or the library. Gather extra needles or hooks together and label them with your name so that people are less likely to walk off with them after the event.

Remember that beginners will find it easier if they learn using a standard to bulky-weight yarn that is relatively smooth. It is also easier for them to see their stitches when they use a lighter colour.

