

BAMBOO SOCKS

Wendy D. Johnson



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Sizes

Extra-Small (Small, Medium, Large): 6¼ (7¼, 8¼, 9¼)" around foot, 6¼ (7½, 8¾, 10) around leg, stretched slightly

Gauge

8 stitches and 12 rows per inch in stockinette stitch

Needles

2 US size 0 (2mm) circular needles 16" or longer, or size to attain gauge.

Yarn

Fingering weight (approximately 350 – 450 yards)



Abbreviations

K – knit

KFB – knit in the front and back of the next stitch

P – purl

P2TOG – purl 2 together

PFB – purl in the front and back of the next stitch

SL – slip

SSK – Slip one stitch, then slip the next. Insert left needle into the front loops of the slipped stitches and knit them together from this position (through the back loops)

ST – stitch

TBL – through back loop

W&T – Wrap and turn. On the knit side: Bring yarn to front of work (as if to purl) between needles, slip next st to right-hand needle, bring yarn around this st to back of work, slip st back to left-hand needle, turn work to begin working back in the other direction. On the purl side: Bring yarn to back of work (as if to knit) between needles, slip next st to right-hand needle, bring yarn around this st to front of work, slip st back to left-hand needle, turn work to begin working back in the other direction.

YO – yarnover

Toe:

Using a toe-up cast-on method, (like the Turkish cast-on or Judy's Magic Cast-on), cast on a total of 22 (26, 30, 34) stitches – 11 (13, 15, 17) on each needle. Knit across the stitches on each needle once. On the next round increase 4 stitches thusly:

Needle 1: KFB, knit until 2 stitches remain, KFB, K1

Needle 2: KFB, knit until 2 stitches remain, KFB, K1

Then knit a round without increasing.

Repeat these 2 rounds until you have a total of 50 (58, 66, 74) stitches: 25 (29, 33, 37) on each needle.

Start the Pattern:

You will work the Front chart for the size you are making over Needle 1 only (the instep stitches) and knit across Needle 2 (the sole stitches).

Knitting the stitches off the smaller circular needle onto one of the larger circular needles, work Row 1 of the Front chart over the 25 (29, 33, 37) stitches on Needle 1. Knit across Needle 2.

Continue in this manner, working as many rows of the 4-row pattern as needed until approximately 3" shy of the total length of the foot.

Create the Gusset:

Round 1: Work across the instep stitches in the pattern. