

## 48 Stitch Sock Pattern

by Nancy Wilson

Here's a basic knitting pattern for sport weight socks. They are designed to fit a man's foot, but, let's say you would like to knit women's socks. Try reducing the needle size and see what happens!



**Yarn needed:** 80 grams of sport weight sock yarn. Sport weight sock yarn is frequently referred to as 6-ply (6-fach in German). I used Online Supersocke 6-fach, Panama Color, 150 grams per ball, 410 yards/375 meters.

**Materials needed:** Size 5 double pointed needles (or circular needles for Magic Loop/2-circulars, or Flexi-Flips), and a tapestry needle. Hey! I'm an uptight knitter, so if you know your knitting is more relaxed, then go on down to a size 4 to check the gauge.

**Stitching notes:** To make this sock, you should be familiar with basic "in-the-round" sock knitting on double pointed needles, OR be able to change the pattern up in your head so you can use magic loop or knitting on two circular needles. Also the words "round" and "row" can get confusing. "Round" means you're working the entire sock circle; "row" means you're on a back and forth part, (heel flap and short rows to turn the heel).

**Gauge over Stockinette:** 12 stitches = 2 inches, per inch. Row/round gauge is not vital, but mine measures at 15 rounds = 2 inches. Make a swatch, change needle sizes if necessary, or use sock yarn that you know your gauge in stockinette.

### **Stitches Glossary**

Stockinette Stitch: Knit on the right side, purl on the wrong side.

2 x 2 Rib: K2, P2 (used on the cuff)

Stockinette: Knit every round (used on the leg and instep)

K2tog: (slants to the right): Knit two stitches together

SSK: (slants to the left): Slip two stitches, one at a time, to right needle as if to knit, put back on left needle, and then knit through the back (used on heel, gusset, and toe)

SL1: Slip one stitch with the working yarn held to the back (used on the heel gusset)

## **Begin Knitting**

### **KNIT THE CUFF**

Cast on 48 stitches, divide on 3 or 4 needles (your preference), join in the round (put some kind of marker if you want), and work in 2 x 2 rib for 11 rounds.

### **KNIT THE LEG**

Leg Rounds: Knit the stockinette stitch for the leg of the socks until the sock measures 5½" from the cast-on edge, ending at the beginning of round.

### **HEEL FLAP**

Heel will be worked *back and forth* on the first 24 stitches of round. Work reinforced heel as follows:

Row 1: \*SL1 (purlwise), K1\*, repeat between \*'s across row.

Row 2: (Wrong Side) purl

Continue knitting rows 1 and 2 back and forth until heel is almost a square (for this yarn weight, my sock has about 26 rows.) End with a Row 1.

### **TURN HEEL** (short rows)

P13, P2tog, P1, turn your work (8 stitches remain unknit—be cool...ignore them!)

Slip 1st stitch, K3, SSK, K1, turn your work (8 stitches remain unknit on this side). This number will decrease by 2 every time you turn your work.

Slip 1st stitch, P4, P2tog, P1, turn (6)

Slip 1st stitch, K5, SSK, K1, turn (6)

Slip 1st stitch, P6, P2tog, P1, turn (4)

Slip 1st stitch, K7, SSK, K1, turn (4)

Slip 1st stitch, P8, P2tog, P1, turn (2)

Slip 1st stitch, K9, SSK, K1, turn. (2)

Slip 1<sup>st</sup> stitch, P10, SSK, P1, turn (0)

Slip 1<sup>st</sup> stitch, K11, SSK, K1, do not turn, and 14 heel turn stitches remain.

### **SET UP FOR GUSSET:**

Needle 1: Take an empty needle, and move 7 of the heel stitches to it. Then, as the right (not wrong) side of the heel faces you and where the working yarn is, pick up 13 stitches along right side of heel (not left). Now this needle has 20 stitches on it. Let's call this "Needle 1" because it's holding what we will now call the first stitches of the round. (At this point, the round will begin in the middle

of the insole bottom of foot)—see sock anatomy on my blog:  
<http://nancyknit.files.wordpress.com/2011/08/basicribbedsockoctupdate.pdf>

Needle 2: Continue in the ribbing pattern across 24 instep stitches (see link above to be clear on the parts of a sock).

Needle 3: On another needle pick up 13 stitches along the right (not left ☺) side of the heel, then knit across the remaining 7 heel stitches. Now you're at the beginning of a round.



### **GUSSET**

Round 1: K stitches on Needle 1, continue in pattern across Needle 2, K stitches on Needle 3.

Round 2 (Decrease 2 stitches): K all stitches on Needle 1 until 3 stitches remain, K2tog, K1. Continue in pattern across Needle 2. On Needle 3 K1, SSK, knit to end of round.

### **FOOT**

Continue working Rounds 1 & 2 above until 12 stitches remain on Needles 1 & 3, with 24 stitches on Needle 2.

Work down the foot, working all stitches in stockinette stitch (knit everything!) Work until 2 inches less than desired length. My socks measured 6½ inches from the stitches picked up at the side of the heel.

### **TOE**

Round 1 (Decrease round): Needle 1: Knit to the last three stitches, K2tog, K1; Needle 2: K1, SSK, Knit to the last three stitches, K2tog, K1; Needle 3: K1, SSK, knit to the end of the needle (end of round).

Round 2: Knit the next round.

Repeat these two rounds until 20 stitches total remain.

Use needle 3 to knit stitches on needle 1 so that there are now 10 stitches on needle 2 and 10 stitches on needle 3.

Cut the yarn, leaving a 12" tail. Hold needles parallel to each other and do the Kitchener stitch. There are many YouTube videos on this. Choose one that you like! Skillfully weave in the loose ends and knit the other sock!

**Secret:**

I had two balls of this Online Supersocke Fach-6 yarn. I knit one pair of socks from each ball. Then with the leftovers, I used the helical method to combine this yarn and I had enough for an entire 3<sup>rd</sup> pair! I'm not sure if anyone has written a pattern for socks using the helical method. I might do that someday...LOL.



Above: Leftover sock yarn...two balls and three pairs of socks.



Helical Socks with Leftover Yarn.

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