

Ballet Slippers

By Ashley Fay

Size: One size, adjustable length.

Materials: 100 Yards of worsted weight yarn, I used Vanna's Choice in Pink. You may need more or less yarn depending on the size of your feet.

Set of US #8/5.0 mm double-point needle.

Stitch marker

Tapestry needle

Optional: 3 yards of ribbon, needle and thread, puff paint.

Gauge: 15 stitches/11 rows = 4 inches Stockinette Stitch.

Special Skills:

This pattern uses short rows, knitting in the round. You can choose to sew ribbon or knit i-cord for the ankle wrap ties.

Abbreviations:

K=Knit

P=Purl

St=stitch

W&T=Wrap next stitch and turn

UW=Unwrap stitch

K2tog=Knit 2 stitches together

P2tog=Purl 2 stitches together

BO=Bind off

Pattern:

Toe:

Using a provisional cast-on and scrap yarn, cast on 16 stitches.

Row 1: K

Row 2: P to last st, W&T

Row 3: K to last st, W&T
Row 4: P until 2 st left on left needle, W&T
Row 5: K until 2 st left, W&T
Row 6: P until 3 st left, W&T
Row 7: K until 3 st left, W&T
Row 8: P until 4 st left, W&T
Row 9: K until 4 st left, W&T

Row 10: P to last 4 sts, UW, W&T
Row 11: K to last 4 sts, UW, W&T
Row 12: P to last 3 sts, UW, W&T
Row 13: K to last 3 sts, UW, W&T
Row 14: P to last 2 sts, UW, W&T
Row 15: K to last 2 sts, UW, W&T
Row 12: P to last st, UW
Row 13: K to last st, UW

Leave these 16 stitches on 1 DPN, then remove the scrap yarn cast-on, and place these 16 sts on another DPN.

Now use your stitch marker to mark the beginning of the round, and begin knitting in the round.

K 5 rounds.

Next round: Needle 1: K5, BO next 6 sts, K5,

K 16 stitches on needle 2

K 3, K2tog on needle 1

Now you will turn your work and begin working flat.

Turn and purl to last 2 sts, p2tog

Next row: K to last 2 sts, K2tog

Next row: P to last 2 sts, P2tog

Next row: K to last 2 sts, K2tog

Next row: P to last 2 sts, P2tog

You will now have 20 sts left. Work in stockinette stitch until the slipper reaches your ankle bone, for me, this was 19 rows. End with a purl row.

Now you will work short rows for the heel as you did for the toe, wrapping stitches until you have wrapped 4 stitches on each side and have 8 stitches that have not been wrapped in the middle.

Then unwrap the stitches.

Bind off.

Make a 2nd slipper the same way.

Now you will make your ankle wrap ties. For i-cord ties:

Pick up 3 stitches at the corner of the heel, where you unwrapped the last stitch, and knit this 3 stitch i-cord for 22 inches. Make another i-cord tie for the other side of the slipper. Repeat on other slipper.

For ribbon ties:

Take your 3 yards of ribbon and cut in half, then cut in half again. Sew each ribbon in the corner of the heel, where you unwrapped the last stitch. Repeat on other side. Repeat on other slipper. To keep ends from unraveling, either fold them over before you sew them, or paint a thin layer of clear nail polish on the edges.

How to tie: Take the inside tie (the left ribbon on your right slipper, the right ribbon on the left slipper) and cross it over to the other side, then wrap it around 1 and a half times, so it ends up on the inside of your ankle again, where it started. Then take the outside tie and cross it over, and wrap it around 1 time to it ends up on the inside of your ankle as well. Tie in a bow. Do the same for the other slipper.

Optional: I used puff paint to draw a heart on the toe and heel area of the bottom of the slipper, one right side up, the other upside down, so the slippers wouldn't be so slippery. You can draw any shape you like though :) or omit this step.