

See Saw Sox

Designed by
Kim Brody Salazar



Kim Brody Salazar's SeeSaw Sox are the result of an experiment.

"Many people recommend that users of variegated yarns avoid texture or eyelet patterns, but I was in the mood to ignore good advice.

Since I had established a rough row-count per stripe when I worked the foot portion of these toe-up socks, I went looking for a pattern that roughly corresponded to that count, and that had a strong biasing element to it.. My idea

was that I could use the pattern to break up the stripes into something with more movement.

"Happily, my experiment worked. The long color repeat of the yarn combined with the stitch I used results in a jaunty crush of tilted boxes, and a look vaguely reminiscent of entrelac."

Kim is a proposal manager working for a high-tech firm in Lexington, Massachusetts. When not working or being a mom, she divides her time among knitting, historical embroidery, and tending the [on-line yarn review collection](http://people.ne.mediaone.net/kbsalazar) at <http://people.ne.mediaone.net/kbsalazar>.

Kim is the author of *The New Carolingian Modelbook: Counted Embroidery Patterns from Before 1600*. Her baby-book toy pattern was published in KnitNet's January 1999 edition.

SKILL LEVEL

Recommended for experienced knitters.

FINISHED MEASUREMENTS

Ankle length sock measures approximately 24cm/ 9½ ins from toe to back of heel and 24cm/ 9½ ins from bottom of heel to top of ribbing.

MATERIALS AND TOOLS

- Two 50g/ 1¾oz balls (each approx 210m/ 230 yds) Regia 4-ply sock yarn (75% wool, 25% polyamide) – fingering weight
- Set of five 2mm double-pointed needles OR whichever needles you require to produce the gauge given below
- One safety pin or scrap yarn in

contrasting colour to use as a st marker

Optional:

- Reinforcing yarn or nylon thread for reinforcing sock heels and toes
- One 3mm double-pointed needle for help in binding off loosely

GAUGE

38 sts and 60 rows = 10cm/ 4ins over St st.

SPECIAL ABBREVIATIONS FOR THIS GARMENT

M1 = pick up the horizontal strand between the sts on each needle, knit through the back of it to make an invisible no-hole increase.

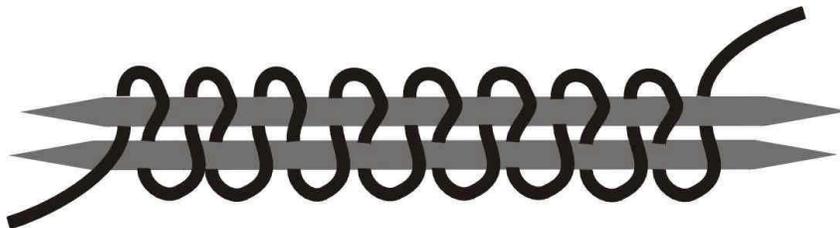
yfwd =bring the yarn to the front of the work without making a loop over the top of the needle.

on each needle. Let the tail dangle free with no knots or other securings - you'll need to work looseness in the first rnd out towards the tail end later. Knots will interfere with this in-flight adjustment.

With a third needle, knit across the 12 sts on the top needle then with another needle knit across the 12 sts on the bottom needle. Be careful not to twist sts - one needle's loops will be "backward" with the leading edge of the loop on the rear side of the needle. Make sure you knit into the back of these loops.

You now have a very narrow and slightly awkward strip of knitting suspended between two needles. Don't worry if the sts running down the centre are loose. In a couple of rows you can tighten them up by carefully working the excess down towards the dangling tail end.

Rnd 1: Using another needle, k1, M1, k5. Using another needle, k5, M1, k1. Using another needle, k1, M1, k5. Using the fifth needle, k5, M1, k1. You should now have 4 live needles in your work, with 7



TOE

No-sew toe cast-on:

Referring to the diagram, take two needles and wrap the yarn around them, figure-eight style starting at left end of needles and wrapping towards the right. Begin with the yarn between the two needles, wrap it around the top needle from behind and back between the needles, wrap it around the bottom needle from behind and back between the needles and so on until you have 12 loops

sts on each one.

