

# En Pointe Socks

Barclay A. Dunn / Baba Black Sheep Yarns

I was inspired to create these socks by the yarn from which they were knitted. I bought this lovely light shell-pink yarn from Juniper Moon Farm because I loved the color name ("Toe Shoes") and the photograph. When it arrived I petted it for a while<sup>1</sup> and then put it away in my studio. After a time it called to me, wanted to be knit into socks, and seemed to have very specific ideas about what kind of socks it wanted to be.

## Finished size

Women's size medium [large]

## Yarn

Juniper Moon Farm Sock Yarn [100% pure wool; 400 yd per 95g skein]; color: Toe Shoes; 1 skein

## Needles

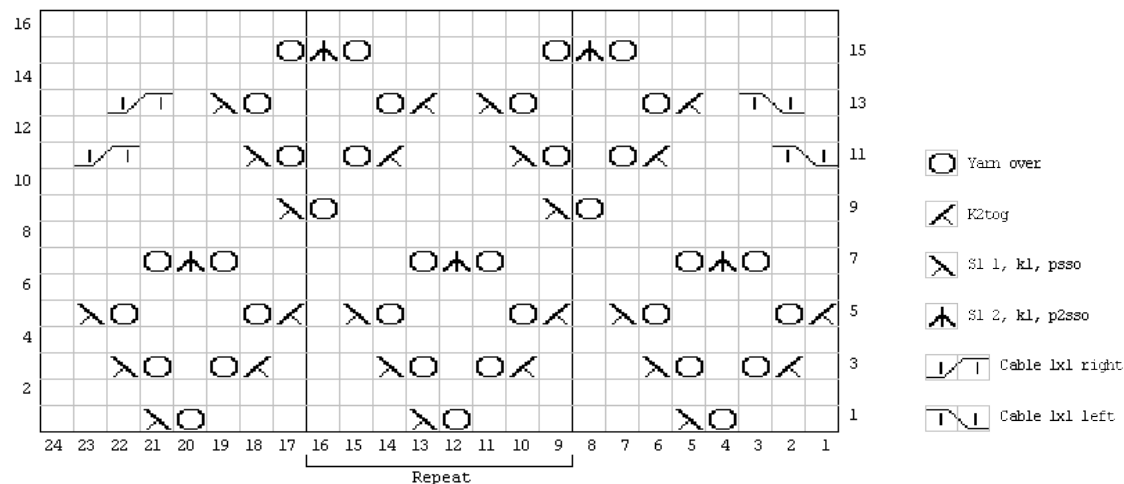
2 sets US #1 (2.5 mm) circular needles

## Gauge

16 sts / 26 rows = 2" in patt



## Stitch Chart



## Pattern

### Toe

Cast on 32 [40] sts using the Turkish<sup>2</sup>, figure-8<sup>3</sup>, or Judy's magic<sup>4</sup> cast-on method, stitches divided equally between both circular needles. Work 1 round. Increase as follows:

Round 1: K1, LRinc, K to last st, LLinc, k1 (see Notes for stitch definitions).

Round 2: K all sts.

Repeat rounds 1 and 2 until you have 32 [40] sts on each needle.

### Foot

Work instep in pattern: Work stitches 1-24 of each row in the chart, repeating the Repeat section (sts 9-16) once [twice]. At the same time, work sole in stockinette. Continue until work measures 6" [6.5"] from toe, ending on row 16 [8] of chart.

## Heel

Work heel on the needle with the sole stitches, leaving the instep untouched for now.

Step 1: Short rows to make the bottom of the heel:

Row 1: K to last st, wrap and turn.

Row 2: P to last st, wrap and turn.

Row 3: K to st before wrapped st, wrap and turn.

Row 4: P to st before wrapped st, wrap and turn.

Repeat rows 3 and 4 until you have 12 [16] unwrapped sts in the middle of the needle.

Step 2: Short rows to make the back of the heel:

Row 1: K to wrapped st, k st with wrap, wrap next st and turn.

Row 2: P to wrapped st, p st with wrap, wrap next st and turn.

Repeat rows 1 and 2, working each stitch with its wraps, until you have worked all wrapped sts.

## Leg

Work chart Repeat section (stitches 9-16) around. Work all rows of chart 4 [4 ½] times, starting at row 1 [row 9] of chart (picking up where you left off before working the heel).

Special notes for working chart on the leg:

On row 9, slip the last stitch from the previous round forward; also slip the last stitch on the first circular needle to the second.

On row 15, slip the first stitch from the round backward; slip the first stitch from the second circular to the first.

## Top Edging

With right side facing you, cast 4 sts onto needle holding existing sts.



Work as follows:

Setup row: K3, k1 tog with st on needle, turn.

Row 1: K1, yo, k2tog, yo, k1.

Row 2: Sl 1, k3, k1 tog with st on needle, turn.

Row 3: K2, yo, k2tog, yo, k1.

Row 4: Sl 1, k4, k1 tog with st on needle, turn.

Row 5: K3, yo, k2tog, yo, k1.

Row 6: Sl 1, k5, k1 tog with st on needle, turn.

Row 7: K4, yo, k2tog, yo, k1.

Row 8: Bind off 4 sts, k3, k1 tog with st on needle, turn.

Repeat rows 1-8, working across the stitches from the leg, until they are all consumed.

## Finishing

Using Kitchener stitch, join cast-on 4 sts at beg of edging with rem 4 sts on needle.



## Notes

Cable 1x1 right: Slip stitch onto holder and hold in front of work. k next st, k st from holder.

Cable 1x1 left: Slip stitch onto holder and hold in back of work, k next st, k st from holder.

LRinc: Lifted right increase, through the right side of the stitch below next stitch to be worked.

LLinc: Lifted left increase, through left side of two stitches below stitch just worked.

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<sup>1</sup> The yarn is lightweight fingering and is very soft, but for the trick to *that* you'd have to ask Susan Gibbs (the farm owner). It's Cormo wool. But also sheep who know they are well loved.

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.knittingdaily.com/glossary/middle-east-wrap-cast-on.aspx>

<sup>3</sup> <http://agatheringofwool.blogspot.com/2005/08/figure-8-cast-on.html>

<sup>4</sup> <http://www.knitty.com/ISSUESpring06/FEATmagiccaston.html>