

Baby Socks

(the best pattern ever... because they stay on!! And when you are done you will have mastered the techniques of all sizes of sock knitting). Knit from the top down to the toes

Needles - Double pointed, 4 inches long, size 1 and 2 or 2 and 3 (larger needles give you a bigger sock). I like using the wooden needles, while others prefer metal.

Yarn - Sock yarn about 100 yards (I like using the multicolored sock yarns)

Ankle

Cast on 30 stitches using the long tail method on smaller needles. Divide onto three needles: Needle #1 - 16 stitches, Needle #2 - 7 stitches, Needle #3 - 7 stitches. Join and work in the round, be careful not to twist.

Work in Knit 1, Purl 1 ribbing for 18 rows

Next work 6 rows in stockinette stitch (i.e. knit every row).

Heel Flap

Change to larger needles and work back and forth on needle #1.

Row 1 (right side): SL (slip) 1, Knit 1, repeat to end of row.

Row 2 (wrong side): SL 1 then Purl to end of row.

Repeat rows 1 and 2 for a total of 15 rows, ending with a right side row.

Turn Heel

Still working on only Needle #1

Row 1: (wrong side) Purl 10 stitches, Purl 2 together, Purl 1, turn work

Row 2: (right side) slip first stitch, Knit 5, Knit 2 together, Knit 1, turn work

Row 3: (wrong side) slip first stitch, Purl 6, Purl 2 together, Purl 1, turn work

Row 4: (right side) slip first stitch, Knit 7, Knit 2 together, Knit 1, turn work

Row 5: (wrong side) slip first stitch, Purl 5, Purl 2 together, Purl 1, turn work

Row 6: (right side) slip first stitch, Knit 3, Knit 2 together, Knit to end of row

10 stitches remain on needle #1

Heel Gusset

With loose needle, Pickup and Knit 8 stitches along side of heel. Combine the instep stitches from the next two needles and Knit across 14 stitches. With loose needle, Pickup and Knit 8 stitches down other side of heel. Knit to middle of the stitches on last needle and slide the other half onto the first needle. You will have - 13 stitches on Needle #1, 14 stitches on Needle #2, and 13 stitches on Needle #3.

Knitting in the round again do the following decreases.

Round 1: Needle #1 Knit 4 stitches, Knit 2 together, Knit 5 stitches, Knit 2 together

Needle #2 Knit 14 stitches

Needle #3 Knit 2 together, Knit 5 stitches, Knit 2 together, Knit 4 stitches

Round 2: Knit all stitches

Round 3: Needle #1 Knit to last 3 stitches, Knit 2 together, Knit 1

Needle #2 Knit 14 stitches

Needle #3 Knit 1, slip one stitch, then slip another stitch, put two stitches back on left needle and knit two together (this is abbreviated as SSK), then Knit to the end.

Round 4 etc. Repeat rounds 2 and 3 until there are 7 stitches on Needle #1, 14 stitches on Needle #2, and 7 stitches on Needle #3 for a total of 28 stitches.

Next work 12 Rounds in stockinette stitch (i.e. knit every row).

Toe

Round 1: Needle #1 Knit to last 3 stitches, Knit 2 together, Knit 1

Needle #2 Knit 1, SSK, Knit to the last 3 stitches, Knit 2 together, Knit 1

Needle #3 Knit 1, SSK, Knit to the end

Round 2: Knit

Repeat these two rounds until 12 stitches remain. Knit remaining 3 stitches on Needle #1 to Needle #3.

There will be 6 stitches on each needle. Hold needles parallel and weave toes together using the Kitchener Stitch.

Kitchener Stitch

1. With 12" of yarn on a tapestry needle Draw yarn through first stitch of **Front** needle as if to **Knit** and slip off needle
 2. Draw yarn through second stitch of **Front** needle as if to **Purl** and leave on needle
 3. Draw yarn through first stitch of **Back** needle as if to **Purl** and slip off needle.
 4. Draw yarn through second stitch of **Back** needle as if to **Knit** and leave on needle
- Repeat rows one through four until there is only one stitch left. Weave stitch and yarn through wrong side.