

Comfy Old Favourites



Everyone needs a pair of cozy, friendly socks to snuggle one's feet into at the end of a hard day. These are made with Briggs and Little "Tuffy" (80% wool, 20% nylon, 2 ply, 215 yds per 4 oz skein), and I machine wash them on cold, then hang or lay them flat to dry. They've fulled a bit and are soft and comfy.

You'll need 2 skeins of Tuffy and a set of 4 - 3.25 mm (US 3) dpns. Gauge: 6 sts/inch (2.5 cm), 8 rows/inch (2.5 cm)

Instructions

Cast on 44 stitches (arrange 11 stitches on needle 1, 22 sts on needle 2 and 11 sts on needle 3) and work K1, P1 ribbing in the round for 2 inches (5 cm).

Work 6 inches (15 cm) in plain stockinette (knit every round).

Divide for heel: knit needle 1, knit needle 2, then working the heel flap only on the 22 stitches on needles 3 and 1, work these four rows:

Row 1 : Sl 1, K1 to end of row

Row 2: Purl across

Row 3: K1, Sl 1 to end of row

Row 4: Purl across

When heel flap measures 2.5 inches (6 cm), end with a right side row and begin heel turn:

Purl 13 sts, P2 together, P1 and turn.

K4, K2 together, K1 and turn.

Purl to next to last stitch before the gap (you'll see it), P2 together, P1 and turn.

Knit to next to last stitch before the gap, K2 together, K1 and turn.

Repeat these last two rows until all stitches have been used, ending on a right side row.

Pick up 15 stitches along the side of the heel flap. Knit the 22 stitches on needle 2. Pick up 15 stitches on the other side of the heel flap, and knit needle 3 stitches.

Instep decreases:

K to last 3 stitches on needle 1, K2 together, K1. Knit the 22 stitches on needle 2. On needle 3, K1, Sl1, K1, PSSO, knit remaining stitches.

Next round: Knit

Repeat these two rounds until needles 1 and 3 have 11 stitches remaining.

Work foot of sock knitting every round until length of the foot from the back of the heel to the needles is about 1.75 inches (4.5 cm) less than the length of recipient's foot.

Toe decreases:

Round 1: Needle 1: K to last 3 stitches on needle, K2 together, K1. Needle 2: K1, Sl1, K1, PSSO, K to last 3 stitches and K2 together, K1. Needle 3: K1, Sl1, K1, PSSO, K to end.

Round 2: Knit

Repeat these two rounds until a total of 8 stitches remain. Finish the toe by grafting or doing a three-needle bind-off (I prefer the three-needle bind-off, as I can never remember how to Kitchener!).

Make a second sock the same as the first. Treat your feet (or the feet of someone you love) to handmade comfort.