

FAUX WEAVE TOE-UP SOCKS

A knitting pattern

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It's been a very long time since I released a sock pattern, but when I posted the photo of this pair, I got a lot of requests for one.

This pattern is yet another toe-up, short-rowed heel sock. The design on the ankle is one I doodled up after looking at several mesh-effect garment photos on the 'net. It's not exactly like any of them, nor is it exactly like ones in my various stitch treasuries. But I can't say it's original. At best it's a classic knitting "uninvention" – an inadvertent rediscovery of something someone else discovered before.

This particular pair is knit in Berroco Comfort Sock, an acrylic/nylon blend that's usually tolerated by those who have sensitivities to real wool. I used one 100g ball of their Taupo (1824) color. But these would fun done in any fingering weight sock yarn. Even more so if it's a self-striper.

These socks fit my women's US shoe size 10EEE

feet. They are a wider than my previous sock patterns because my feet have gotten even wider over the years, plus acrylic is not a stretchy as wool, and I thought the extra width would come in handy. On folk with feet that are less wide these would be very comfortable slouch socks rather than ankle huggers. I did have a small quantity of yarn left over from the 100g ball.

If your feet are narrow, consider working the foot and heel part on 18 or 19 stitches per needle rather than the 20 specified, increasing to 20 just before beginning the ankle pattern.

This pattern is written for DPNs, but circular needles can be used. If using one circ, consider placing markers every 20 stitches. If using the two circ method, put 40 stitches on each, with a marker in the center.

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Materials

- Approximately 100g of fingering weight sock yarn. I used one 100g skein of Berroco's Comfort Sock, in color #1824, Taupo, 447 yards/409 meters) and had a bit leftover
- US #00 (1.5mm) double pointed needles - one set of five. OR THE SIZE YOU NEED TO ACHIEVE GAUGE.
- Tapestry or yarn needle for weaving in the ends
- Nylon reinforcing yarn for the heel - highly optional
- A safety pin or scrap of yarn for marking

Gauge

Needle size specified is for convenience only. Use any size needle required to achieve the desired gauge.

10 st = 1 inch in stockinette on US #00 needles;

14 rows = 1 inch in stockinette on US #000 needles

Special Instructions

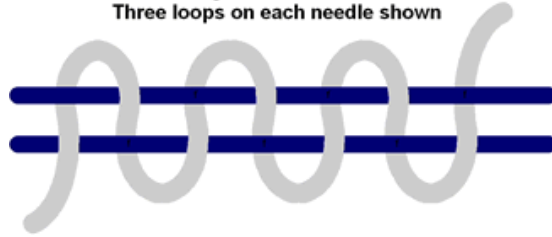
These abbreviations are used in this pattern.

- M1 Make One - Pick up the bar running between the stitches on each needle, knit through the back of this new "loop" to make an invisible no-hole increase.
- yf Yarn Forward - bring the yarn to the front of the work WITHOUT making a loop over top of the needle.
- YO Yarn Over - Make a one-stitch eyelet increase by passing the yarn over the top of the needle.
- CDD Center double decrease. A move that takes three stitches and decreases them to one, with the centermost stitch remaining on top when complete. There are many ways to do this but my favored is to slip two stitches together knitwise, then return them to the left hand needle, and knit them together along with a third stitch.

No-Sew Toe Cast-On

Take two of the needles and wrap the yarn around them, figure-eight style. The yarn should loop around the bottom needle and cross to the opposite side of the top needle. Loop over it and then return between the two. The result should look something like this:

Figure-8 Cast-On -
Three loops on each needle shown



Continue wrapping the yarn this way until you have 12 loops on each needle. Let the end dangle free with no knots or other securings - you'll need to work looseness in the first row out towards the end later. Knots will interfere with this in-flight adjustment.

Take a third dpn and knit across the top needle. Take the fourth dpn and knit across the bottom needle. Be careful not to twist stitches - 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 rear side of these "backward" loops.

