

North Country Cotton Baby Socks

Featuring Cherry Tree Hill Yarns



MATERIALS: For baby socks: 65 yards of North Country Cotton, size 5 double pointed needles, or those needed to achieve gauge. For toddler socks: 65 yards of North Country Cotton, size 6 double pointed needles, or those needed to achieve gauge.

GAUGE: For baby socks: 5½ stitches = 1". For toddler socks: 5 stitches = 1".

NOTE: When slipping stitches, always slip as if to purl, except for the SKP.
SKP = slip 1 stitch as if to knit, slip a second stitch as if to purl, then knit the 2 stitches together.

CUFF:

With one needle, **LOOSELY** cast on 24 stitches. Divide evenly onto 3 needles (8 stitches each). Being careful not to twist the stitches, join and work in the round as follows:

(K2, P2) around. Work in K2-P2 ribbing for 15 rounds. Work 3 rounds of stockinette stitch (knit every round). At beginning of next round divide for heel.

DIVIDE FOR HEEL:

Transfer stitches around so that there are 12 stitches on the first needle, and 6 stitches on each of the other two needles. Work back and forth across the first needle **ONLY** as follows:

Row 1: Slip 1, knit to end.

Row 2: Slip 1, purl to end.

Repeat these 2 rows for 12 rows total, then work row 1 once more. The heel will be 13 rows long.

TURN HEEL:

Row 1: Slip 1, P7, P2tog, TURN.

Row 2: Slip 1, K4, K2tog, TURN.

Row 3: Slip 1, purl to 1 st. before the last turn (you'll see a small gap where the last turn was), P2tog, TURN.

Row 4: Slip 1, knit to 1 st. before the last turn (look for the gap), K2tog, TURN.

Repeat rows 3 & 4 until all stitches at the ends are used up, ending with a right side row. There will be 6 stitches left.

GUSSET:

Continuing to work on the same needle, pick up and knit 8 stitches along the side of the heel (needle 1).

Using a new needle, knit across the stitches on the next 2 needles (needle 2). Using a new needle, pick up and knit 8 stitches along the other side of the heel, and continue knitting to the center of the heel stitches (3 stitches) (needle 3). There should now be 11 stitches on needles 1 & 3, and 12 stitches on needle 2. The

center of the heel is the beginning of the round, needle 2 contains the instep stitches. Begin decreasing as follows:

Round 1: Knit.

Round 2: Knit to within 3 stitches of the end of the first needle, K2tog, K1. Knit across second needle. On third needle, K1, SKP, knit to end.

Repeat rounds 1 & 2 until there are 6 stitches left on both needles 1 & 3. Needle 2 will remain at 12 stitches since no decreases take place there. You will now be back to the original # of stitches (24). Rearrange the # of stitches on each needle by moving 2 from each end of needle 2 to needles 1 & 3. (8 on each now).

Begin to knit in the round again for 10 (12) rounds. At this point you can slip the sock on to see the length. Only the big toe nail should stick out.

TOE SHAPING:

Rearrange the stitches on the needles by moving the 2 stitches back from needles 1 & 3 to needle 2. There are now 6 stitches on each of needles 1 & 3, and 12 stitches on needle 2. Begin decreasing as follows:

Round 1: On needle 1: knit to last 3 stitches, K2tog, K1. On needle 2: K1, SKP, knit to last 3 stitches, K2tog, K1. On needle 3: K1, SKP, knit to end (center of heel).

Round 2: Knit.

Repeat rounds 1 & 2 until there are 12 stitches left (3 stitches on needles 1 & 3, and 6 stitches on needle 2).

KITCHNER STITCH:

Continuing to knit with needle 3, knit to the end of needle 1. There are now only 2 needles in use, 6 stitches on each. Cut the yarn, leaving 18". Thread it onto a blunt needle. Hold the 2 needles parallel, you will now have a front needle and a back needle. Always keep the yarn beneath the needle as you work.

Step 1: Go into the first stitch on the front needle as if to knit, pull the stitch off the needle.

Step 2: Go into the second stitch on the front needle as if to purl, leave stitch on the needle.

Step 3: Go into the first stitch on the back needle as if to purl, pull the stitch off of the needle.

Step 4 : Go into the second stitch on the back needle as if to knit, leave the stitch on the needle.

Now you have 4 new stitches to work with. Repeat steps 1 - 4 until all stitches are woven. Anchor on inside, weave in ends. Make a second sock, making sure it is the same size.