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Tis the Season Stocking

By Katie Weston



Christmas is a time of good will to all men. This pattern hopefully allows you to share a little of your good will.

The samples are knitted in DK weight yarn, but use of a different thickness will simply allow you to scale up or down the size of the stocking, simply use an appropriate size needle to get a suitable fabric.

Materials

3 balls of DK weight wool of your choice (50g ~120m per ball) in 3 different colours (red, white and green to make the stocking as shown), you won't need a full ball of any of the colours to complete a stocking

3.5mm circular needle long enough to knit in the round using magic loop method or a set of dpn's in the same size.

DPN's will make knitting i-cord for the loop easier, but you can use the same circular you knitted the stocking with.

2 stitch markers

Tapestry needle for sewing up.

Gauge is not important for this pattern, if you think the fabric is too tight go up a needle size, too loose; go down. However, so you can fill it with lots of heavy presents it's better to go for a slightly denser fabric than you may usually.

If your colourwork gauge is much tighter than when you knit with a single strand you may find it helpful to go down a needle size for the plain sections.

Abbreviations

k- knit

p-purl

k2tog- knit 2 stitches together

ssk- slip, slip then knit both stitches together

sl- slip stitch purlwise

w- white

r- red

g- green

* *- repeat these stitches for rest of round



Knit in red or green depending upon position on stocking.



Knit in white

Leg

Cast on 64 stitches using Long Tail 2 colour cast on as follows.

Make slip knot with both red and white yarn, arrange the loops so the white yarn is first on the needle.

Hold the red yarn over your index finger, and white yarn over your thumb. Work a long tail cast on as usual.

You will end up with cast on that looks like this.

Join and start knitting in the round



Chart 4

									9
		■		■					8
			■						7
■			■			■			6
	■	■	■	■	■				5
■			■			■			4
			■						3
		■		■					2
									1
8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1		

Round 10- * k2g, k1w *, k1w, break green yarn.

Heel

The heel is worked flat across 32 stitches, the remaining stitches can either remain on the cable of your needle, or on the dpn's not in use.

The first stitch of each row is slipped purlwise.

Row 1- k32w, turn

Row 2- * p1r, p1w * repeat across all 32 stitches

Row 3- * k1w, k1r*

Continue in this way until you have 10 slipped stitches along the edges of your heel flap.

Break red yarn, continue working heel in white yarn only.

Row 1- k18, ssk, k1, turn

Row 2- sl1, p5, p2tog, p1 turn

Row 3- sl1, k6, ssk, k1, turn

Continue in this manner until all the stitches across the heel flap have been worked.

Knit across the bottom of the heel flap, and work your way up the side of the heel flap, picking up and knitting the slipped stitches as you go, place marker. Knit across the top of the foot, place marker, and knit along the other edge of the flap, picking up and knitting the slipped stitches.

Chart 5

									16
				■		■			15
					■				14
			■	■	■	■			13
					■				12
				■		■			11
■		■							10
	■								9
■	■	■	■					■	8
	■								7
■		■							6
				■		■			5
					■				4
			■	■	■	■			3
					■				2
				■		■			1
8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1		

Continue knitting until 3 stitches before the first marker, k2tog, k1, slip marker, knit across the top of the foot, slip marker, k1, ssk.
Repeat this round (decreasing 2 stitches each round) until there are only 32 stitches on the sole of the foot.

Continue knitting in plain white until you have knitted 8 rounds. The end of round is at the end of the sole stitches.

Round 9- * k1w, k2r *, k1w

Round 10- knit all stitches in red

Work Chart 5, each row on the chart will be worked 8 times per round.

Break red yarn, knit 8 rounds in plain white.

Toe

Switch to green yarn, break white yarn.

Round 1- * k6, k2tog *

Round 2-7- knit

Round 8- * k5, k2tog *

Round 9-11 knit

Round 12- * k4, k2tog *

Round 13 and all other odd rounds- knit all stitches

Round 14- * k3, k2tog *

Round 16- * k2, k2tog *

Round 18- * k1, k2tog *

Round 20- * k2tog *

Break yarn and pull end through live stitches to close toe.

Weave in ends, and for best effect, wash and then block. I stuff empty carrier bags in, and then shape.

I-cord Loop

This is easiest using 2 dpn's, but is possible using a circular.

Cast on 5 stitches, k5, * slide stitches to opposite end of dpn, k5 * repeat until cord is desired length.

Break yarn, draw through live stitches, and fasten to top of stocking.

Hang above your fireplace, and wait until Christmas to find out if you've been naughty or nice!

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