

Cairi's Sweetheart



After finding a lacy heart pattern in a stitch guide, it seemed only proper to use it with a yarn in a colourway named "Valentine". The socks are named for the knitter who gave me the yarn and inspired me to create the perfect, calorie free alternative present for 14th February.

*an original design by
Kate Blackburn*

Finished Measurements:

To fit a UK shoe size 4 to 6 (adjustable).
Cuff will stretch to fit a leg circumference of up to 25cm comfortably.

Materials:

- ❖ 100g of 4ply/fingering weight yarn (original socks knitted with Lorna's Laces Shepherd Sock in "Valentine")
- ❖ Set of 5 x 2.25mm (US size 1) dpns, or size needed to obtain correct tension
- ❖ Stitch marker
- ❖ Blunt-ended needle for sewing up

Tension:

28 stitches x 44 rounds in stocking stitch to 10cm knit in the round, using 2.25mm dpns.

Abbreviations:

k	= knit
p	= purl
ssk	= slip slip knit: slip next two stitches one after the other, then insert left needle into the front of the two slipped stitches and knit them together through the back of the loops
yo	= yarn over: bring yarn to the front of the work before working next stitch
k2tog	= knit two stitches together
p2tog	= purl two stitches together
dd	= double decrease: slip next two stitches together as if to knit, knit next stitch, then pass the two slipped stitches over
st(s)	= stitch(es)
→	= move marker one stitch to the right before commencing round
sl1p	= slip next stitch purlwise
sl1k	= slip next stitch knitwise
dpn(s)	= double pointed needle(s)

Pattern Notes:

On each repeat of round 11 of the leg chart ONLY, move marker right one stitch before beginning round, i.e. start the round one stitch earlier. This sets the round beginning for all following rounds until the next round 11. To increase or decrease the leg length, add or remove whole pattern repeats. Do not stop knitting in the middle of a chart repeat or the instep chart will not align with the leg!

The back seam will not be at the point where the cast on was joined in the round, so please pay particular attention to the instructions for the heel flap. In addition, the heel flap may be on the short side for someone with wider feet. In this case, just add more rows to the flap (in multiples of two), and pick up and decrease more stitches accordingly. ☺

Directions:

Leg:

Cast on 56 stitches over 2 dpns held parallel, or on one larger needle. Arrange stitches over 4 dpns so that there are 14 on each one, join stitches and place marker for start of round, if desired.

Next round: *p2, k4, p3, k4, p1, repeat from * to end of round. Continue in ribbing as set for 4cm.

Now commence pattern by working across first line of chart on last page four times. Continue until five repeats of chart have been completed.

Divide for heel:

k8, turn, k3, p10, p2tog, p11, k3. These 28 sts form heel flap. Leave remaining 27 sts on spare needles. You can now remove the stitch marker, if used.

Row 1: k to end

Row 2: k3, p22, k3

Repeat these two rows a further 12 times (26 rows worked in total, but also see pattern notes).

Next row: k16, ssk, k1, turn

Now continue heel shaping as follows:

Row 1: sl1p, p5, p2tog, p1, turn

Row 2: sl1k, k6, ssk, k1, turn

Row 3: sl1p, p7, p2tog, p1, turn

Row 4: sl1k, k8, ssk, k1, turn

Row 5: sl1p, p9, p2tog, p1, turn

Row 6: sl1k, k10, ssk, k1, turn

Row 7: sl1p, p11, p2tog, p1, turn

Row 8: sl1k, k12, ssk, k1, turn

Row 9: sl1p, p13, p2tog, p1, turn

Row 10: sl1k, k14, ssk (end of row), turn

Row 11: sl1p, p14, p2tog (end of row), turn

You will now have 16 stitches heel flap stitches remaining and will finish with the right side of the heel facing you to start the next row.

Pick up instep stitches:

Knit across 16 heel flap sts. With new needle, pick up 14 sts up side of heel flap. Work across 27 saved instep sts, following first row of instep chart, 14 sts on first needle, 13 sts on second. With new needle, pick up 14 sts down heel

flap and knit 8 sts from first needle.

This is now the beginning of the round. Slip remaining 8 sts to the beginning of the second needle. (sts arranged as follows: 22, 14, 13, 22)

Shape instep:

Round 1: knit to last 3 sts on first needle, k2tog, k1. Work second row of instep pattern on next 27 sts across second and third needle. Fourth needle: k1, ssk, knit to end of round.

Round 2: first needle: knit. Work third row of instep pattern on next 27 sts across second and third needle. Fourth needle: knit.

Maintaining pattern as set, continue decreasing in this way until there are 55 stitches remaining. Work without decreasing, although still maintaining instep pattern, until foot measures 20 cm, or 3cm less than required foot length.

Next round: knit to last 3 sts on first needle, k2tog, k1. Next needle: k1, ssk. Knit to last 3 sts of third needle, k2tog, k1. Next needle k1 ssk, knit to last st of round, knit this st together with first st of round - leave this st on fourth dpn.

Next round: knit

50 stitches remaining. Now continue toe decrease pattern as follows:

Round 1: k to last 3 sts on 1st needle, k2tog, k1. Next needle k1, ssk, knit to last 3 sts of 3rd needle, k2tog, k1, next needle k1 ssk, knit to end of round.

Round 2: knit

Repeat the last two rounds until 26 sts remain.

Next round: knit to end of first needle, arrange sts over 2 dpns (13 sts on each) and graft together. The first sock is complete. Now knit another one!

