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Socks for Little Wizards

(ages 4-6 years)



Pattern designed and written by Ann Kingstone
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and Emma Wigworthy (Hogwarts Sock Kit Swap character)

General Notes:

Yarn:

50g (220-250yards/ 200-230m) of any fingering/4ply weight sock yarn of approximately 19-22 wraps per inch

Needles:

Set of 5 2.5mm sock needles

One long 3mm needle for casting on

Tension

32 stitches and 44 rounds = 4" (10cm) in stocking stitch before blocking

Abbreviations:

K = Knit

P = Purl

SSK= slip next two stitches knitwise then knit them together from the right hand needle

K2tog = knit two stitches together as though they are one stitch

P2tog== purl two stitches together as though they are one stitch

Instructions:

Cuff:

Cast on 56 stitches using the 3mm needle. Knit onto four sock needles, placing 14 stitches on each needle. Join for knitting in the round, being careful not to twist the stitches, and work 10 rounds of single (K1,P1) or double (K2P2) rib. The socks pictured have a double rib cuff.

Leg:

Change to K3P2 rib, decreasing one stitch in the first round to get an appropriate stitch count for the new rib. Work for as many rounds as necessary for the length of sock desired, remembering that the heel flap will add two inches to the total length.

Heel flap:

Split the stitches so that 27 stitches are left aside for the instep (knitting the heel flap will be easier if these stitches are held on waste yarn or lockable stitch holders), and 28 stitches are retained to be the heel flap stitches. The split should be made so that there are two purl stitches at each end of the instep stitches, and 3 knit stitches at each end of the heel flap stitches..

Knit the 28 heel flap stitches back and forth in stocking stitch, slipping the first stitch of each row purlwise, until the heel flap measures two inches.

Turn heel:

Starting with a knit row K17, K2tog, K1, turn (8 stitches are left unworked).

Next row: Slip first stitch purl-wise, P7, P2tog, P1, turn.

Then work the remainder of the heel turn as follows:

Row 1: Slip first stitch purlwise, knit to one stitch before the gap created by the turn of the previous row, K2tog, K1, turn.

Row 2: Slip first stitch purlwise, purl to one stitch before the gap created by the turn of the previous row, P2tog, P1, turn.

Repeat these two rows until all the stitches from the heel flap have been worked.

Shape gusset:

split the heel stitches equally between two needles, and return the instep stitches to two needles also.

With the needle holding the latter half of the heel stitches (those last to be worked) pick up and knit 12 stitches from the edge of the heel flap beyond them. It is best to pick up the back strand of the edge stitch, though you may need to pick up and knit some front strands also to make up the correct number of picked up stitches. The edge stitches should be twisted as they are picked up in order to avoid holes where the heel flap joins the gusset. It is also wise to pick up a strand from between the instep stitches and heel flap stitches, twisting this also, to avoid a hole occurring here (this should be the 12th stitch to be picked up).

Change needles and Knit across the instep stitches in the K3P2 rib pattern as set, starting with two purl stitches.

Change needles and pick up 12 stitches down the other side of the heel flap, including the strand between the instep stitches and the heel flap stitches as before, and again twisting all strands as you knit them. With the same needle knit across the first half of the heel stitches.

Taking the next needle as needle 1 the remainder of the gusset shaping is worked as follows...

Round 1: knit all stitches from needle 1, knit across needles 2 and 3 (instep stitches) in K3P2 rib pattern as set, knit all stitches from needle 4.

Round 2: knit to the last 3 stitches on needle 1, K2tog, K1. Knit across needles 2 and 3 (instep stitches) in K3P2 rib pattern as set. On needle 4 K1, SSK, knit across remaining stitches.

Repeat these 2 rounds until the stitch count has reduced to 55 stitches again.

Foot:

Continue knitting the sole stitches and ribbing the instep stitches until the foot measures the required length from the back of the heel, remembering that the toe will add approximately 1 and a half inches to the overall foot length. Knit two rounds plain (i.e. discontinue the rib pattern).

Toe:

Work the following 2 rounds until 27 stitches remain...

Round 1: On needle 1 knit to the last 3 stitches, K2tog, K1. On needle 2 K1, SSK, knit across all remaining stitches. On needle 3 knit to the last 3 stitches, K2tog, K1. On needle 4 K1, SSK, knit across all remaining stitches.

Round 2: Knit all stitches.

For the remainder of the toe omit round 2, working round 1 only until 15 stitches remain. Knit across the stitches on needle 1, again working a K2tog decrease and knitting the last stitch on the needle. Place all stitches from needles 2 and 3 onto 1 needle, and all stitches from needles 1 and 4 onto 1 needle (7 stitches on each of 2 needles). Break off the yarn leaving a 12 inch tail. Thread this onto a darning needle and Kitchener the remaining stitches together.

Finishing:

Weave in all ends, first using the end at the top of the cuff to join together the first and last stitches of the cast on so that the cast on edge becomes 1 continuous round. Block on sock blockers or iron under a damp cloth.

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