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Tzenni

By Sadie Slater



Toe-up socks inspired by the heroine of Ankaret Wells's *The Maker's Mask* and *The Hawkwood War*.

Tzenni Boccamera, the heroine of Ankaret Wells's novels, has a rose as her emblem and a terrible fear of heights, especially staircases. The socks she inspired combine a rose pattern (based on the Rosebud Lace from Barbara Walker's first Treasury of Knitting Patterns) with a knit/purl pattern representing staircases. I knitted mine in green, because that is the Boccamera family colour, but it's not a requirement!

You can find out more about the books (and read a sample chapter) at <http://ankaretwells.wordpress.com/>

Size

Women's medium. The pattern is very stretchy and the socks will comfortably stretch to accommodate feet 9"/ 23cm or more in circumference. If you want to make them bigger than this you could add extra stitches to the pattern repeat or use a larger needle.

Gauge

32 stitches = 4 inches/ 10cm in stocking stitch

Materials

1 x 100g skein or 2 x 50g skeins of 4-ply/fingering weight yarn.

2.5mm needles for working in the round (the pattern is written for Magic Loop but could easily be adapted for two circulars or dpns if you prefer)

Darning needle for sewing in ends

Instructions for Judy's Magic Cast-on can be found at

<http://www.knitty.com/ISSUESpring06/FEATmagiccaston.html>

and instructions for Jeny's Surprisingly Stretchy Bind-off are at

<http://www.knitty.com/ISSUEfall09/FEATjssbo.php>

Abbreviations

M1L – insert needle into the stitch two rows below the stitch just knitted and place on the left-hand needle. Knit through the back loop.

M1R – insert needle into the stitch below the next stitch on the left needle and place on the left-hand needle so that it sits in the opposite direction to normal (the leg nearest the tip of the needle should be to the back). Knit through the front loop.

Resizing

If you wish to make larger socks you could add columns to the pattern on either side of the lace pattern – just increase the number of stitches you have at the end of the toe by a multiple of 6 for every column you want to add to the chart, and add repeats of the second column of the pattern in Chart 1 or the ninth column in Chart 2, either next to the columns written in the chart or on the other side of the lace pattern.

Pattern

Cast on 16 stitches using Judy's magic cast-on.

Knit one round.

R1: *K1, M1L, K to last stitch on needle, M1R, K1* twice

R2: K

Repeat these two rounds until you have 60 stitches (30 on each needle)

Work pattern from chart 1 across the first needle (instep stitches). K all stitches on second needle (sole stitches). Continue until the sock is approximately 2 inches shorter than foot length, finishing with row 11 or 22 of the chart if possible. Stop at the end of first needle and proceed with Heel instructions.

Heel

The heel is worked over the sole stitches (needle 2) only. You will be working short rows leaving an increasing number of stitches unworked at the ends of the needle to create the turn, then increasing the length of the rows to reincorporate the unworked stitches.

R1: K to last stitch on needle, turn work leaving the last stitch unworked on the LH needle.

R2: With yarn held to back, insert right needle to purl (yarn should be behind the needle). Bring yarn forward to complete the purl stitch. This will create a yarn over before the stitch. Purl to last stitch on needle, turn work leaving the last stitch unworked on the LH needle.

R3: YO, K to YO/stitch pair, turn (do not work the YO or its paired stitch).

R4: YO, P to YO/stitch pair, turn (do not work the YO or its paired stitch).

Repeat rows 3 and 4 until there are 10 yarn over/stitch pairs on each side of the heel and 8 unpaired stitches remaining in the centre (this should happen on a row 3). On this last row, do not turn the work when you reach the YO/stitch pair at the end. K the stitch from the pair, K2tog the YO together with next stitch. Turn.

R5: YO, P to YO/stitch pair, P stitch from the pair, SSP YO together with next stitch. Turn.

R6: YO, K to YO/stitch pair, K stitch from the pair, K3tog 2 YOs together with next stitch. Turn.

R7: YO, P to YO/stitch pair, P stitch from the pair, SSSP 2 YOs together with next stitch. Turn.

