



THE MYSTERY OF SPRING

I love Spring. It means warmer weather and a fresh perspective. The grey and dirty snow banks give way to the annual burst of color! One day I look outside at the brown limbs of the kids' favorite climbing tree and almost magically, the next day the tree is covered with a green haze as the tree starts to bloom. Walk outside and there

are new signs of growth and color from the tree tops to the ground underfoot.

That's what this sock design feels like to me. It develops slowly and over a month's time, the mystery is revealed ~ just like the spring landscape. The motifs were chosen especially to welcome the newness of Spring.

Enjoy the blooms of Spring!

Photographs courtesy of Debbi Stone, The Stitches of My Life Designs. Spring is already blooming in her neck of the woods!

Materials

*Knitted Wit Superwash Merino Fingering (400 yards /100 g) 1 skein (or similar fingering weight yarn)

*Size 1 (2.25 mm) (long) circular or double pointed needles OR size to obtain gauge

*Cable needle
*tapestry needle

Gauge

32 st and 48 rows per 4 inches in stockinette stitch

Finished Size (approx)

Adult Small (Medium):
7 (8) inches circumference unstretched and 6 inch leg



SPRING BLOOMS

Notes:

These socks are knit top down, from cuff to toe using your favorite sock knitting method. The cuff is deceiving in its sizing and appears larger than it really is. Trust the sock. The sock is designed to fit a variety of leg/ankle shapes.

Abbreviations:

cn: cable needle

k: knit

k2tog: knit 2 together

p: purl

p2tog: purl 2 together

PM: place marker

RS: right side

skpo: slip 1 knitwise, knit 1, pass slipped stitch over

s2kpo: slip 2 as if to knit 2 together, k 1, pass 2 slipped stitches over

sl: slip (purlwise unless otherwise instructed)

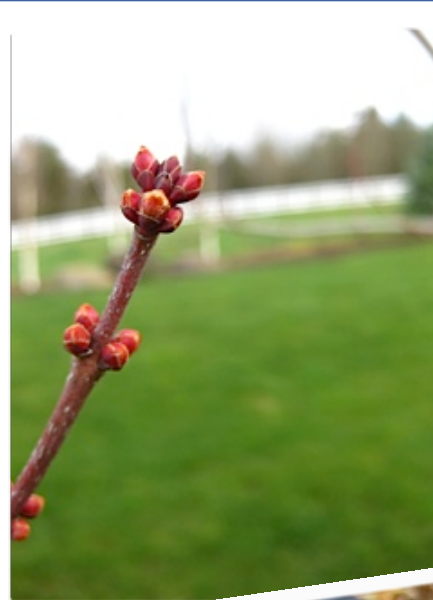
SM: slip marker

ssk: slip 1 knitwise, slip 1 knitwise, k these 2 sts together

st(s): stitch(es)

WS: wrong side

yo: yarn over



Key:



(RS) k
(WS) p



k2tog



(k, yo, k, yo, k) all in one stitch



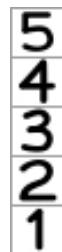
(RS) p
(WS) k



skpo



s2kpo



Leaf inset stitches ~ work rows 1-5 of Leaf pattern in these stitches

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CLUE 1

Instructions

Cuff

Using longtail method, cast on 60 (68) sts. Place marker and join to work in the round being careful not to twist. (Slip marker every round.)

Picot edge:

Rounds 1-5: k.

Round 6: *p2tog, yo* repeat from * to * around.

Rounds 7-11: k.

Round 12: Joining live sts and cast on edge, fold WS together. *With left needle pick up first stitch cast on, k2tog (first stitch and st from cast on edge). Repeat from * around until hem is secured > 60 (68) sts.

Round 13: *p1, k1* repeat from * to * around.

Begin Little Leaf Rib, repeating it 15 (17) times around. Work Little Leaf Rib pattern twice and then rounds 1-6 again until 30 rounds have been completed.

Next, work 3 rounds as follows:

Round 1: p.

Round 2: k.

Round 3: p.



Cuff Pattern

Note: Work the Leaf pattern as an inset (over 1 stitch and 5 rows) as shown on the Little Leaf Rib chart.