Rnd 2: Knit sts on all needles, placing a marker, safety pin or scrap of yarn on the first st on the second needle. This marks the centre bottom of the sock

Rnd 3: *K1, M1, k6, k6, M1, k1*, rep from * to *.

Rnd 4: Knit

Rnd 5 and subsequent odd rnds:

Continue adding one st after the first st of the first and third needles, and one st just

before the last st of the second and fourth needles.

Rnd 6 and subsequent even rnds: Knit. Continue until you have 20 sts on each needle (80 sts total). Toe is now completed.

FOOT

Continue knitting in rnds until foot measures approx 18.5cm/ 7¼ ins from the tip of the toe or until knitted foot reaches (without stretching) the point where one's ankle meets the foot.

HEEL

The heel is worked on needles 1 and 2. Needles 3 and 4 (inset sts) will lie dormant until the heel is finished or if you prefer move these sts onto a st holder or spare piece of yarn. Work back and forth across needles 1 and 2 as if they were a single unit. (I prefer not to move these sts onto one needle; using two needles creates less stress in the ends and tends to minimize any top-of-gusset holes when the inset sts are rejoined to the heel.)

Short turn rows

Row 1: K39, yfwd, slip next st knitwise onto right needle. Turn work.

Row 2: Yfwd (wrapping the yarn around the slipped st), slip slipped st onto right needle, p38, slip the next st purlwise (keeping the yarn in front of the work). Turn work

Row 3: Yfwd (wrapping the yarn around the slipped st), slip slipped st onto right needle, k37, yfwd, slip the next st knitwise onto the right needle. Turn work.

Continue in this manner, working one less st per row before doing the yfwd/slip next st/turn until you have 14 "live" sts (complete the p14 row) in the centre of

the row (7 sts on each needle) and 13 wrapped and retained sts on each end. Note that there are always 40 sts in the row. At this point the heel will look like a triangle with the top cut off. The wrapped sts form the sides of the triangle.

Reclaim rows

Row 1: Yfwd (wrapping the yarn around the slipped st), slip slipped st onto right needle, k14, knit the next st through the back along with the wrapped loop around its base. (I do this by picking up the loop on the point of my right hand needle, then knitting the loop and the st together), yfwd, slip next st knitwise onto the right needle. Turn work.

Row 2: Yfwd, (wrapping the yarn around the slipped st so that there are now *two* wraps at its base), p15, purl the next st along with the loop wrapped around its base, slip next st purlwise (keeping the yarn in the front of the work). Turn work.

Row 3: Yfwd (wrapping the yarn around the base of the slipped st), slip slipped st onto right needle, k16, knit the next st through the back of the loop *along with the two loops* wrapped around its base, yfwd, slip next st knitwise onto right needle, turn work.

Continue in this manner, working one more st per row before knitting or purling the retained st and *all* loops wrapped around its base, until you have "reclaimed" all the retained sts and all 40 sts are again "live". End with a purl row.

LEG

Ankle join

Reintroduce instep sts on needles 3 and 4, forming a rnd again. 80sts in rnd.

Knit 2 rnds. Because there is a tendency for a little hole to form at the top of the diagonal line where the retained sts were picked up, I suggest that on rnd 1 you pick up a st at the top of the first diagonal and knit it together with the first st of needle 3. Do the same with the st you pick up at the top of the other diagonal, working ssk with the last st of needle 4.

Knit across needle 1 so you are now at the centre back heel.

Leg pattern

Beg at centre back heel and referring to chart if desired, work pattern as follows:

Rnd 1: *(Ssk, yo)twice, k6*,rep from * to * to end of rnd (twice on each needle).

Rnd 2: Knit.

Rnds 3-10: Rep rnds 1 and 2.

Rnd 11: *K6 (yo, k2tog)twice*, rep from * to * to end of rnd (twice on each needle).

Rnd 12: Knit.

Rnds 13-20: Rep rnds 11 and 12.

Work in pattern rnds as established until your sock measures approx 19.5cm/ 7¾ins from the bottom of the heel, ending with rnd 10 or rnd 20. Adjust length if necessary.

If you end with rnd 10, work 4.5cm/ 1¾ ins of [k1,p1]ribbing. If you end with rnd 20, work the same of [p1,k1] ribbing. Bind off *very loosely*, using a larger needle if necessary.

Make second sock in the same manner.

