



Blue Booties

by Kerrie James

Forward

29 November 2008

The following pattern is the result of a new and eager spinner, myself. I had been wanting to try spinning for over a year and had read just about everything I could find online before I made a spindle with a long chopstick and a plastic toy wheel. That spindle sat in a box for a few months before I gave it a try, using polyfill no less!

Needless to say, my attempts were disastrous and embarrassing to say the least. But, I did not give up. I then made another spindle, this time from a dowel and a wooden wheel-type thing, all found in my husband's "wood-pile". Again, I used polyfill as I did not have access to spinning fiber. My results were again, horrid but I was beginning to gain my confidence.

Around this time a dear friend in Ravelry, Femke, started a thread in our group, *Mothly Adventures*, titled "Roving, Spinning, Dyeing". I lurked for a few weeks when I realized I was not the only one with an interest in spinning. Learning I was amongst friends, I then scoured the internet in search of spinning fibers, settling on BFL. As soon as it arrived, I started spinning and was in love.

That was about three months ago and since then I have tried several other fibers, made another, lighter, spindle for lace, purchased another spindle and most recently my wonderful Husband purchased a spinning wheel for me! As soon as the wheel arrived, I got busy and thus, *Blue Booties*...

Materials

*4 oz. Fiber or Fingering Weight Yarn

*2.25 mm DPN, set

*Blunt-tipped Needle

*Stitch marker if needed

Spinning Specs

Wheel: Louet Julia

Fiber: Corriedale

Prep: Commercially Carded

Ply: Andean Ply on Wheel**

Finished WPI: 15

Gauge

8 sts=1" in garter stitch

I used 4 oz. Carded Corriedale, spun and plied to approximately 15 WPI, equivalent to a Fingering Weight yarn.

Any yarn that meets gauge will suffice.

**See Notes at end

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CO 10 sts on 1 DPN

Knit 16 rows in Garter Stitch (8 garter ridges)

R1: K1, incl, K8, incl K1

R2: Knit

Repeat R1 & R2 once more, 14 sts total

Knit 26 rows in Garter St, ending on wrong side

Decreases:

R1: K1, K2tg, K, K2tg, K1

R2: Knit

Repeat R1 & R2 three times, 8 sts total

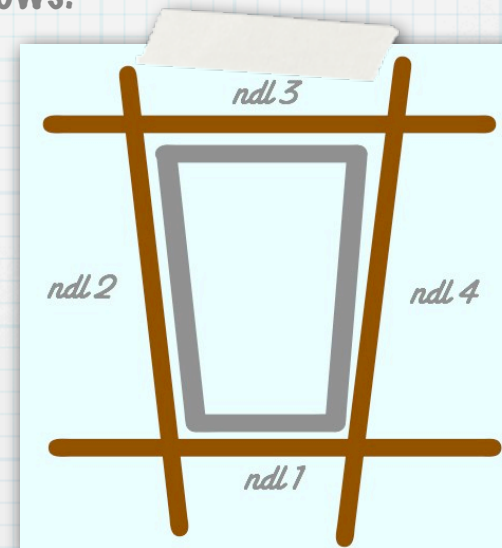
These eight stitches are Needle 1 (ndl1)

With a new needle, PU 24 sts along the left side (ndl 1 facing you), this is Needle 2 (ndl2).

With a new needle, PU 10 sts along the CO edge, this is Needle 3 (ndl3).

With a new needle, PU 24 sts along the right side, this is Needle 4 (ndl4).

Your needle placement should look as follows:



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Begin working in the round as follows:

R1-4: Purl
R5-8: Knit
R9-12: Purl
R13: Knit

Work Toe Box: worked on ndl1, back and forth

Ndl1, knit, turn work, purl, turn work,
continue as follows:

