

Pattern: Basket Case Socks



Pattern Notes

I called these the Basket Case Socks, on my friend's recommendation, because I was a *little* stressed from working on my thesis when I designed them. I love the basket weave pattern, but I couldn't find a pattern for socks that used it in both the instep and the cuff. I have included an optional ribbed cuff on smaller needles, because the yarn I was using was terribly elastic and the socks wouldn't stay up. The pattern here was designed for a 9" circumference foot (a sock circumference of 8.1"). For a different size, adjust the gauge by changing the needle size or yarn weight (*so that sts/inch x foot circumference in inches x 0.9 = 48 sts*), or if you're familiar with the basket weave stitch you can adjust the number of repeats. The yarn used here is worsted weight, as it really makes the pattern pop.

Size

Woman's foot.

Materials

2 skeins/300 yds of worsted weight yarn of your choice (Bernat Soy Blends shown here).

Set of five US Size 3 needles and a set of US Size 2 needles, or size needed to obtain gauge

Darning needle

2 different colour stitch markers.

Gauge

6 sts/inch in stockinette stitch

Abbreviations

K = knit

P = purl

K2tog = knit two together

Sl1 = slip one stitch purlwise

SSK = slip, slip, knit

RS = right side

WS = wrong side

Leg pattern

Row 1: Knit

Rows 2,3,4: *P5, K3; repeat from *to end

Row 5: Knit

Rows 6,7,8: P1, *K3, P5; repeat from * to last 4 sts, P4

Instep pattern

Row 1: Knit

Rows 2, 3, 4: *P5, K3; repeat from *to last 5sts, K5

Row 5: Knit

Rows 6, 7, 8: P1, *K3, P5; repeat from * to last st, P1

Instructions

Cast on 48 sts, and close round without twisting.

Arrange 12 sts on each of needle 1, needle 2, needle 3 and needle 4.

Needles #1 and #2 will form the instep; needles #3 and #4 will form the heel.

Cuff

Work 1.5 to 2" of K1-P1 ribbing, ending after needle #4.

Leg

Change to larger needles. Starting on needle #1, K1 (left sock), K2 (right sock)†.

Place marker #1.

Begin Leg Pattern from first stitch after marker #1 for desired length.

End after needle 4, after row 8 of leg pattern.

Heel Flap

You should be at the beginning of needle 1. Knit the stitch(es) before marker #1.

Slip marker to working needle and K21. Place marker #2.

Knit the remaining 1 stitch (right sock) or 2 stitches (left sock) on needle #2.

This will count as row 1 of the instep pattern, so after the heel flap and heel turn are complete, you will work from row #2 of the "instep pattern" onward.

The heel flap will now be worked back and forth over the 24 sts on needles #3 and #4.

Use a row counter to keep track of how many rows are worked over the heel flap.

Row 1: Sl 1, knit remaining stitches across needles #3 and #4. Turn.

Row 2: (WS) Place yarn to back, Sl 1 purlwise. Purl to end of needle #3. Turn.

Row 3: (RS) *Bring yarn to front, Sl 1 purlwise. Move yarn to rear, K1. Repeat from * to end of row.

Row 4: Place yarn to back, Sl 1 purlwise. Bring yarn to front and purl to end of needle #3. Turn.

Repeat **Rows 3 and 4** for heel flap until desired length is achieved. (Shown here is a heel flap of 24 rows, including rows 1 and 2)

Heel Turn

You should now be ready to start a RS row.

Row 1: K14, SSK, K1. Turn.

Row 2: Sl 1, P5, P2tog, P1. Turn.

Row 3: Sl 1, K up to last stitch before gap. SSK using last stitch before gap and first stitch after gap. K1. Turn.

Row 4: Sl 1, P to last stitch before gap. P2tog using stitch before gap and stitch after gap. P1. Turn.

Repeat **Rows 3 and 4** until all stitches along the heel flap have been used.

On final 2 rows of heel turn there will not be enough stitches to K1 or P1 at end of row. Simply complete the SSK or P2tog and turn.

After heel turn is complete, you should be ready to start a RS row.

Gusset

Knit along all heel turn stitches.

Using what will now be needle #4, pick up and knit selvage stitches along side of heel turn.

Pick up one stitch from between the heel flap and the instep to prevent a hole from forming. Shown here, from a heel flap of 24 rows, 14 stitches were picked up (not counting the extra stitch picked up between the heel flap and the instep).

Knit along instep, working in pattern between the markers. You should be working Row 2 of the instep pattern.

Using what will now be needle #3, pick up and knit a stitch from the between the instep and the other side of the heel flap.

Pick up and knit the selvage stitches down this side of the heel flap.

You should pick up the exact same number of stitches from each side of the heel flap.

At this point there will be 44 stitches (or a similar even number) on needles 3 and 4.

Divide these evenly amongst needles 3 and 4.

You should now be ready to work needle 4 (you may have to knit a few stitches to get to the end of needle 3).

You will now begin the gusset decreases.

Round 1: K to last 3 stitches of needle #4. K2tog. K1. K along instep on needles #1 and #2, working instep pattern between the 2 markers. On needle #3, K1, SSK, K to end.

Round 2: K along needle #4. K along needles #1 and #2, working instep pattern between markers. K along needle #3.

Repeat **Rounds 1 and 2** until there are 12 stitches on each of needles #3 and #4. (A total of 48 sts).

Repeat **Round 2 only** until the length from the back of the heel is 1.5" shorter than the desired foot length. Finish after needle #3.

Toe

Once you have begun the toe decreases, remove the markers and discontinue the instep pattern. The remainder of the work will be worked in stockinette stitch (i.e. K only).

Round 1: K to last 3 stitches of needle #4. K2tog. K1. On needle #1, K1, SSK, K to end. On needle #2, K to last 3 stitches, K2tog, K1. On needle #3, K1, SSK, knit to end.

Round 2: K along all of needles #4, #1, #2, and #3.

Repeat **Rounds 1 and 2** until there are only 24 stitches left (some people like to decrease by more stitches for a pointier toe, do so if this is your preference - just remember to make a note of how many decreases you did so you can do the same on the second sock).

K along row 4.

Organise the stitches from needle 1 and 2 onto a single needle.

Do the same for needles 3 and 4. Cut a tail of at least 9" of yarn.

Graft stitches together.

I really like Knitting at Knoon's video for this technique at

<http://www.knittingatknoon.com/kitchenerst.html> They also have great videos for other techniques used in this pattern.

Make second sock with the same number of pattern repeats, and picked up stitches as you did for the 1st.

The End