

Jesse's Basic Toe-Up Sock Pattern



This pattern is written with the magic loop in mind. It's easily convertible to two circular needles, and slightly less-easily convertible to dpns. Really, I don't know why anyone knits with dpns anyway. This pattern assumes a certain level of comfort and knowledge with knitting techniques and abbreviations. Anything you don't know is easily Googleable, although I'm happy to hear about it if you find any errors. Drop me a line at contact@yarnboy.com.

Materials

About 400 yards of sock yarn, your choice. (One skein of contrast color, if using)

Size 3 circular needle, at least 30 inches, Addi Turbos highly encouraged.

Stitch markers

Sizes

Unusually small adult foot(Average sized adult foot, Pretty big foot)

Don't stress about this. Foot size varies more in the length department than the width department, and as you'll see, the pattern accounts for this.



Gauge

Again this is pretty flexible, and not something to worry about too much. Knitting with regular sock yarn on size 3 needles will get most knitters within the appropriate range, unless you're an unusually tight or loose knitter. The rest is taken care of in the knitting of the pattern. That said, 6 sts = 1 inch is not a bad number to aim for.

Unusual Increases

M1L: Insert left needle into the stitch two stitches below the stitch on the right needle, from back to front. Knit this stitch.

M1R: Insert right needle into the stitch directly below the stitch on the left needle, from front to back. Knit this stitch.

All other abbreviations in this pattern are standard fare.

Pattern

Toe

Using Judy's Magic Cast-On, (and contrast color, if using) CO 24 sts (12 on each needle)
Begin working in rounds as follows:

Round 1: K all sts on both needles

Round 2: Needle 1: k2, M1L, k to last 2 sts, M1R, k2. Repeat on needle 2.

Repeat these two rounds until there are 30(32, 34) sts on each needle, for a total of 60(64, 68) sts. Switch to main color, if using two colors. Work in rounds of stockinette stitch until the sock measures the appropriate length to the heel gusset (see **How Do I Figure That S**t Out?** at the end of the pattern).

Heel Gussets

Begin working heel gussets as follows:

Round 1: Needle 1: k2, M1L, k to last 2 sts, M1R, k2. Needle 2: k all sts.

Round 2: K all sts.

Repeat these two rounds until there are 60(64, 68) sts on needle 1, for a total of 90(96, 102) sts. End with needle 2.

Heel Cup

For this part, you will be working entirely on needle 1 and ignoring needle 2. Switch to contrast color, if using.

Row 1: K15(16, 17), pm, k29(31,33), sl next st, pm on left needle, move yarn around to the front, return slipped st to left needle, turn work.

Row 2: Bring yarn around to front, p to one st before marker, sl this st, move yarn around to the back, return slipped st to left needle, turn work.

Row 3: K to 2 sts before previously wrapped stitch, sl next st, move yarn around to the front, return slipped st to left needle, turn work.

Row 4: P to 2 sts before previously wrapped stitch, sl this st, move yarn around to the back, return slipped st to left needle, turn work.

Repeat rows 3 and 4 above until there are three unwrapped stitches left, ending with a knit row.

Heel Flap

In this section you will begin working the stitches of the heel gusset in with the stitches of the heel.

Row 1: P to 1 st before marker, working wraps along with their stitches as you go; sl 1, remove marker, return slipped st to left needle, p2tog, turn work.

Row 2: Sl 1, k to 1 st before marker, working wraps together with their stitches as you go; sl this st, remove marker, return slipped st to left needle; k this stitch, its wrap, and the next st all together tbl, turn.

Row 3: Sl 1, p to 1 st before gap created by previously slipped stitch (between heel flap stitches and gusset stitches), p2tog, turn

Row 4: *Sl 1, k1* Repeat from * to * to 1 st before gap (as in row above), ssk, turn.

Repeat rows 3 and 4 above until all of the stitches of the heel gusset have been decreased into the heel flap, ending with a k row. 30(32, 34) sts on needle 1.

Ankle/Leg

You will now begin working in rounds again (and switching back to main color, if using), rejoining with the stitches that have been hanging out on needle 2. Work rounds of k2, p2 for 6.5 inches, or 0.5 inches less than desired ankle length. Switch to rounds of k1, p1 (and also switch to contrast color, if using), working for 0.5 inches. BO in pattern.

Now knit another one!

How Do I Figure That S**t Out?

To calculate the total length of your sock before the heel gussets begin, you need to know three things:

1. The desired length of your sock.
2. The number of rows that will be in your heel gusset and heel cup, combined.
3. Your row gauge.

We'll take one of my own sock as an example. For item #1, I recommend subtracting half an inch from the length of your foot, since we usually want our socks to fit nice and snug and to stretch a bit, so my desired length is 9.5 inches.

Item #2 is easier than it sounds: for the gussets, you'll end up working a number of rows equal to the number of stitches that are on the needle **before** you begin increasing (just trust me on this one), which, in my case, is 32. The number of rows in the heel cup is equal to half of this number minus three (again, just trust me), which, in my case is 13. So, for me, item #2 is 45.

Item #3 is something you can measure any time after completing the toe. On my most recent sock, my row gauge was 9 rows per inch.

Now for the math! The formula for finding out the length of the sock before the heel gussets is as follows:

Item #1 minus (Item #2 divided by Item #3)

In my case:

9.5 minus (45 divided by 9)

Which gives me a nice, easy 4.5 inches. Got it? Got it.