



Sock-Knitting Basics

A miniature sock teaches basic sock-knitting techniques

Materials: Brown Sheep Lamb's Pride Worsted (85% Wool, 15% Mohair, 100g Skeins, 190 yds.) or similar weight yarn: 15 - 20g (about 25 - 35 yds) main color (MC); 12 - 15g (about 20 - 25 yds) contrast color (CC) used for cuff, heel and toe.

Tools: Set of 4 (or 5, if preferred; pattern is written for 4) double-pointed needles, #8;

One stitch marker

A blunt tapestry needle

Size G or H crochet hook for loop (optional)

Gauge: 4 ½ stitches per inch in stockinette stitch (knit every row in circular knitting). This gauge makes a sock about 9" long. The exact gauge does not matter; a different size yarn and/or needles will simply make another size sock. (NOTE: Will not fit a real foot!)

Abbreviations and special stitches:

K = Knit

P = Purl

st or sts = stitch or stitches

rep = repeat

Sl = Slip: Insert the point of the right needle into the next stitch as if to purl and transfer it from the left needle to the right needle without working it.

K2tog = Knit two together: Knit the next two stitches together as if they were one. This makes a decrease that slants to the right.

SSK = Slip, Slip, Knit: Slip the next two stitches, ONE AT A TIME AS IF TO KNIT, then insert the point of the left-hand needle from left to right into the front loops and knit them together through the back loops. This makes a decrease that slants to the left.

P2tog = Purl two together: purl the next two stitches together as if they were one.

Cuff: With CC and one needle, cast on 32 sts (leave an 18" tail if you wish to make a loop for hanging) and divide onto 3 needles (10, 12, and 10 sts). After the sts are divided, lay the needles on a table in a triangle. Check to be sure that the cast on row is not spiralling around the needles. With the fourth needle, knit the first stitch cast on (carrying the yarn across from the last stitch cast on and pulling it snugly), thus closing the triangle; purl the next



stitch. Continue in K1, P1 rib to the end of needle 1. Turn the triangle and work K1, P1 rib across needle 2, making sure to pull the first stitch snugly in order to avoid a gap between Needle 1 and Needle 2. Turn the work and repeat on Needle 3, until you are back to the beginning of the round (the yarn tail will mark the beginning and end of the round, which is the center back of the sock). Work 5 more rounds of K1, P1 rib. Break off CC and attach MC.

Leg: Knit 12 rounds in Stockinette Stitch (knit every round), ending at the center back (where the yarn tail is).

Divide for Heel: Knit 8 sts past center back (yes, these 8 sts will have 13 rows instead of 12). Break off MC. Place the next 16 sts on a holder (2 from Needle 1, all 12 from Needle 2, and 2 from Needle 3). Transfer the rest of the Needle 3 sts onto Needle 1. You now have 16 sts on one needle.

Heel: Attach CC where MC was broken off and turn the sock to the wrong side (inside). The heel is worked back and forth on two of your four needles.

Row 1: K1, P14, K1, turn.

Row 2: K 16, turn.

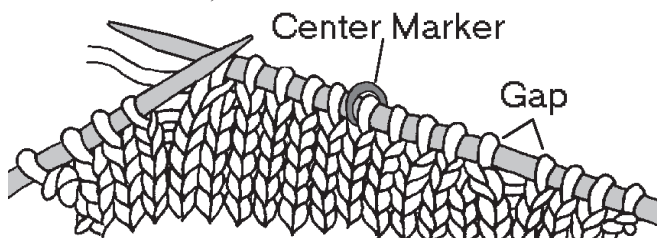
Repeat these two rows 5 more times (12 rows total), finishing at the end of Row 2.

Turning the Heel:

Row 1: K1, P7, place a marker on needle, P2, P2tog, P1, turn (**this is not the end of the row**).

Row 2: Sl 1, K 3, slip the marker from the left to the right needle, K2, SSK, K1, turn.

Row 3: Sl 1, P6 (3 sts past center marker), P2tog, (note that the two sts you are purling together span the gap made by turning around in the middle of the row), P1 (one st left on left-hand needle), turn.



(Illustration shows a different # of sts than you have)

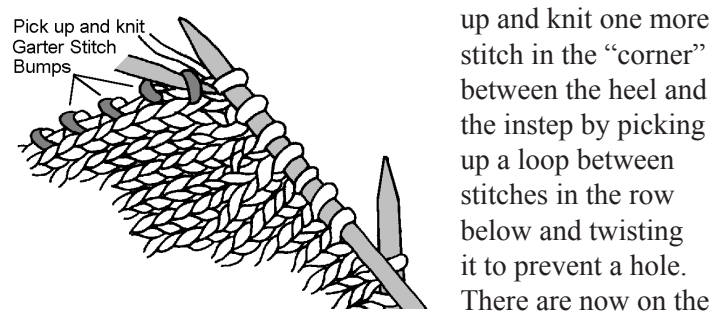
Row 4: Sl 1, K7 (3 sts past center marker), SSK, K1, turn.