Keep repeating rows 6 and 7 until you reach the end of the needle. You should be at the start of a knit row with 30 stitches and 1 YO on the needle.

YO and K to YO at end of needle. Work YO together with first stitch of instep stitches and leave on Needle 2. Carry on working in pattern, repeating the section outlined in red on Chart 1 around the leg of the sock (there should be three repeats). On the first row when you reach the end of Needle 1 work the last stitch together with the YO at the start of Needle 2, and move this stitch and the next to Needle 1 so you have 30 stitches on each needle again.

If you started the heel at a different point in the pattern than row 11 or 22 you may want to leave the lace pattern out and only work the knit/purl stitch pattern until you reach a row 1 or 12.

Work until the leg is as long as you want it, ending with a row 11 or 22 of the pattern.

Repeat last row of pattern once, then switch to K2,P2 rib (making sure the rib lines up with the purl columns of the stitch pattern). Work in rib for 10 rows or longer if you want.

Bind off all stitches using Jeny's Surprisingly Stretchy Bind-off. Weave in ends.

Make second sock as first, but using Chart 2 instead of Chart 1. The staircase pattern is reversed in this chart which means the socks will be mirror images of each other.

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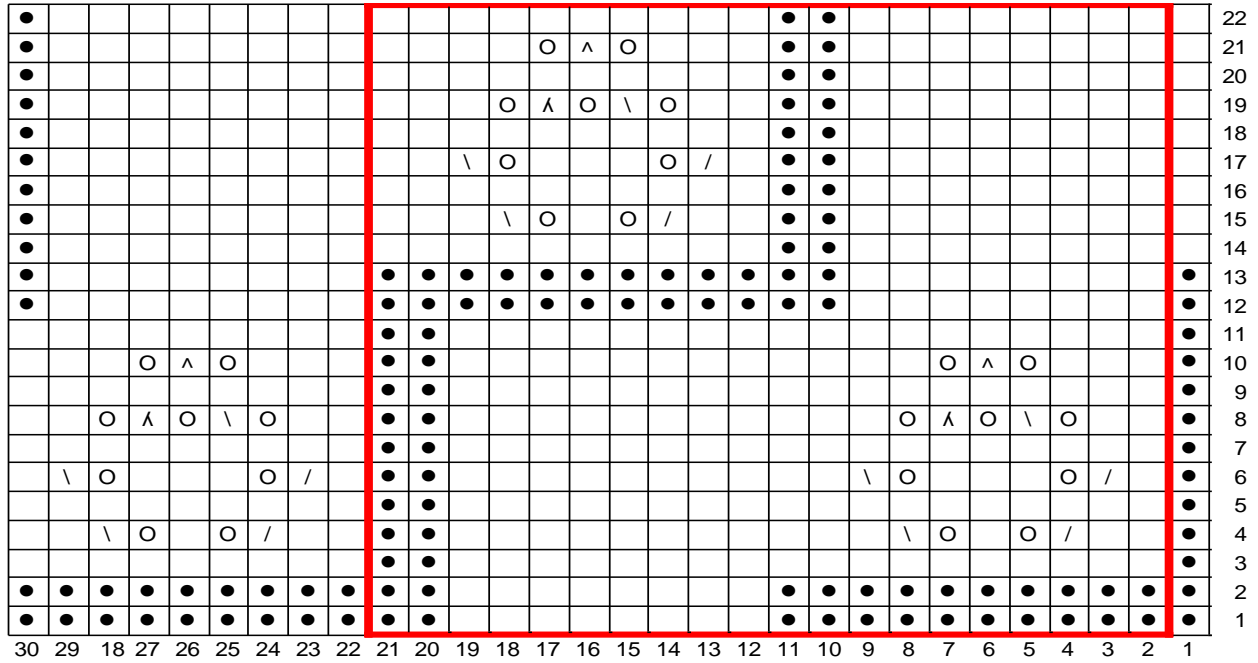
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Chart 1



- Knit
- Purl
- / K2tog
- \ SSK
- YO
- ∧ K3tog
- ∧ S11, k2tog, pss0

Chart 2

