

# Cakewalk Socks

by the [Knitting Pirate](#)

These simple socks are a piece of cake to knit - thus the name! They fit snugly thanks to the ribs, and would make a great gift for anyone. The ribbing continues down the back of the heel flap, and there's no break in the purl 'gutter' between the leg and the foot of the sock.

Heel and toe numbers are provided for three different sizes.



**SIZE:** M [L, XL]

**FINISHED MEASUREMENTS:** To fit a foot that's 8.5 [9.25, 10] inches around at widest point. The ribbing is stretchy and quite forgiving, so erring on the small side is all right.

**YARN:** Cascade Heritage or any fingering-weight yarn you like. The very blue sock was knit in size M using Cascade Yarns Heritage Paints in the "Isle of Skye" colourway. The more subdued socks were knit in size L in the "David's Eyes" colourway.

**GAUGE:** 36 stitches = four inches/10 cm (9 spi)

**AND ALSO:** five US 1/2.25mm double-point needles or size needed to get gauge, darning needle.

## **CUFF**

Loosely cast on 64 [72, 80] stitches onto four needles. Join, being careful not to twist, and work in twisted rib (\*ktbl, p1\*) for two inches.

## **LEG**

Switch to ribbing pattern and work until the leg is six inches long, or your desired length.

Ribbing pattern:

\*k3, p1\* around.

## **HEEL FLAP**

The heel flap will be worked over 33 [37, 41] stitches, beginning and ending with a purl stitch. Set aside 31 [35, 39] stitches for the instep.

Row 1: sl 1, \*k3, p1\* to end.

Row 2: sl1, \*p3, k1\* to end.

Repeat these two rounds until you have a total of 32 [36, 40] heel flap rows.

## **HEEL TURN**

Row 1: k19 [21, 23], ssk, k1, turn

Row 2: Sl1, p7, p2tog, p1, turn

Row 3: Sl1, k8, ssk, k1, turn

Row 4: Sl1, p9, p2tog, p1, turn

Continue working until all stitches have been worked, ending on a purl row. Sl1, knit across. 21 [23, 25] stitches remain.

## **GUSSETS**

With a new needle (Needle 1), pick up 16 [18, 20] stitches, one through each slipped stitch on the edge of the heel flap. To avoid a gap at the top of the gusset, also pick up two stitches in the row below, one each through the left and right legs of the stitches next to the heel flap and the instep stitches.

Knit in ribbed pattern across the instep stitches on Needles 2 and 3.

With another new needle (Needle 4), pick up two stitches in the row below, one each through the left and right legs of the stitches next to the instep stitches and the heel flap. Then pick up 16 [18, 20] stitches, one through each slipped stitch on the edge of heel flap. With the same needle, knit to the center of the heel stitches. Slip the other half of the heel stitches onto the first needle. You will now have:

half of the heel stitches and the first group of picked-up gusset stitches on Needle 1;

the instep stitches across Needles 2 and 3; and

the second group of picked-up gusset stitches and the second half of the heel stitches on Needle 4.

Decreasing -

In the first decrease round, the extra picked up stitches will be worked together.

Needle 1: k to last 2 stitches, p2tog

Needles 2 and 3: work across in ribbing pattern

Needle 4: p2tog, k to end

Now, the regular decrease rounds.

**Gusset Round 1 -**

Needle 1: Knit  
Needles 2 and 3: work in ribbing pattern.  
Needle 4: Knit.

**Gusset Round 2 -**

Needle 1: k to last 3 sts, k2tog, k1  
Needles 2 and 3: work in ribbing pattern  
Needle 4: k1, ssk, k to end

Repeat those two rounds until 64 [72, 80] stitches remain. You will have 31 [35, 39] sole stitches in stockinette (Needles 4 and 1), and 33 [37, 41] ribbed instep stitches (Needles 2 and 3), beginning and ending with a purl stitch. Shifting the first purl stitch from the beginning of N2 to the end of N1 will help to avoid ladders, but don't count the purl stitch as belonging to N1 while you're working the gusset decreases.

**FOOT**

Work around, using the ribbing pattern on the instep and stockinette stitch on the sole, until the foot of your sock is two inches shorter than the total length of your foot.

**TOE**

Toe Setup:

If you shifted the first purl stitch from N2 to N1, shift it back now.

Needle 1: Knit to end.  
Needle 2: K1, SSK, knit to end.  
Needle 3: Knit to last three stitches, k2tog, k1  
Needle 4: Knit to end. 62 [70, 78] stitches remain.

**Toe Round 1 -**

Needle 1: Knit to 3 sts from end, k2tog, k1.  
Needle 2: K1, SSK, knit to end.  
Needle 3: Knit to 3 sts from end, k2tog, k1.  
Needle 4: K1, SSK, knit to end.

**Toe Round 2 -**

Knit one round even.

Repeat the two toe rounds until 18 [22, 24] total stitches remain. Knit to the end of Needle 1. Place stitches on two needles and graft together. Weave in loose ends and enjoy your new socks!

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