Row 5: Sl 1, P8 (4 sts past marker), P2tog, turn
(this uses up all the sts on left needle).

Row 6: Sl 1, K8 (4 sts past marker), SSK. All sts are now knitted up - 10 sts on needle.

Instep: Divide the remaining heel stitches onto two needles (you will no longer need the marker; the beginning and end of the round is at the center of the heel). You will now be going back into circular knitting.

Break off CC and attach MC at the same place. With the right (knit) side of the heel facing you, and beginning where you attached MC, pick up and knit each garter stitch “bump” along the side of the heel (there should be 6). Pick



There are now on the needle 5 CC sts from the heel, and 7 MC sts from the side of the heel. This is Needle 1.

(Illustration shows a different # of sts than you have)

Transfer the 16 instep sts from the holder onto a needle. With the spare needle, knit these stitches. This is Needle 2.

With the spare needle, pick up and knit 7 stitches along the other side of the heel, beginning with the “corner” stitch, then the 6 garter st ”bumps”. Knit the 5 CC heel sts. There are now 12 MC sts on Needle 3.

Instep Shaping: With MC:

Round 1: Needle 1: Knit to last 3 sts, K2tog, K1.

Needle 2: K 16.

Needle 3: K1, SSK, Knit to end of needle.

Round 2: Knit all stitches on all 3 needles.

Repeat these two rows until there are 8 sts on Needles 1 & 3 and 16 sts on needle 3 (32 sts total - the number you began with).

Foot: With MC, knit 3 more rounds on 32 sts.

Toe: Break off MC and attach CC. Knit 2 rounds.

Toe Shaping:

Round 1: Needle 1: Knit to last 3 sts, K2tog, K1.

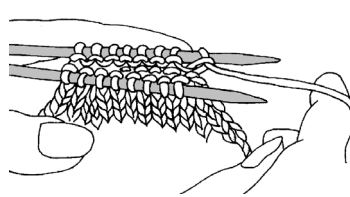
Needle 2: K1, SSK, knit to last 3 sts, K2tog, K1.

Needle 3: K1, SSK, knit to end of needle.

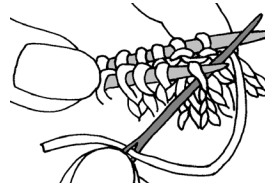
Round 2: Knit all sts on all 3 needles.

Repeat these two rows until there are 16 sts - 4 on Needle 1, 8 on Needle 2, and 4 on Needle 3; finish at the end of Round 1. Knit the 4 stitches on Needle 1 onto Needle 3. You now have 8 sts on each of two needles.

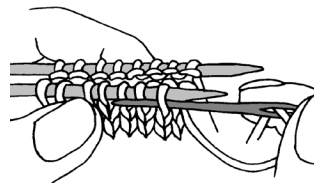
Graft the Toe:



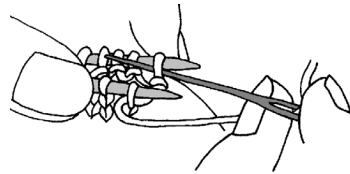
Break the yarn, leaving a 15” tail. Thread the tail into a blunt tapestry needle. Hold so that the tail is at the right end of the back knitting needle.



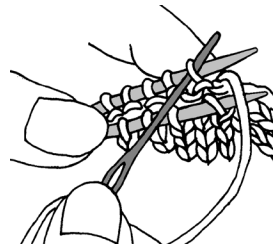
1. *Insert the tapestry needle into the first stitch on the front knitting needle as if to knit, pull the yarn through snugly, and drop the stitch off the knitting needle.



2. Insert the tapestry needle into the next stitch on the front knitting needle as if to purl, pull the yarn through as before, but **leave the stitch on the knitting needle.**



3. Insert tapestry needle into the first stitch on the back knitting needle as if to purl, pull the yarn through snugly (making sure it goes under the point of the front needle), and drop the stitch off the knitting needle.



4. Insert the tapestry needle into the next stitch on the back knitting needle as if to knit, pull the yarn through, but **leave the stitch on the knitting needle.***

Repeat from * to * (Steps 1 to 4), pulling the stitches snugly, until there is one stitch left on each needle. Insert the tapestry needle into the stitch on the front needle as if to knit, pull the yarn through and drop it off the needle. Insert the tapestry needle into the stitch on the remaining needle as if to purl, pull the yarn through and drop it off the needle. Pass the needle to the inside of the sock and turn the sock inside out. Weave the end in on the bottom of the toe and cut it off. Weave in all other yarn ends.

For hanging loop, crochet 8-10 chain stitches in the tail at the beginning of the sock. Slip stitch into the cuff next to the start of the chain. Weave in the yarn tail.