

Socks shown: Louet Gems Opal in Willow (main color) and Crabapple Blossom (trim).

Streamline: a toddler slipper sock

Yarn: 50 g sport weight superwash wool.

Needles: size 3, or to meet gauge.

Gauge: 6 st./inch.

Size: To fit 18-30 months, or toddler shoe size 6-8

(US) or 22-24 (European).

Toe: this is a wide square toe with the 2-3 rib pattern centered and running to the end.

Using Judy's Magic method (see Knitty, Spring '06), cast on 24 stitches.

Round 1:K all stitches.

Round 2, part 1: K1, Kfb, P3, K2, P3, Kfb, K1. part 2: K1, Kfb, K8, Kfb, K1.

Round 3, part 1: K2, P3, K2, P3, K2. part 2: k all stitches.

Round 4, part 1: K1, K1fb, K1, P3, K2, P3, K1, K1fb, K1.
part 2: K1, K1fb, K10, K1fb, K1.

Round 5, part 1: k3, P3, K2, P3, K2. part 2: k all stitches.

Round 6, part 1: K1, K1fb, K2, P3, K2, P3, K2, K1fb, K1.
part 2: K1, K1fb, K12, K1fb, K1.

Round 7, part 1: K2, P1, K2, P3, K2, P3, K2, P1, K2.

part 2: k all stitches.

Round 8, part 1: K1, K1fb, P1, K2, P3, K2, P1, K1fb, K1.
part 2: K1, K1fb, K14, K1fb, K1.

(Total of 40 stitches.)

Foot: *top in rib, bottom in stockinette.*

Round 1, part 1: K1, *P3, K2* 3x, P3, K1. part 2: k all stitches.

Repeat Row 1 until the foot measures 4 inches from end of toe (about 36 rows). End between parts 1 and 2.

Heel flap: worked in stockinette on the 20 stitches of part 2.

Row 1: sl1, k across. Row 2: sl1, p across.

Repeat (Rows 1 and 2) 7 more times, for a total of 16 rows. You should have 8 "chain" stitches visible along each edge.

Heel turn: completely standard.

Row 1: sl1, k 10, ssk, K1, turn. Row 2: sl1, P3, P2tog, P1, turn. Row 3: sl1, k4, ssk, K1, turn. Row 4: sl1, p5, P2tog, P1, turn. Row 5: sl1, k6, ssk, K1, turn. Row 6: sl1, p7, P2tog, P1, turn. Row 7: sl1, k8, ssk, K1, turn. Row 8: sl1, p9, P2tog, P1, turn.

(12 stitches remain.)





Gusset: here's where things get less boring. The method is similar to that of Cat Bordhi's Cedar sock architecture (from NPFSK), in that the gusset decreases are arranged evenly around the lower ankle.

Row 1 (pick up stitches): s11, k 11. Pick up 8 stitches from edge of heel flap. Pick up 2 additional stitches on either side of the flap/instep divide, from the row below (see SKS, p. 25 or MSKS, p. 79 for a clear diagram). Work 10 instep stitches in existing rib pattern, and create a "break" in your Magic Looping.

Work the remaining 10 instep stitches in existing rib pattern, pick up 2 from the row below on either side of the instep/flap divide, and pick up 8 along the edge of the flap. Knit 6 of the heel turn stitches, and make your second Magic Loop break.

(52 stitches total. From now on rows begin at center back of heel.)

(50 stitches remain.)

Rows 3-12: Over the course of these rows you will smoothly decrease to a P2/K2 rib. In each row, there will be exactly one decrease, where you will work a P1 P2tog for a purl rib. Otherwise purl all purl stitches and knit all knit stitches.

Number the purl ribs 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 in part 1, and 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 in part 2. Decrease the purl ribs (remember, only one decrease per row!) in the following order: 1, 4, 7, 10, 3, 6, 9, 2, 5, 8.

(40 stitches remain.)

Leg: Continue working until the leg is 2 inches long, measured from picked up stitches (about 24 rows total).

Bind off stretchily: I switched colors and used the Picot bindoff from MSKS, p. 78: repeat *knit cast-on one stitch, bind off 3 stitches* until end.

Weave in ends: I left about a foot at each end of the trim color, then backstitched down the two stitches of the center back rib, and tucked the ends into the backstitches. That gives a visible seam along the back of the sock.

NOTE: If you want to use your favorite toe, or heel turn, or method for avoiding holes at the gusset start, go right ahead! The one key to making the pattern work is that you have exactly 50 stitches, in a P3/K2 rib, after you've picked up for your gusset and the dust has settled.

Emma Jane Maple September, 2007

References

Cat Bordhi, New Pathways for Sock Knitters, Passing Paws Press, 2007.

Charlene Schurch, Sensational Knitted Socks, Martingale & Company, 2005

Charlene Schurch, *More Sensational Knitted Socks*, Martingale & Company, 2007.