



MASH-UP MAGIC TOE-UP SOCKS (MUMTUS)

Compiled By Zhenya Lavy • Published June 2008

A customizable recipe to make great-fitting, toe-up socks for any size foot and with any weight yarn—knitting two at a time, using magic loop technique, and featuring a gusset and heel flap with Eye of Partridge cushion stitch. I combined my favorite bits from several freely available patterns and re-wrote them into a comprehensive pattern for magic loop construction. I draw most heavily on Barbara Tolleson's "Knitting Basic Toe-Up Socks Using the 'Magic Loop' Circular Method" and Judy Gibson's "You're Putting Me On" Socks.

An expanded workshop/pictorial version is online at Aesthetic Entanglementz (<http://aestheticentanglementz.blogspot.com/2008/07/mash-up-magic-toe-up-socks-workshop.html>).

ITEMS NEEDED:

- **Yarn:** 100g will make a pair of child's socks or ankle-length socks for a woman. For larger feet or men's socks 150 grams is better. Wind into 2 center-pull balls.
- **Reinforcing thread** (recommended, not required)
- **40" circular needle** in a size for desired fabric density and gauge. Make a gauge swatch.
- **Tape measure** • **Tapestry needle**

STITCHES USED:

- **Knit, Purl, K2tog, P2tog**
- **SSK:** Slip 1 as if to knit, slip another as if to knit, knit these together through back loop.
- **M1R** (Make 1 Right): Insert left needle, back to front, under the horizontal strand between the last stitch worked and the first stitch on the left needle. This forms a loop on the needle. Knit through the front of this loop.
- **M1L** (Make 1 Left): Insert the left needle, front to back, under the horizontal strand between last stitch worked and first stitch on left needle. Knit through back loop.

Measurements Needed	
A. width around ball of foot	
B. length of foot from toe to back of heel	
C. <i>Optional:</i> length of foot from tip of toe to the point on the sole corresponding with the line where the leg meets the top of the foot. (If you don't take this measurement, see Chart 2 for standard measurements.)	
D. <i>Optional:</i> desired height of sock (standard rule of thumb: sock height equals length of foot.)	

PRIMARY STITCH COUNT

$$\begin{array}{rcl}
 & \underline{\hspace{2cm}} & \text{your gauge (\#stitches per inch)} \\
 \times & \underline{\hspace{2cm}} & \text{width around ball of foot} \\
 = & \underline{\hspace{2cm}} & \text{Subtotal 1} \\
 - & \underline{\hspace{2cm}} & 10\% \text{ of Subtotal 1} \\
 = & \underline{\hspace{2cm}} & \text{Subtotal 2} \\
 ** & \underline{\hspace{2cm}} & \textbf{PRIMARY STITCH COUNT:} \text{ Subtotal 2 adjusted to nearest multiple of 4.}
 \end{array}$$

CAST ON

If you are packing your sock project in a single bag for greater portability and neatness, as described in Aesthetic Entanglementz (<http://aestheticentanglementz.blogspot.com/2008/03/how-to-prep-tidy-sock-project-coffee.html>), cast on using the left skein first (for Sock 2) and the right skein second (for Sock 1).

Using your favorite toe-up method, cast on _____ stitches per sock (**Chart 1, Row A**) — each needle will have _____ stitches per sock (**Chart 1, Row B**).

I recommend **Judy Becker's Magic Cast-On**. *Knitty* published a pictorial at <http://www.knitty.com/ISSUESpring06/FEATmagiccaston.html>. **Remember on your first round to knit normally off Needle 1 but through the back loop off Needle 2.**

ORIENTATION & GLOSSARY FOR THESE DIRECTIONS

Neutral Position: Turn the needles and place them into your left hand, tips pointing to the right.

- Needle 1 (bottom/sole of foot) is in front and will be held in your left hand when knitting.
- Needle 2 (top/instep of foot) is in back and will be pulled around and held in your right hand to knit.
- The working yarn hangs off the right-hand side of Needle 2 for each sock.