You now have a very narrow and slightly awkward strip of knitting suspended between two needles. There should be 12 stitches on each needle. Don't worry if the stitches running down the center are loose, in a couple of rows you can tighten them up by carefully working the excess down towards the dangling tail end.

Toe Shaping

- **Row 1:** k1, M1, k5. Using another dpn, k5, M1, k1. Using a third dpn, k1, M1, K5. Using the fourth dpn - K5, M1, K1. You should now have 4 live needles in your work, each with 7 stitches on it.
- **Row 2:** Knit all stitches on the first needle. Mark the first stitch on the second needle by inserting a scrap of yarn or safety pin in it as you knit it. This marks the center bottom of the sock. Knit all stitches on remaining needles.
- **Row 3:** *k1, M1, k6. K6, M1, K1* repeat
- **Row 4:** Knit
- **Row 5** and subsequent odd rows: Continue adding one stitch after the first stitch of the first and third needles, and one stitch just before the last stitch of the second and fourth needles.
- **Row 6** and subsequent even rows: Knit.

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When you have 20 stitches on each needle 80 stitches total) the toe is done.

Foot

Continue knitting around with 20 stitches on each needle. For my women's size 10 feet I knit until my sock foot measures 6.75 inches (approx. 16.25cm) from the tip of the toe.

The foot when tried on should be long enough to generously reach to the point where the ankle meets the foot. The sock foot should not be tightly stretched when measuring.

Once you have enough foot length you can begin the heel.

Heel

Find the column of the stitch you marked as the center bottom of your foot. The needles to the right and left of it (needles #1 and #2 respectively) will be the ones on which you work your heel. The other two needles (#3 and #4) will lie dormant until the heel is finished. If you like you can move the stitches from #3 and #4 onto a stitch holder or spare piece of string if you are more comfortable working that way.

Start the heel with needle #1 and work the following directions across both needles as if they were a single unit. I prefer NOT to move these stitches onto one needle because using two creates less stress at the ends and tends to minimize any top-of-gusset holes when the foot top stitches are rejoined to the heel.

If you are using nylon to reinforce the heel, introduce it on the next row.

- **Row 1 of decrease:** Knit across needle #1 and until only one stitch remains on needle #2, yf, slip that stitch purlwise onto right needle. Turn work.
- **Row 2:** Yf (wrapping the yarn around the base of the stitch that was just slipped - it should look like it has been lassoed by a noose), slip this just-wrapped stitch purlwise, purl back across needle #2 and continue purling on needle #1 until only one stitch remains unworked, slip it purlwise keeping the yarn in front of the work. Turn work.
- **Row 3:** Yf (wrapping the yarn around the stitch you just slipped), Knit across needle #1 and needle #2 until only the stitch BEFORE the previously wrapped stitch remains. That wrapped stitch and all subsequent wrapped stitches you meet are considered dormant, and are NOT touched again until the second half of working the heel. Just ignore them. For the stitch just before the dormant one - yf, slip tit knitwise onto the right needle. Turn work.

- Continue in this manner described in rows 2 and 3, working one fewer stitch per row before doing the yf/wrap/turn. THERE WILL ALWAYS BE 20 STITCHES ON EACH NEEDLE.

Each row the number of wrapped and retained stitches (as opposed to "live" stitches) will grow by one. Eventually you will have only 12 "live" stitches - 6 on each needle. The remaining 14 stitches on each needle will each have a wrap around them. At this point the heel will look triangle with the top cut off. Along the left and right sides of the triangle will be the wrapped stitches, evenly placed.

The last row before you begin increasing again is the row in which you purl 12 live stitches. When that's completed it's time to begin increasing.

