



Heather's Socks

By Carol Petersen

<http://kansascubsfan.wordpress.com>

My friend Heather was a prolific sock knitter. She knitted a pair for everyone she worked with as a sign language paraprofessional at the middle school. She usually waited until the Central Kansas Yarn Hop in October to buy yarn and start on her five to ten pairs of socks. Amazingly, she always finished them before Christmas break! (Probably because she knit two socks at the same time using magic loop.) Don't worry; this pattern is for one sock at a time with two circular needles.)

Of course, Heather hated knitting plain ol' 2x2 ribs. She needed variety to keep her interested. She loved patterns that made her think, but let her enjoy the company of the Twisted Stitches at Yarn (the store). She was the Queen of Impossibly Difficult Projects.

Other knitters are now sitting at Heather's end of the table on Tuesday nights. She passed away in August, 2011 at the age of 28. The Twisted Stitches went to the memorial service with our knitting, wearing our hand-knit socks. I cast on these socks at the service, while the youth pastor talked about how Heather was knitting Jesus a pair of socks. The yarn is from the Yarn Hop of 2009, when we both bought sock yarn at every store we visited. I have struggled with finding a pattern that shows up against the strong stripes. I finally found a stitch I liked, and Heather's socks were born.

I ask that a free will donation be given in exchange for this pattern. All proceeds will be contributed to the Cancer Council of Reno County in Heather's name. For more information, see their website <http://www.cancercouncilrenocounty.org/>. If you are not in the Hutchinson KS area, please consider making a contribution to your favorite charity.

Materials:

Yarn: 350 [400, 450, 525] yards of sock yarn. I used 2 skeins of Regia 4-ply Norweger Ringel Color 5152 (Black, Grey, White, Red)

Needles: 2 US Size 2 circular needles

Tapestry needle

Gauge: 32 sts x 40 rows = 4"x4" in pattern stitch

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Sizes: Women's small, [women's medium, women's large/men's small, men's medium/large]

Finished Measurements: Circumference: 7¼" [8, 8¾, 9½]

Abbreviations:

K: Knit

P: Purl

St: Stitch

N1: Needle 1

N2: Needle 2

Sl1: Slip one stitch as if to purl

Ssk: Slip as if to knit, slip as if to knit, place stitches back on left needle and knit together

RS: Right side

WS: Wrong side

K2tog: Knit 2 stitches together

P2tog: Purl 2 stitches together

Chain-Stitch Rib:

Rounds 1-3: *P2, k1; repeat from * to end of round.

Round 4: *P2, insert needle in st 3 rows below next st and knit; repeat from * to end of round.

Repeat these 4 rounds, ending with Round 4.

Instructions:

Cast on 54 (60, 66, 72) sts using Twisted German Cast-On. (If you are not familiar with this cast-on, you can find instructions with photos at http://knitting.about.com/od/castingon/ss/german_twisted.htm)

Divide sts evenly on 2 needles. Switch first and last sts of the round to join.

Cuff:

Work cuff in k1, p1 rib until piece measures 1" [1½, 2, 2½] from cast on edge.

Leg:

Work in Chain-Rib stitch until leg measures 6½" [7, 7½, 8] from the cast on edge.

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Heel Flap:

With RS facing, work 27 [30, 33, 36] sts on N1 back and forth as follows:
On first row only, increase 1 [0, 1, 0] sts evenly along heel flap.

Row 1: *Sl 1 purlwise, k1; repeat from * to end.

Row 2: Sl 1 purlwise, p to end.

Repeat these 2 rows until 28 [30, 34, 36] rows are complete.

Decrease 1 [0, 1, 0] sts evenly. (27 [30, 33, 36] sts remaining)

Turn Heel:

Size Women's Small:

Row 1: (RS) K 15, ssk, k1. Turn.

Row 2: (WS) Sl 1, p 4, p2tog, p1. Turn.

Row 3: Sl 1, k 5, ssk, k1. Turn.

Row 4: Sl 1, p 6, p2tog, p1. Turn.

Row 5: Sl 1, k 7, ssk, k1. Turn.

Row 6: Sl 1, p 8, p2tog, p1. Turn.

Row 7: Sl 1, k 9, ssk, k1. Turn.

Row 8: Sl 1, p 10, p2tog, p1. Turn.

Row 9: Sl 1, k 11, ssk, k1. Turn.

Row 10: Sl 1, p 12, p2tog, p1. Turn.

Row 11: Sl 1, k 13, ssk, k1. Turn.

Row 12: Sl 1, p 13, p2tog. Turn. (15 sts remaining)

Size Women's Medium:

Row 1: (RS) K 16, ssk, k1. Turn.

Row 2: (WS) Sl 1, p 3, p2tog, p1. Turn.

Row 3: Sl 1, k 4, ssk, k1. Turn.

Row 4: Sl 1, p 5, p2tog, p1. Turn.

Row 5: Sl 1, k 6, ssk, k1. Turn.