Round: all the way around both needles.

Row: used in the heel directions, when you're only working back and forth on one needle.

TOES

- **Round 1**: Needle 1: *K2, M1L, Knit to 2 stitches before end of sock, M1R, K2.* Repeat for Needle 2.
- **Round 2**: Knit all.

Repeat these two rounds until the total number of stitches for each sock **equals your primary stitch count**. (Half on each needle.) Cut the reinforcing thread.

FOOT

Knit until the sock reaches the point on your foot where the leg meets the top of the foot. (Or until the sock measures the length determined by **Measurement C** [above] or **Chart 2** [at end].)

***If you want to put knit a decorative stitch pattern on the top of the foot, knit 3 rounds and then start the new stitch pattern. Knit the decorative pattern across the stitches on **Needle 2** only.

GUSSET

Round 1

- Needle 1 (bottom of foot/sole): K1, M1L, K to 1 stitch from end, M1R, K1
- Needle 2 (top of foot/instep): Knit all.

Round 2: Knit all.

Repeat these two rounds _____ **times (Chart 1, Row C)** altogether until...

Needle 1 has _____ **stitches (Chart 1, Row D)** per sock.

Needle 2 has _____ **stitches (Chart 1, Row E)** per sock.

There are _____ **stitches (Chart 1, Row F)** altogether per sock.

HEEL EXTENSION

!!!Let Sock 2 hang on the cable while you work the entire heel extension and heel flap back and forth on Sock 1. Then you will work the heel extension and flap on Sock 2 while Sock 1 waits!!!

Preparation Row:

- Knit _____ stitches (**Chart 1, Row G**)
- Add reinforcing thread (or place marker if you prefer no reinforcing thread)
- SSK
- Knit _____ stitches (**Chart 1, Row H**) + _____ (**Chart 1, Row I**) stitches. (If you are not using reinforcing thread, place second marker here)

_____ stitches (**Chart 1, Row J**) remain unworked.

(The H+I stitches will be worked back and forth in short rows until the heel flap. The G and J stitches on either side just hang out and wait.)



Row 1: Turn, P2tog, P across only those stitches knit with reinforcing thread (between the markers)

Row 2: Turn, SSK, K across reinforced stitches (between the markers)

Repeat Rows 1 & 2 until _____ stitches (**Chart 1, Row K**) remain that are being knit with reinforcing thread (between the markers), ending with a wrong side row.

HEEL FLAP

Preparation Row 1: Turn, place marker, sl 1 knitwise, K across heel, pick up _____ stitches (**Chart 1, Row L**) by knitting along the decrease edge

Preparation Row 2: Turn, place marker, sl 1 purlwise, P back across heel, pick up _____ stitches (**Chart 1, Row L**) by purling along the other decrease edge

At this point, _____ stitches (**Chart 1, Row M**) have been worked with reinforcing thread (are between the markers).

This is where you start incorporating the G and J stitches from the sides: You will knit the heel flap upward in the **Eye of Partridge** stitch, incorporating 1 stitch from G or J each time you turn, as follows:

Eye of Partridge Stitch:

- **Row 1:** Turn; sl 1 knitwise; K1 sl 1 across reinforcing thread. On the final reinforced stitch, which you *would* be working as a K (not a slip), work a SSK, incorporating the first unreinforced stitch from the side. (Place marker if you wish.)
- **Rows 2 & 4:** Turn, sl 1 stitch purlwise, P across to last stitch worked with reinforcing thread, P2tog (the last reinforced stitch and 1 unreinforced stitch – shifting marker as necessary)
- **Row 3:** Turn, slip first 2 stitches knitwise; K1, sl 1 across. You knit the 2nd to last reinforced stitch and then SSK the last reinforced stitch with the first unreinforced stitch from the side.
- **Repeat** these 4 rows until all G and J stitches have been worked, ending with a purl row.

