

## Summer Slump

Summer - the bane of knitters. I really have nothing to complain about, living where I do. It's cool enough on most days to knit without air conditioning (since I don't have any, that is very good), and sometimes cool enough to wear things besides linen and cotton.

Yet, it is summer, and I've been in a knitting slump. After churning out countless socks and hats for the June-July baby shower for Afghans for Afghans, I kinda hit a wall.



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I think I hit charity knitting burnout.

Fortunately, I had packaged up a lovely project a few months ago - a Leftie shawl using some of my multitudinous leftover sock yarns. And while I was up at Lake Tahoe, I began to knit it. And because it wasn't in my head how to do the leaves, very little got knit because there was not much down time.

Once home, I was doing more, and it became great TV knitting because the little balls are a pain to travel with, but behave nicely on the couch. While watching *True Detective* (somehow I have free HBO, don't know how that happened) on demand, it slowly progressed.



Now the knitting is done, and I need to block and weave in ends. But yay!

Another project that I have started are some annual gift socks for a family friend. I have some Cascade Heritage Paints that I got on sale from the WEBS spring sale, and in a very subdued guy colorway. I'm knitting the Hickory socks ([rav link](#)) which are a variation on simple ribbed but cool looking:

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These will be great to work on while watching the Outlander series on Starz. A friend told me about this series back in the early 1990s, and I've been reading them ever since. In my mind, the first 4 books are the strongest, and they'll be great if they can go 4 seasons. We'll see. I watched the premiere episode with friend, and we all loved it.

The things I completed stalled on have been my own design work. Dealing with some medical stuff, so my brain is not all up to snuff, and it sucks to not be able to focus the way I know I can. I'm hoping to get to the bottom of this stuff soon so that I can actually, you know, think!

Thus far, the yarn diet has held, much to my amazement, but see above, summer slump, plus easy access to stash means you knit from it, I'm finding out - who knew?

Today my copy of Interweave Knits came, and all the lovely sweaters look so amazing that I really, really got inspired to knit some kind of sweater for Fall, probably a cardigan (post-menopausal woman that I am!), and Twist Collective has some yummy things too. And hopefully things will improve so that I can get back to designing!