James Bartley: Tech Editing Testimonial & Case Study

Jana Huck – Janukke Strickdesign



"I want to let people know that not only is it safe to work with James, it's fun!"

Janukke Strickdesign is the creation of knitting designer Jana Huck, based in Germany. Her designs expertly blend items that can be worn everyday with statements that catch the eye. Her work ranges from colourful shawls and unique accessories to patterns which tame the mind-boggling art of M. C. Escher and beautiful hand-knit metal jewellery. All of this is delivered in her friendly, approachable style with clear information to guide you through – true pattern rockstars!





Editing Jana's designs has been a real pleasure, and an education in the craft. Her ability to bring new ideas and stitches to an audience of any level of experience is remarkable, and works perfectly with my mission to create patterns that are accessible, error-free and a joy to knit.

> "I enjoy working with James because I know that the end product will be excellent and knitters will be happy."

Here's what Jana has to say about working with me as her Technical Editor:

"You find the mistakes in my maths, have an eye on the pattern logic and clarity of the directions and help to make the patterns as inviting and knitter-friendly as possible. Usually I don't have any tight deadlines but when I need an urgent fix you are always available for that. I do not expect this (everyone deserves some time off) but appreciate it very much.

My worst case scenario is when knitters in a test knit have to rip back because of unclear or false directions, or, even worse, if a mistake is found after a pattern goes live. Since working with you, I've had happy test knitters and accurate patterns."





As an editor there are certain things I aim for above and beyond the expected corrections and checks. A great relationship between designer and editor is key, and helps to build confidence, a sense of fun, and a space to learn and grow.

"You've really helped me tremendously with this pattern and I feel finally confident to release it into the world."

"I enjoy working on my patterns even more."

"Oh this makes the pattern So. Much. Better."

Having worked with Jana since October 2015, I'm so pleased that our relationship has grown over the ever increasing number of patterns we have worked on together. We continually work to make sure that all of Jana's patterns are easy for any knitter to pick up and use. For example, having help for beginners that doesn't get in the way of the advanced knitter.

"It is obviously very important that the maths in my knitting patterns works out, and that the directions are correct and clear. You not only make sure of all that, but also have great suggestions on how to put everything together in a more knitter-friendly way. You let me know when and where to add some extra information or additional explanations to prevent any misunderstandings for knitters. Not every tech editor has an eye for this kind of thing. You also pay attention to my grammar. As a non-native speaker this is very important to me as well."

You can find <u>Jana's patterns on Ravelry</u> or <u>find out</u> more about her and her work on her website.





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