Note: If you prefer the columnar slip/knit heel stitch, omit rows 3 & 4 from the Eye of Partridge.

At this point, you have _____ (**Chart 1, Row N**) stitches altogether for each sock: _____ stitches (**Chart 1, Row O**) on Needle 1 and _____ stitches (**Chart 1, Row P**) on Needle 2.

Heel Completion Row: Turn, sl 1 knitwise, K to end, M1 by knitting into stitch below the first stitch on the left needle (creating a new stitch so that when you start knitting in the round again there won't be a hole between the heel and instep stitches). Twist the new stitch, if necessary, to close gaps.

You have just completed the heel extension and flap for Sock 1.

Work the HEEL EXTENSION and HEEL FLAP for Sock 2.

When you have completed both heels and are at the point where you have just made a new stitch at the end of the heel on Sock 2, cut the reinforcing threads for both socks.

Finish the 2nd Half of the Round: Knit the instep of Sock 2. Knit the instep of Sock 1.

If you used a special stitch pattern for the top of the foot, continue in pattern.

Heel Completion Round: Turn the work so you're ready to knit the heel stitches. M1 between the heel and instep stitches. (Knit into the stitch below the first stitch on the left needle. Twist if needed to close any gap.)

You now have the primary stitch count (Chart 1, Row A) for each sock again.

LEG & CUFF

Pick one of these four options, or do whatever else you want!

1. Continue in stockinette until the socks measure 2 inches shorter than the desired length from bottom of foot to top of sock. Switch to K2 P2 ribbing for the final two inches of cuff.
2. -OR- Knit a few rounds of stockinette and then switch to a ribbing pattern of your choice all the way up the leg.
3. -OR- Knit a few rounds of stockinette and then switch to a special design pattern all the way up the leg. (If you think you might take this option, you will need to have swatched in the special pattern. You may find it necessary to switch needle sizes to make sure your gauge in the special stitch matches the stockinette gauge used on the foot.)
4. -OR- If you already were using a special design stitch on the top of the foot, simply continue that design up the leg.

BIND OFF

Use your favorite stretchy bind-off. I recommend Elizabeth Zimmermann's Sewn Cast Off (from *Knitting Without Tears*) or the Russian Bind Off used by Wendy Johnson.

REFERENCE CHARTS

These charts, by Peggy Pignato, are from Judy Gibson's "Putting Me On Socks." Chart 2 appears as first published. Chart 1 has been modified, but the calculations follow Pignato's original proportions.

Chart 1:

Primary Stitch Count	32	36	40	44	48	52	56	60	64	68	72	76	80
A	12	16	16	16	20	20	24	24	24	28	28	32	32
B	6	8	8	8	10	10	12	12	12	14	14	16	16
C	5	5	6	6	7	8	8	9	10	10	11	11	12
D	26	28	32	34	38	42	44	48	52	54	58	60	64
E	16	18	20	22	24	26	28	30	32	34	36	38	40
F	42	46	52	56	62	68	72	78	84	88	94	98	104
G	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
H	3	3	4	4	5	6	6	7	8	8	9	9	10
I	5	5	6	6	7	8	8	9	10	10	11	11	12
J	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
K	4	4	4	4	6	6	6	6	8	8	8	8	8
L	5	6	7	8	8	9	10	11	11	12	13	14	15
M	14	16	18	20	22	24	26	28	30	32	34	36	38
N	30	34	38	42	46	50	54	58	62	66	70	74	78
O	14	16	18	20	22	24	26	28	30	32	34	36	38
P	16	18	20	22	24	26	28	30	32	34	36	38	40

Chart 2: Best Guess for Length to Gusset

Number of inches around ball of foot	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Number of inches from total length of foot to start of gusset increases (approximate)	1.5	2	2.5	3	3.5	4	4.5