Row 6: Sl 1, p 7, p2tog, p1. Turn.

Row 7: Sl 1, k 8, ssk, k1. Turn.

Row 8: Sl 1, p 9, p2tog, p1. Turn.

Row 9: Sl 1, k 10, ssk, k1. Turn.

Row 10: Sl 1, p 11, p2tog, p1. Turn.

Row 11: Sl 1, k 12, ssk, k1. Turn.

Row 12: Sl 1, p 13, p2tog, p1. Turn.

Row 13: Sl 1, k14, ssk, k1. Turn.

Row 14: Sl 1, p 14, p2tog. Turn. (16 sts remaining)

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Size Women's Large/Men's Small:

- Row 1: (RS) K 17, ssk, k1. Turn.
- Row 2: (WS) Sl 1, p 2, p2tog, p1. Turn.
- Row 3: Sl 1, k 3, ssk, k1. Turn.
- Row 4: Sl 1, p 4, p2tog, p1. Turn.
- Row 5: Sl 1, k 5, ssk, k1. Turn.
- Row 6: Sl 1, p 6, p2tog, p1. Turn.
- Row 7: Sl 1, k 7, ssk, k1. Turn.
- Row 8: Sl 1, p 8, p2tog, p1. Turn.
- Row 9: Sl 1, k 9, ssk, k1. Turn.
- Row 10: Sl 1, p 10, p2tog, p1. Turn.
- Row 11: Sl 1, k 11, ssk, k1. Turn.
- Row 12: Sl 1, p 12, p2tog, p1. Turn.
- Row 13: Sl 1, k 13, ssk, k1. Turn.
- Row 14: Sl 1, p 14, p2tog, p1. Turn.
- Row 15: Sl 1, k15, ssk, k1. Turn
- Row 16: Sl 1, p 15, p2tog. (17 sts remaining)

Size Men's Medium/Large:

- Row 1: (RS) K 20, ssk, k1. Turn.
- Row 2: (WS) Sl 1, p 5, p2tog, p1. Turn.
- Row 3: Sl 1, k 6, ssk, k1. Turn.
- Row 4: Sl 1, p 7, p2tog, p1. Turn.
- Row 5: Sl 1, k 8, ssk, k1. Turn.
- Row 6: Sl 1, p 9, p2tog, p1. Turn.
- Row 7: Sl 1, k 10, ssk, k1. Turn.
- Row 8: Sl 1, p 11, p2tog, p1. Turn.
- Row 9: Sl 1, k 12, ssk, k1. Turn.
- Row 10: Sl 1, p 13, p2tog, p1. Turn.
- Row 11: Sl 1, k 14, ssk, k1. Turn.
- Row 12: Sl 1, p 15, p2tog, p1. Turn.
- Row 13: Sl 1, k 16, ssk, k1. Turn.
- Row 14: Sl 1, k 17, ssk, k1. Turn.
- Row 15: Sl 1, k 18, ssk, k1. Turn.
- Row 16: Sl 1, p 18, p2tog. (20 sts remaining)

Heel Gusset:

Work across heel stitches on N1. With the tip of N1, pick up 14 [15, 17, 18] sts along the side of the heel.

Pick up a stitch from the row below the first instep st to prevent a hole. (15 [16, 18, 19] sts picked up)

On N2, work across 27 [30, 33, 36] instep sts.

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With the point of N1, pick up a st from the row below the first heel st to prevent a hole.

Pick up 14 [15, 17, 18] sts along the side of the heel. (15 [16, 18, 19] sts picked up)

Work remainder of sts on N1 (heel).

Work across sts on N2 (instep).

Shape Gusset:

Round 1: (Dec Rnd) On N1 (heel) K1, ssk, work to 3 sts from end, k2tog, k1. On N2, (top of sock) work even.

Round 2: Work even.

Repeat Rounds 1 and 2 until there are 54 (60, 66, 72) sts remaining.

Foot:

Continue working in rounds until foot is 2" [2, 2¼, 2 ½] less than desired length, measuring from the back of the sock heel.

Shape Toe:

Round 1: On N1, k1, ssk, work to last 3 sts, k2tog, k1. On N2, K1, ssk, work to last 3 sts, k2tog, k1. (4 sts decreased)

Round 2: Work even.

Repeat Rounds 1 and 2 until 28 [28, 32, 36] total sts remain.

Work Round 1 only until 12 [12, 16, 16] sts remain.

Finishing:

Holding N1 and N2 together, graft sts using Kitchener Stitch.

Weave in ends.

Don't suffer from SSS (Second Sock Syndrome)! Make sure you finish your pair of socks. Or, do what Heather would have done; work both socks at the same time.

"It is our choices, Harry, that show what we truly are, far more than our abilities."

Prof. Albus Dumbledore, Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets

"One can never have enough socks... Another Christmas has come and gone and I didn't get a single pair. People will insist on giving me books."

Prof. Albus Dumbledore, Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone