

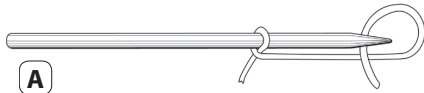


Two At Once, Toe-Up Sock by Kelley Petkun exclusively for Knit Picks

Casting on Two Socks

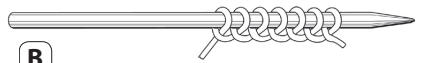
*You will need two balls of yarn because each sock will be knit from its own ball.

Holding one circular needle in your left hand you will be using the loop cast on (fig. A) to cast on 7 stitches (loops) onto the needle from one ball of yarn. Be sure to keep the loops snugly fit against the needles.



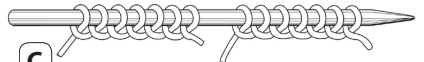
A

Slide those 7 loops along the needle towards the end where the cable joins (fig. B). Cast 7 stitches (loops) onto the same needle using the second ball of



B

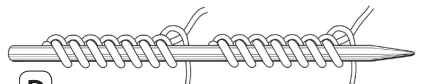
yarn. Now you have two sets of 7 loops sitting on your needle (fig. C). *Note:* This creates a sharply pointed toe. If you would like a more subtly shaped toe, cast on a greater number of stitches for each sock.



C

Knit across the two sets of stitches being sure to use each separate working yarn for its own sock. As you knit, keep your stitches snug so you won't have gaps in the toe.

After you knit one row, turn your work. The stitches are now on the left hand needle.



D

Rotate the stitches so that the bottom of the cast on loops are on the top of the needle. Move the cast on tail over the top of the working yarn from the ball (fig D).

Using your second circular needle, pick up 6 stitches from each sock (fig. E). It may be difficult to find the last stitch because it becomes hidden in the tightened stitch at the end. You can either put the needle into that tightened stitch as best you can or make a stitch as you knit the next round.



E

The point is to have the same number of stitches on each needle after you knit your first round.

As you begin these socks, the purl side of the work wants to push itself up between the two needles. You need to be sure the knitted side of the work is facing you as you begin to knit a round. The yarn should be coming off the back needle, settling between the two needles ready to be used. Also, you need to knit the first few rounds snugly to keep from having gaps in the tip of your toes. After that you can knit at your regular tension.

As you begin a round remember that the tail should always be dangling on the right hand side of each sock. If it is on the left side that means you have not completed a full round for both socks.



Finished Sizes:
Customizable

Yarn:
Knit Picks Fingering Weight Yarn; 2-3 balls.
Or approx. 380 yds fingering weight sock yarn.

Needles
Size 3: (2) 24" circular needles. Adjust needle size if necessary to obtain correct gauge.

Notions
Darning needle
Two yards sock yarn in contrasting color

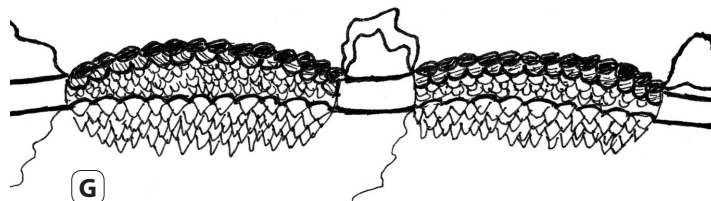
Gauge:
7 sts/ 1" in stockinette stitch. Check your gauge before you begin.

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You now have stitches on two circular needles. As you work, one needle will always be behind the other holding half the stitches on the front needle. As you turn your work the “front” and “back” needles will change places with each other. To start, slide the stitches on the current “back” needle to the center to rest on the cable. You won’t be doing anything with them until you turn your work.



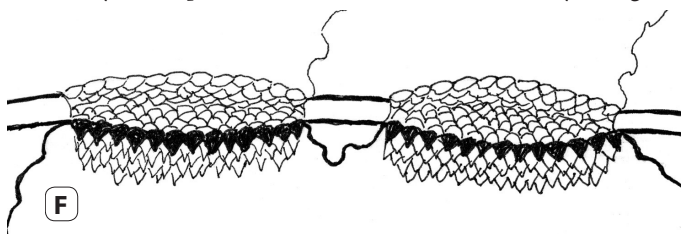
Using the front needles, knit across each sock with its own yarn. Turn your work so that your front needle is now in the back, slide the stitches you just worked to the center of the cable to rest and, using the new front needles, knit across each sock with its own yarn. Turn your work, move the stitches you just finished knitting onto their cable to rest. The stitches on the back needle will always wait on the cable. You have finished a complete round for both socks as long as your cast on tail is coming off the right side of the socks as you begin your next round.

Once you have knit a couple of rounds, you need to start alternating increase rounds with regular knit round. Increases are made after the first stitch and before the last stitch on each side of the sock. There will be a total of 4 increase stitches per sock, per round. For your increases Make One stitch (M1) by knitting into the stitch but don’t slide the stitch off. Pull the loop out a bit and knit into the back of the same stitch. Slide both new stitches onto the right needle. You can use a backward loop cast on for each increase if you prefer.

Continue working one knit round and one increase round until the toe section fits snugly over your toes. You don’t need to take the socks off the needles to try on the sock. Just slip in your foot. You will be trying the sock on frequently as you knit. Continue in plain knit rounds until the sock fits up just short of the front of your ankle bone as you stand straight up when it is on your foot.

Afterthought Heel

Let me explain the concept of the Afterthought Heel. On half of the sock stitches you will be knitting two rows with a completely different colored sock yarn (your waste yarn). After that, you will continue knitting around with your regular sock yarn all the way to the top of the sock. The result is a tube with a section waiting for you to go back and put in the heel. The sock will look funny with that little bit of odd sock yarn stripe but it will be taken out later when you begin to



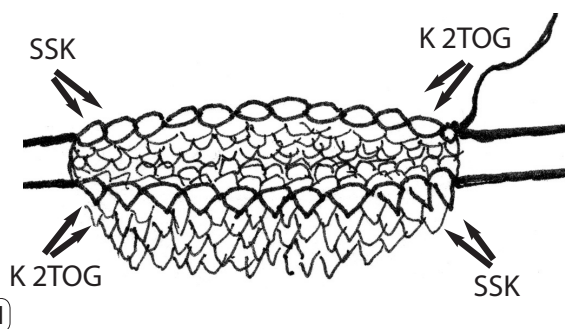
knit the heel.

You are now ready to knit in your holding yarn that you will use later to set up your heel stitches. Using the contrasting, fingering weight yarn, knit across the first half of the stitches on the first sock. Do not break the holding yarn. Leave a few inches of the yarn and knit across the first half of the stitches on the second sock. The few inches of yarn will dangle between the two socks (fig. F).

Turn your work so that you can purl back along the stitches you just knit with the holding yarn. As before, leave a few inches of yarn

between the socks. After you have purled across both socks, turn your work one more time. Cut the holding yarn leaving a five inch tail. You are all finished with it for now. The position of your socks should look very familiar to you as you pick up the regular yarn and begin knitting in rounds again. The holding yarn stays in place until you have finished the rest of the sock (fig. G).

Knit two rounds. Now you need to use decreases to narrow the socks from between 10 and 20 percent to adjust to your ankle. Be sure the final number is divisible by 4 for the knit 2, purl 2 ribbing. In the case of 52 stitches, for example, I decreased by 8 stitches per sock for a total of 44 stitches per sock. I decreased 4 stitches per sock every other round, two times. The first two stitches on each side of each sock were worked as SSK. The final two stitches on each side of each sock were worked K2tog (fig. H).



After the decreases, knit until sock is 2” shorter than desired height and then start the ribbing using a knit 2, purl 2 pattern. After 2” of ribbing, cast off VERY LOOSELY. To make it loose, pull each new stitch out a bit after you make it. The new stitch should be very loose as you pull it over the needle tip as you cast off. Now you can knit your afterthought heels.

Heel:

Using your 2 sets of circular needles, pick up the heel stitches with half the heel stitches of each sock on each needle. Just like when you were knitting them before. As you put the needles through the stitches, leave the holding yarn in place until you are confident you have picked up all the stitches. Then you can pull out the holding yarn. As you knit your first round, there may be a gap at each edge of the socks. You can fix this by using the tip of your needle to pick up a couple of stitches from the body of the sock at the gaps. Continue knitting with those added stitches.

After two rounds, count stitches. Make decreases if needed during the third round to get each sock’s stitches to be divisible by 7. On every other round, you will decrease at seven points. The easy way to remember the decreasing pattern is to figure out how many stitches should be between the first seven decrease points. As an example, you may have 56 stitches for each sock heel. That is 7 stitches x 8. Take your multiple of seven (in this case it is 8) and subtract 2 from it. The result is the number of knit stitches between the decreases

in your first round. From our example, $8-2=6$ so your first decrease round will be as follows: [k6, k2tog], repeat to end of round. On the next decrease round, [k5, k2tog]. On the next decrease round, [k4, k2tog]. You can use either K2tog, which will make the decrease swirl counter-clockwise or SSK, which will cause a clockwise swirl.

As you work down your stitches, you may find that a stitch you need to work with another stitch for a decrease may very well be on the other circular needle. Put the first stitch on a safety pin. When you work back around to it, put it on the needle and work it with its partner stitch. As you get closer to being finished with your heel, you will probably have to do this on every decrease round.

When only 7 stitches remain, use a blunt needle to run yarn end through stitches and pull up snugly. Use a blunt needle to work in your yarn ends and enjoy!

Abbreviations	cm	centimeter(s)	P, p	purl	skp	sl, k, pssso: 1 st dec
	cn	cable needle	p2tog	purl 2 sts together	sl	slip
"	CO	cast on	pat	pattern	sl st	slip stitch(es)
()	cont	continue	pm	place marker	sl1k	slip 1 kwise
	dec	decrease(es)	pop	popcorn	sl1p	slip 1 pwise
*	dpn	double pointed needles	pr	previous row	SSK	sl, sl, k these 2 sts tog
	fl	front loop(s)	prev	previous	sssk	sl, sl, sl, k these 3 sts tog
**	foll	follow(s)(ing)	pssso	pass slipped stitch over	st st	stockinette stitch
	inst	instructions	pwise	purlwise	sts	stitch(es)
	K, k	knit	R	row	tbl	through back loop
[]	k2tog	knit two sts together	rem	remain(ing)	tfl	through front loop
	kwise	knitwise	rep	repeat	tog	together
	LH	left hand	Rev st st	reverse stockinette stitch	WE	work even
alt	lps	loops	RH	right hand	WS	wrong side
approx	m	meter	rnd(s)	round(s)	wyib	with yarn in back
beg	M1	make one stitch	RS	right side	wyif	with yarn in front
bet	MC	main color	sk	skip	yd(s)	yard(s)
BO	mm	millimeter(s)	sk2p	sl 1, k2tog, pass slipped stitch over	yfwd	yarn forward
CA	nld(s)	needle(s)			yo	yarn over
CB	oz	ounce			yon	yarn over needle
CC	P up	pick up and purl		k2tog: 2 sts dec	yrn	yarn around needle