Little Leaf Rib (multiple of 4)

Round 1: p, Leaf row 1, p, k.

Round 2: p, Leaf row 2, p, k.

Round 3: p, Leaf row 3, p, k.

Round 4: p, Leaf row 4, p, k.

Round 5: p, Leaf row 5, p, k.

Round 6: p, k, p, k.

Round 7: p, k, p, Leaf row 1.

Round 8: p, k, p, Leaf row 2.

Round 9: p, k, p, Leaf row 3.

Round 10: p, k, p, Leaf row 4.

Round 11: p, k, p, Leaf row 5.

Round 12: p, k, p, k.

	4	3	2	1	
		—		—	12
5	—			—	11
4	—			—	10
3	—			—	9
2	—			—	8
1	—			—	7
		—		—	6
			5		5
			4		4
			3		3
			2		2
			1		1

Leaf (worked over 1 st and 5 rows)

Row 1: (k, yo, k, yo, k) all in one stitch.

Row 2: k5.

Row 3: skpo, k1, k2tog

Row 4: k3.

Row 5: s2kpo

5	4	3	2	1	
		↑			5
					4
	↙		↘		3
					2
		↓			1

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CLUE 2

Leg

Note: Leg will be set up so that 29 (33) stitches will be worked as front and 31 (35) stitches as back, centering the cable.

Round 1: k1, Lace Cable round 1, k5 (9), Lace Cable round 1, k1, p2, (k1, p1) 4 (5) times, Lace Cable round 1, (p1, k1) 4 (5) times, p2.

Continue working leg in this pattern until Lace Cable pattern has been worked 3 times.

Work Round 1 once more.

Heel Flap

Work the heel flap back and forth over 31 (35) sts as follows:

Next row (WS): turn work around, sl 1, (k1, p1) 4 (5) times, k1, work Lace Heel row 2, (k1, p1) 4 (5) times, k2.

Leg Pattern

Lace Cable (worked over 11 stitches)

Round 1: p2, k1 tbl, yo, k2tog, p1, skpo, yo, k1 tbl, p2
 Round 2: p2, k1 tbl, k1, k1 tbl, p1, k1 tbl, k1, k1 tbl, p2
 Round 3: p2, k1 tbl, yo, k2tog, p1, skpo, yo, k1 tbl, p2
 Round 4: p2, k1 tbl, k1, k1 tbl, p1, k1 tbl, k1, k1 tbl, p2
 Round 5: p2, k1 tbl, yo, k2tog, p1, skpo, yo, k1 tbl, p2
 Round 6: p2, k1 tbl, k1, k1 tbl, p1, k1 tbl, k1, k1 tbl, p2
 Round 7: p2, *{sl 4 to cn, hold at back, k1, yo, k2tog, sl nearest stitch from cn to L needle and p st, then skpo, yo, k1 from cn}*, p2
 Round 8: p2, k1 tbl, k1, k1 tbl, p1, k1 tbl, k1, k1 tbl, p2
 Round 9: p2, k1 tbl, yo, k2tog, p1, skpo, yo, k1 tbl, p2
 Round 10: p2, k1 tbl, k1, k1 tbl, p1, k1 tbl, k1, k1 tbl, p2
 Round 11: p2, k1 tbl, yo, k2tog, p1, skpo, yo, k1 tbl, p2
 Round 12: p2, k1 tbl, k1, k1 tbl, p1, k1 tbl, k1, k1 tbl, p2

Lace Heel pattern (worked over 11 stitches)

Row 1 (RS): p2, k1 tbl, yo, k2tog, p1, skpo, yo, k1 tbl, p2
 Row 2 (WS): k2, p3, k1, p3, k2

Row 2 (RS): sl 1, (p1, k1) 4 (5) times, p1, work Lace Heel row 1, (p1, k1) 4 (5) times, p2.

Row 3 (WS): sl 1, (k1, p1) 4 (5) times, k1, work Lace Heel row 2, (k1, p1) 4 (5) times, k2.

Continue working rows 2 and 3 until flap is 2 inches long, ending after an odd (WS) row.

