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Lyle

By Susan Bromiley

“These socks are named after my paternal grandfather, for whom I knit one of the first pairs. They can be made as ankle socks for a quick gift, or mid-calf length to use every last bit of your yarn. The ribbed texture gives plenty of stretch to accommodate various foot widths – ideal when you don't know the exact size of the recipient's feet!”

Materials:

100g (3.6oz) fingering-weight sock yarn, approx 400m / 440yd

Blue sample (UK 9, short cuff) used approx 85g.

Grey sample (UK 10, longer cuff) used 96g.

A long-cuffed sock in the larger sizes (UK 11 & 12) will require more than one 100g skein. To make a single skein suffice, either knit the short cuff or use a contrast colour for the toe & rib.

Needles:

A set of 5 double-pointed (dpn's) in 2.5mm / US size 1 1/2



Gauge:

22 sts & 22 rows to 5cm (2") in 3+1 rib, unstretched.

Techniques:

Knitting in the round,

Alternate (or Rib) Cable Cast-on (link on p2),

decrease (K2tog / P2tog),

Pick-up-and-knit.

Sizing:

To fit a man's foot, sizes UK 8-12 / EU 42-47 / US 9-13

UK size	US size	EU size	Finished foot length	Length excl. toe
8	9	42	27cm / 10½"	24cm / 9½"
9	10	43	28cm / 11"	25cm / 9¾"
10	11	44.5	29cm / 11¼"	26cm / 10¼"
11	12	46	29.5cm / 11⅜"	26.5cm / 10⅜"
12	13	47	30cm / 11¾"	27cm / 10½"

Cuff:

Setup row: Using Alternate Cable Cast on (also known as Rib Cable Cast-on), cast on 72 sts onto a 2.5mm dpn. Without joining in the round, K1,P1 across all sts, dividing onto 4 dpn's as follows: N1 16 sts, N2 20 sts, N3 16 sts, N4 20 sts.

Join in the round and knit five more rounds of K1, P1 rib as established.

Leg:

At the beginning of the next round, change pattern to (K3, P1), repeat to end of needle. Continue this K3, P1 ribbing for 36 (48) rounds total.

Rearrange sts from 4 dpn's onto 3 dpn's as follows:

Move 2 sts from the start of N4 onto the end of N3. Using N4, (K3, P1) across all the sts on N1,

then also K1 from N2 onto N4. Knit across N2 and N3 in pattern as normal.

You should now have your sts arranged on three needles as follows: (N4 35 sts, N1 19 sts, N2 18 sts). You should be at the start of N4, about to start the heel flap on those 35 sts.

Heel Flap:

Work heel flap on the 35 sts on N4 as follows:

row 1: Slip 1 (K1, S1) to end.

Row 2: Purl all sts.

Repeat these two rows a total of 18 times (36 rows in the heel flap)

Heel Shaping:

row 1: K20, K2 tog, k1. Turn. (no wraps)

row 2: S1, P6, P2 tog, P1

row 3 : S1, K to one st before the gap, K2tog (the two sts either side of the gap), K1, turn

Row 4:S1, P to one st before gap, P2tog P1, turn

Repeat rows 3 and 4 five more times, ending as follows:

Row 13: S1, K17, K2tog, K1, turn.

Row 14: S1, P18, P2tog, P1. Turn.

End of heel shaping

Pick Up Gusset Sts:

Using one of the free dpn's, knit the first 11 sts. This needle will become the new N4.

Onto spare dpn: K10, Pick up & knit 18 sts into the 18 slipped sts along edge of heel flap, pick up two more sts in the gap between N2 and N3. 30 sts on N1.

On N2: K2, P1 (k3, P1) to end of needle. 19 sts.

On N3: (K3, P1) to last 2 sts, K2. 18 sts.

On free dpn: Pick up and knit 2 sts into the gap between N3 and N4, pick up and knit a further 18 sts into the slipped sts along the side of the heel flap. Knit the 11 sts from N4. End of round is at centre of sole sts.

You should now have 30 sts on N1, 19 sts on N2, 18 on N3, 31 sts on N4 – total 98 sts.

Gusset Decreases:

Round 1: Knit to 2 sts from end of N1, K2tog.
Knit across N2 & N3 in rib pattern as established. On N4, SSK, K to end.

Round 2: Knit all sts on N1, continue rib pattern on N2 & N3, knit all sts on N4.

Repeat these two rounds a total of 13 times [72 sts remain – 17 on N1, 19 on N2, 18 on N3, 18 on N4]

Foot:

Continue in pattern as established, knitting all sole sts and ribbing all instep sts, until foot is 3cm shorter than required finished length. See table for more details.

Round Toe:

Setup round: Knit one round plain, rearranging stitches so there are 18 on each dpn.

Round 1: K7, K2tog around. [64 sts]

Round 2, 4, 6, 8, 10 & 12: Knit all sts

Round 3: K6, K2tog around. [56 sts]

Round 5: K5, K2tog around. [48 sts]

Round 7: K4, K2tog around. [40 sts]

Round 9: K3, K2tog around. [32 sts]

Round 11: K2, K2tog around. [24 sts]

Round 13: K1, K2tog around. [16 sts]

Round 14: K2tog around. [8 sts]

Cut yarn tail to 15 cm (6") and draw tail through the remaining 8 sts. Pull gently to snug up the hole.

Weave in ends, joining the gap at the top of the cuff by carefully stitching together with the yarn tail. Wash, block and enjoy!

Tutorials:

[Alternate Cable Cast-on \(video\)](#)

<http://tinyurl.com/alt-cable-cast-on>



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