- **Row 1 of increase:** K12, knit the next stitch 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 stitch together), yf, slip next stitch knitwise onto the right needle. Turn work.
- **Row 2:** Yf, (wrapping the yarn around the slipped stitch so that there are now TWO wraps at its base), slip the just-wrapped stitch, p13, purl the next stitch along with the loop wrapped around its base, slip next stitch purlwise (keeping the yarn in the front of the work). Turn work.
- **Row 3:** Yf (wrapping the yarn around the base of the slipped stitch), slip the just-wrapped stitch, k14, knit the next stitch through the back of the loop along with the two loops wrapped around its base, yf, slip next stitch knitwise onto right needle, turn work.

Continue in this manner, working across the rows, knitting through the back of the loop (or purling on purl side rows) the next slipped and reserved stitch along with all loops around its base; then slipping and wrapping the stitch after it until you have "reclaimed" all of the reserved stitches and all 20 stitches on each needle are again "live."

When all 20 stitches are "live" the heel is finished and it's time to begin working the stitches on the top of the foot again.

Ankle Join

If you have been using reinforcing nylon, break it off before starting the ankle join.

Knit one row around 80 stitches.

IMPORTANT NOTE: There is a small tendency for a little hole to form at the top of the diagonal line made by picking up the reserved stitches. I counteract this on the first row of my rejoin by picking up a stitch at the top of each of the diagonals, then knitting one of them together with the first stitch on Needle #3 and doing a ssk with the other picked up stitch and the last stitch of Needle #4.

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Ankle Pattern

Purl one round to make a border line before starting the ankle pattern.

The pattern "row" (and new Needle #1) should commence with the stitch column you marked as being the center bottom - now the center back-of-heel.

Beginning with the stitch at the center back-of-heel (the first stitch on new Needle #1) begin working the following pattern. Note that the four stitch repeat will occur 20 times around the sock.

There is one oddness you will encounter on rounds 4 and 5. Note that the CDD that begins repeat round 5 will require a stitch from the needle before it to complete. On needle #4 on the last repeat of pattern round 4, work a YO, then slip that last stitch over to needle #1. That will give you the three stitches needed to make that first CDD. On the subsequent DPNs just slip that last stitch over to the next needle, so you have the three needed for the beginning CDD on those as well. At the end of round 5 you should still have 20 stitches on each needle.

Round 1: *K1, YO, CDD, YO* repeat

Round 2: *P2, K1, P1*

Round 3: Knit all stitches.

Round 4: *P2, K1, P1*

Round 5: *CDD, YO, K1, YO* (you may need to shuffle a stitch between DPNs to make this work - you want the DD to align exactly on top of the K1 that began Round 1)

Round 6: *K1, P3*

Round 7: Knit all stitches.

Round 8: *K1, P3*

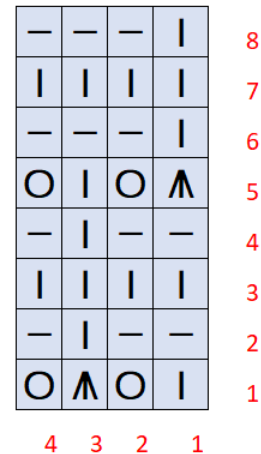
Repeat these eight rows until your ankle length is sufficient. I generally fold my sock in half along the heel diagonal and work the ankle part until the patterned bit is the same length as the foot before I start my ribbing.

Work another round of purl to make a top border for the ankle part.

Ribbing

The ribbing is worked in K2, P2. I generally work it for 20 rows before ending off, that's roughly 1.5 inches (3.8 cm)

The ribbing will draw in a lot compared to the sock's patterned body. Don't worry. It's all stretch and won't bind when worn.



	= K Knit
—	= P Purl
Λ	= CDD Center double decrease
○	= YO Yarn over

Finishing

Cast off VERY loosely. Extremely loosely. Use a MUCH LARGER DPN to do that if you have to, a US #1 or 2 (2.25 or 2.5mm) needle would not be too big.

Work Sock #2 to match.

When both socks are done, use the tapestry needle to weave in the loose ends at toe and top