Heel Turn


Row 1 (RS): Sl 1, k17 (19), ssk, k1, turn.


Row 2 (WS): Sl 1, p6, p2tog, p1, turn.

Row 3 (RS): Sl 1, knit to stitch before the gap (created by turn on previous row), ssk, k1, turn.

Row 4 (WS): Sl 1, purl to st before the gap, p2tog, p1, turn.

Repeat rows 3 and 4 until all stitches have been worked and 19 (21) stitches remain.

 k1 tbl ~ k 1 through back loop

 yo ~ yarn over

 See Round 7 ~
{bold italic lettering}

	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	
12	--	--	p		p	--	p		p	--	--	
11	--	--	p	o	/	--	/	o	p	--	--	
10	--	--	p		p	--	p		p	--	--	
9	--	--	p	o	/	--	/	o	p	--	--	
8	--	--	p		p	--	p		p	--	--	
7	--	--	p	o	/	--	/	o	p	--	--	
6	--	--	p		p	--	p		p	--	--	
5	--	--	p	o	/	--	/	o	p	--	--	
4	--	--	p		p	--	p		p	--	--	
3	--	--	p	o	/	--	/	o	p	--	--	
2	--	--	p		p	--	p		p	--	--	
1	--	--	p	o	/	--	/	o	p	--	--	

		11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	
2	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	
1	--	--	p	o	/	--	/	o	p	--	--		

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CLUE 3

Gusset

K9 (10) across heel sts, PM to indicate beginning of round at center of heel, k10 (11) across remaining heel sts.

Pick up and knit 1 st in each slipped st along the edge of heel flap. PM to indicate beginning of instep sts.

Resuming Lace Cable pattern on round 2 (or next consecutive round from where you left off) work instep as follows: k1, Lace Cable pattern, k5 (9), Lace Cable pattern, k1. PM.

Pick up and knit 1 stitch in each slipped stitch on second edge of heel flap. Knit to end of round.

Shape gusset as follows:

Round 1: Knit to beginning of instep, SM, work instep in established pattern, SM, knit to end of round.

Round 2: Knit to 3 sts before instep, k2tog, k1, SM, work instep in established pattern, SM, k1, ssk, knit to end of round. (Decreasing 2 sole sts each round.)

Repeat rounds 1 and 2 until 31 (35) sole sts remain > 60 (68) sts total.

Foot

Continue knitting the foot by working instep as

established in gusset and knitting all sole sts until the Lace Cable pattern has been completed twice. (There will be 5 repeats of the Lace Cable on the front of the leg at this point.)

For remainder of foot, work *ONLY* rounds 1 and 2 of Lace Cable pattern while knitting all sole sts.

Knit until foot measures 1¾ inches less than desired length.

Toe

Note: When shaping the toe, continue in Lace pattern working available sts. If 2 sts are not available for lace decrease, knit the remaining st and omit the yo.

Set up: K to 3 sts before marker, k2tog, k1, SM, work instep, SM, k1, ssk, k to end of round > 58 (66) sts. Make sure instep and sole sts distributed evenly on needles.

Shape the toe as follows:

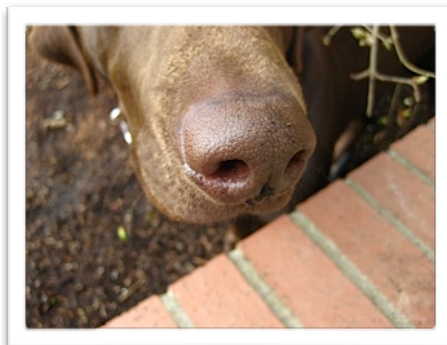
Round 1: Knit to 3 sts before instep, k2tog, k1, SM, k1, ssk, work in established pattern to last 3 sts of instep, k2tog, k1, SM, k1, ssk, knit to end of round; 4 fewer sole sts.

Round 2: Work even in pattern.

Repeat rounds 1 and 2 until 34 sts remain.

Repeat round 1 only until 22 sts remain.

Finish with Kitchener stitch. Wear and watch Spring bloom around you!



Many thanks to Debbi Stone and her dog Porter for sharing their Spring walk with us.

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