



knitting pretty

Actress Mary-Louise Parker says creating woolly scarves and sweaters is a sure cure for whatever's needling her.

When Mary-Louise Parker (*Fried Green Tomatoes*, *The Five Senses*) is making a movie on location, you're more likely to spot her in the neighborhood yarn store than in a trendy boutique. Ever since a friend's mom taught her how to knit when she was a student at the North Carolina School of the Arts, the crafty actress, who recently starred in Broadway's *Proof*, has been hooked. While she's waiting on the set, her nimble fingers fashion fuzzy hats for boyfriend Billy Crudup (*Almost Famous*), sweaters for her sister, Sage, and clothes for Hollywood's next generation, like John Turturro's baby boy. During her free time, she whips up angora neck warmers with her niece, Kirsten Parker, *above*, right, that are bound to be on everybody's winter wish list. "It's soothing," Mary-Louise explains. "And it gives me something to do because I don't smoke anymore, thank God. You can't do both at once. I can't anyway."

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