K2, knit to last two sts, K2
Purl
K2, knit to last two sts, K2
Purl

Move 2 sts from ndl4 to ndl1
Move 2 sts from ndl2 to ndl1

K1, K2tg, Knit to last 3 sts, K2tg, K1
Purl

*Move 1 st from ndl4 to ndl1
Move 1 st from ndl2 to ndl1

K2tg, Knit to last 2 sts, K2tg
Purl*

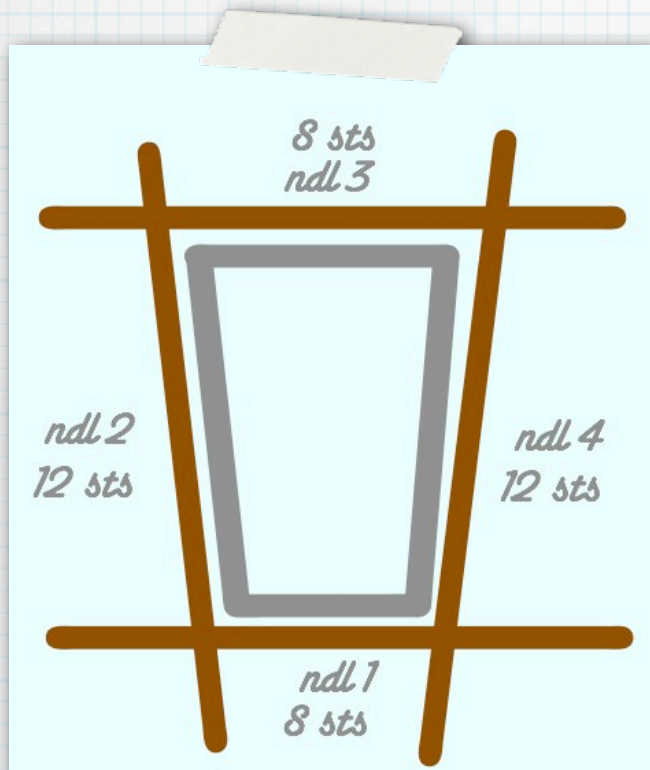
Knit 1 round as follows:

ndl1: K2tg to last 2 sts, K2tg
ndl2: Knit
ndl3: Knit
ndl4: Knit

Work ndl1, back and forth from *to* until
ndl4 and ndl2 each have 12sts, ending
on right side (knit side).

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Stitch count should be as follows:



Begin working in the round by Knit *ndl 2* and *ndl 3*.

Now, this is where I may confuse you, The rounds are now at the beginning. So, *ndl 4* is the 'start' and *ndl 3* is the 'end' of round. If you require the use of stitch markers, this may be a spot to place one :)

Work in rounds as follows:

R 1-4: Purl
R 5-8: Knit
R 9-12: Purl
R 13-16: Knit
R 17-20: Purl
R 21-24: Knit
R 25-28: Purl
R 29-31: Knit
BO**

Work second bootie in same manner.

**See Notes at end.

**Notes

****Andean Ply on Wheel:** Those familiar with Andean Plying may know it as a method of plying by use of a spindle. Using the wrapping technique by Rosemary, you are able to make a large bracelet to ply on your spinning wheel. Go to <http://rosemaryknits.blogspot.com> for details.

****BO:** There are as many methods of Binding Off as there are for Casting On. For these booties, I used a Sewn Cast Off as it is quite elastic, just perfect for those chubby little legs!

Directions for Sewn Cast Off:

Cut yarn at two times the stitch count length - To do this, wrap your working yarn around your needle 10 times, keeping your thumb at the end, unravel yarn from needle, now double yarn over itself - this represents 20 sts. Keep your thumb at the 20 sts mark and double yarn over again - this represents 40 sts, cut yarn here.

Now to Bind Off - Thread the end of the yarn through a blunt-tipped needle. *Insert the blunt needle, as if to purl, through the first two sts, draw yarn through. Insert the blunt needle from L to R into the front of the first st, draw yarn through and slip st off the DPN.* Repeat*to*.

Who is Kerrie James?

Kerrie James is a wife to a wonderful husband and mother of four fantastic kids. Her alter-ego, Destiknit, is a tactile obsessed individual who loves sewing, knitting, dyeing, blogging, podcasting and now spinning.

One day, when her four kiddos are off to college, leaving her alone with her fibers, she hopes to own an LYS and Studio. Until then, her family remains ever so tolerant of her necessity to embarrass them by bringing knitting or spinning with her wherever she may be.

You can find Kerrie at destiknit.wordpress.com

You can hear Kerrie in iTunes where her podcast is aptly titled, Destiknit the Podcast.

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