



By Denise Bein Kroll

## Holly Trimmed Mini Stocking

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(Photo by Pinkpot)

I created this charming little stocking as a gift for the college student son of friend. I wanted a quick knit to create a nice little surprise to brighten up the holiday season. I filled it full with candy and added a couple gift cards and it was quite a hit!

The stockings shown were knit in 4 colors, but any of the contrasting colors could be used as the main color. The braids and garter ridges help the design stand out. And, since it only uses little bits of yarn, it can also be a nice stash buster.

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Instructions are provided for optional contrasting garter ridge shown on the green sock.

### Instructions:

Cast on 48 stitches using MC and a long tail cast on.

Knit 4 rounds

Purl 1 round (cut MC)

Knit 1 round with CC1.

### Braid:

Round 1: \*K1 CC2, K1 CC1, repeat from \* to end

Round 2: \*P1 CC2, P1 CC1 bringing the next color OVER the color just worked, repeat from \*

Round 3: \*P1 CC2, P1 CC1 bringing the next color from UNDER the color just worked, repeat from \*

Knit 1 round with CC2

Purl 1 round with CC2

Knit Chart 4 times around sock adding CC3 as needed. Cut CC3 after completing round 4

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### Pattern Info

#### Finished size:

6.5" long by 6" circumference.

*Note:* This is not intended to be wearable so size and gauge are not critical.

Yarn: about 30-40 grams of fingering weight yarn scraps

Needle: US 1.5 (2.50 mm)

#### Abbreviations:

MC – Main Color

CC(#) - Contrasting Color

K- Knit

P- Purl

Sl1 – Slip 1 stitch as if to purl

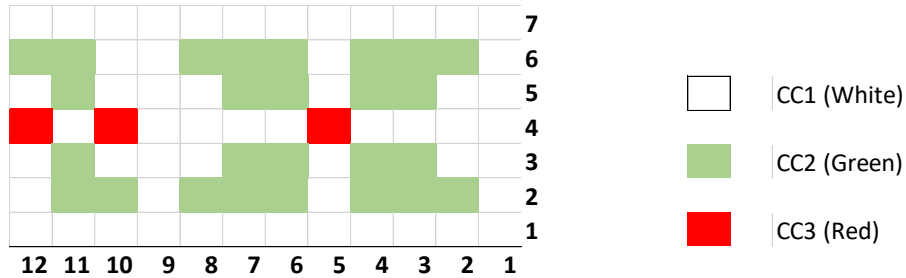
SSK – Slip, slip, knit

K2tog – knit 2 together

P2tog – purl 2 together

Turn – turn work

*Note:* The pattern is set up for knitting on circular needles, plan needle divisions carefully if knitting with double-points.



Knit 1 round with CC2

Purl 1 round with CC2

### Braid:

Round 1: \*K1 CC2, K1 CC1, repeat from \* to end

Round 2: \*P1 CC2, P1 CC1 bringing the next color OVER the color just worked, repeat from \*

Round 3: \*P1 CC2, P1 CC1 bringing the next color from UNDER the color just worked, repeat from \*

Cut CC1 and CC2, join MC. knit 24 rounds with MC.

### Heel Set up:

Knit 12 with MC, rearrange stitches so there are 24 stitches on heel needle ready to work a wrong side row. (do NOT cut MC)

(Optional contrasting garter ridge): On the needle with the working yarn still attached, turn (or slip stitches) to begin on the right side of work. \*Knit 24 heel stitches with CC3, turn repeat from \* (garter ridge has been created).

### Heel:

Turn work or slip stitches back to work next row on WS. Purl 24 with CC2

(Continue in CC2)

Row 1: \*Sl1, K1, repeat from \* to end

Row 2: Sl1, purl to end

Repeat rows 1 and 2 until 24 rows have been worked.

### Turn Heel:

Row 1: Sl1, knit 13, SSK, K1, turn

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Row 2: S1, p5, p2tog, p1, turn

Row 3: S1, knit to 1 stitch before gap, SSK, k1, turn

Row 4: S1, purl to 1 stitch before gap, p2tog, p1, turn

Repeat rows 3 & 4 until 14 stitches remain (*note: on the last repeat there will only be one stitch after the gap, so there will be no k1/p1 after the decrease*)

#### **Gusset set up:**

**(Optional contrasting garter ridge):** With right side of heel flap facing. Pick up and knit 13 stitches on edge of heel flap. Knit across remaining heel stitches, pick up and knit 13 stitches on other edge of heel flap. TURN knit across all stitches on heel flap. (*cut CC3*).

#### **Gusset:**

Begin knitting at instep where MC has been patiently waiting, resume knitting in the round.

Round 1: Knit all stitches

Round 2: knit across instep stitches, K1, SSK, knit to last 3 heel stitches, K2tog, K1

Repeat these two rounds until 48 stitches remain.

#### **Foot:**

Continue knitting on 48 stitches until foot reaches approximately 2.75" (about 42 rounds).

#### **Toe:**

*Optional contrasting garter ridge:*

Knit 1 round with CC3; Purl 1 round with CC3

Knit toe in CC2 as follows:

Round 1: Knit

Round 2: K1, SSK, knit across instep to last 3 stitches, K2tog, K1, K1, SSK, knit across sole to last 3 stitches, K2tog, K1.

Repeat rounds 1 & 2 until 16 stitches remain.

Finishing: Kitchener toe stitches, weave in ends.

(Then, go ahead and knit another one, because, admit it, it was really fun!)

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