

Knock-off Socks

by Mary the Hobbit

Simple, manly socks originally designed for The Spouse. These socks are worked from the top down with a standard heel flap and a round heel. This is a straightforward pattern which is fast to knit.

knockoff: a copy or imitation of something popular

I borrowed the almost-ribbing pattern from Bobby Ziegler's Thuja sock pattern in Knitty: <http://www.knitty.com/ISSUEwinter05/PATTthuja.html>

SIZE

Men's medium. Leg is about 9 inches around. For a bigger foot, use larger needles.

MATERIALS

- Fingering weight/sock yarn, 4 oz (100 g). Example was knit with Regia Hand-dye Effect.
- Set of 4 or 5 dpns size 1 (2.25mm).
- Tapestry needle for happy Kitchenerization

GAUGE

8 sts = 1 inch in stockinette

ABBREVIATIONS

dpn	double-pointed needle
EOR	End Of Round, a/k/a beginning of round
instep	the top of the foot
LHN	Left-Hand Needle, the needle containing the stitches you're about to knit
ndl	needle
pm	place marker
RHN	Right-Hand Needle, the needle you're knitting with
rnd	round
RS	right side
sole	the bottom of the foot



ssk slip 1 knitwise, slip another stitch knitwise, then knit the two slipped sts together through the back loops
st stitch
tbl through the back loop
WS wrong side

PATTERN

Seed Stitch Rib (multiple of 4 sts and 2 rows):

R1: Knit.

R2: * k3, p1 * Repeat from * around.

DIRECTIONS

Cast on 68 sts using the long-tail cast-on on a larger needle. Arrange sts on 3 or 4 dpns and join for working in the round.

Cuff

Work in [k1, p1] ribbing for 1-1/2 to 2 inches.

Leg

Work Seed Stitch Rib until leg length is 6-8 inches, as you desire. End with a Knit rnd.

Heel

The heel flap is worked over half (34) the total number of sts.

Setup for heel flap:

K15, then turn work so that WS is facing you. The next row will position the heel between purl sts in the rib pattern. Work the heel sts onto one needle.

Next row (WS): Sl1, p13, p2tog, p19, turn.

After turning, RS is facing you; the heel flap will be worked back and forth in rows over the 34 sts. Put the remaining 33 instep sts aside while working the heel.

Heel Flap:

R1 (RS): Sl1, k33. Turn work.

R2 (WS): * Sl1, p1 *, repeat from * across. Turn.

Repeat R1 and R2 until you've done 35 rows, or until the heel flap is 2-1/2 inches long. Stop after a RS row.

Heel Turn:

R1 (WS): sl1, p19, p2tog, p1, turn. *(11 sts left unworked)*

R2 (RS): sl1, k7, ssk, k1, turn. *(11 sts left unworked)*

R3 (WS): sl1, p8, p2tog across gap, p1, turn.

R4 (RS): sl1, k9, ssk across gap, k1, turn.

Repeat R3 and R4, working an extra stitch each time, until there is only one st left unworked on each side = 12 rows.

R13 (WS): sl1, p18, p2tog, turn.

R14 (RS): sl1, k18, ssk. Do NOT turn.

There are 20 sts left on the heel flap.

Gussets

Resume knitting in the round. With a separate dpn, pick up and knit 17 sts along the edge of the heel flap, then pick up one more stitch in the corner before the instep sts. With another ndl work across the 33 instep sts using R2 of the Seed Stitch Rib like so: p1, *k3, p1*. With yet another needle, pick up and knit one stitch in the corner after the instep and then 17 more sts along the edge of the heel flap. Finally, knit half (10) of the 20 sole sts. Place marker for EOR here in the center of the sole.

Arrange sts like this:

N1 - 10 sole sts + 18 picked-up sts = 28 sts

N2 - 33 instep sts

N3 - 18 picked-up sts + 10 sole sts

for a grand total of 89 sts.

Gusset Decreases

R1: On N1, knit to last 3 sts, k2tog, k1.

on N2 (instep sts) - k33 (R1 of Seed Stitch Rib).

on N3 - k1, ssk, knit to EOR.

R2: On N1 and N3 - knit;

on N2 (instep sts): p1, * k3, p1 * (R2 of Seed Stitch Rib).

Repeat these two rnds, decreasing gusset sts on alternate rnds, until there are 17 sts left on N1 and N3: 17 + 33 instep sts + 17 = 67 sts total.

Foot

Continue to work the Seed Stitch Rib pattern on the instep sts and stockinette stitch on the sole sts until the length of the foot is 2 inches less than you want it to be. End with a Knit rnd.

Toe

First work a setup rnd to get the total stitch count down to a multiple of 4. EOR is still in the middle of the sole, hopefully. Arrange sts on 3 dpns like this:

- N1 - 17 sts
- N2 - 33 instep sts
- N3 - 17 sts

Setup rnd:

- On N1 - knit to last 3 sts, k2tog, k1;
- on N2 - knit to last 3 sts, k2tog, k1;
- on N3 - k1, ssk, knit to EOR.
(3 sts decreased)

There are now 16 sts on N1 and N3, and 32 sts on N2, for a total of 64 sts. Start regular toe decreases.

R1: Knit.

- R2: On N1 - knit to last 3 sts, k2tog, k1;
- on N2 - k1, ssk, knit to last 3 sts, k2tog, k1;
- on N3 - k1, ssk, knit to EOR.
(4 sts decreased)

Repeat R1 and R2, decreasing 4 sts every other rnd, until there are 20 sts left (5+10+5). With N3, knit sts from N1 so that the 10 sole sts are on one needle and 10 instep sts are on the other needle.

Cut yarn, leaving a 15" tail. Graft toe closed using the mighty Kitchener stitch. Weave in ends.

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Ravelry name: hobbit
email: maryb@neko.com