Like cast ons, well-executed bind offs enhance the overall appearance of a knit (See Figure 1). They can give a garment a comfortable and attractive fit. In square or rectangular pieces of knitting, such as many of the Master’s swatches, you want the bind off edge to match the width of all the rows and the cast on edge. Matching the width of cast on and bind off edges is especially important in scarves worked long-ways or facings knitted separately and sewn on.

**Ending Suggestions**

*Neat last loop:* There are many different ways to do this, but an easy one is to bind off until you have one stitch remaining on the left needle. Put the needle knit-wise into the stitch below the remaining stitch and through the back loop of the remaining stitch. Knit those two together, then finish the bind off.

*Invisible ending on circular knits:* With the tail yarn, duplicate stitch the first stitch of the round so that it looks like a knit stitch.

**Spotting the Problems**

Look for the following common problems in bind offs:

*Looseness*

Some knitters bind off too loosely, causing the top of the piece to flare out. The shape resembles an inverted U. Sometimes over-large spaces appear between the stitches in the last row of knitting. The corners may round down, or the bind off stitches may look over-large (See Figure 2).

*Tightness*

Many knitters bind off too tightly. This problem could be due to pulling the shorter height of one stitch over the wider width of the next stitch. If you see the stitches at the outside edges slanting in towards the center or the corners sloping up into a U shape, you know that the bind off is too tight (See Figure 3).

*continued on page 68*
Inappropriate Elasticity
Too-firm bind offs will not allow a sweater to stretch enough to go over a person’s head. On the other hand, too-elastic bind offs may allow shoulder seams to stretch over the shoulders and down towards the elbows.

Fixing the Problems
Use the following strategies to improve the overall appearance and function of bind offs:

Tightening a Loose Bind Off
Several strategies can help you tighten up your bind off: (1) you can snug up the stitches a bit more tightly as you knit them, (2) use a smaller needle size, or (3) tighten up the bind off row when it is finished. For after-the-fact tightening, start at the beginning of the bind off (not the end or you will have a large leftover loop instead of a longer tail), pull up the closer leg of the first stitch, then pull up the farther leg. Continue this way to the end. (Katharina Buss has a nice photo of this technique; see the reference list at the end of the article.)

Loosening a Tight Bind Off
Many sources recommend using a larger needle for the bind off. Experiment with different sizes. You could also consider using a double strand of yarn or picking up an extra stitch every 2 or 3 stitches (except when it’s important to bind off a specified number of stitches).

Choosing an Appropriate Bind Off
The following table gives a brief overview of some of the more common bind offs and their uses:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Common Bind Offs</th>
<th>ELASTIC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Technique</td>
<td>Invisible / tubular/ kitchener</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Traditional (worked loosely in pattern)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Applications              | • Shoulder seams                      |
|                           | • Purse openings                      |
|                           | • Pocket tops                         |
|                           | • Buttonholes                         |

On a pullover sweater with a picked up collar, consider not binding off the neckline at all. Instead, place stitches to “bind off” on holders. You will just slip them to the needle when “picking up” stitches for the collar, and the sweater will go very comfortably over the wearer’s head.

Knitting reference books offer many choices for bind off techniques. A picot bind off may make a nice elastic bind off for a pair of toe-up socks, while a lace bind off may make a fancy bind off for a lace shawl. You can also look for bind offs to match cast ons such as tubular, picot and Stanley’s cast-on bind-off. Experiment to find the bind offs that will make your hand-crafted knitting beautiful and usable.

Note: Special thanks goes to Kathy Mates, Sylvia Willoughby, Binka Schwan and Cindy Nelson for their help on this article.

References
What All The Bind-Offs Look Like: A Bind-Off Extravaganza | KnitFreedom.com. Context is everything! Here are photos of all the knitting bind-offs together. Get a complete idea of what 45 knitted bind-offs look like - closeup photos. 0:24. Knitting Stitches Knitting Videos Crochet Videos. Tainted Cain's Bag Of Crafting from Binding Of Isaac: Repentance companion webapp! A companion webapp for The Binding Of Isaac: Repentance "Tainted Cain" character. Enter pickups available in your current floor to know what items could be crafted! Complete Wolcen crafting guide: find all the information for efficient crafting, as well as the full tables of possibilities! The guide is separated into four parts, which you can find in the video and below: The five parts. To make this guide as clear as possible, I am dividing the crafting into four parts. These parts are in order, from the least expensive to the most expensive, and therefore from the less late game to the more late game! quality and properties. ethereal reagents. craft with the palace. crafting with gems. But the question of binds is not about the hardware itâ€™s about setting the game in the most convenient way. CS:GO binds help to have all the necessary keys just under your fingertips and activate various commands by pressing specific keys. Binds even allow activating a few commands by one only key. By default, most of the CS:GO commands are connected to some keys. Still, many players prefer making changes in this configuration.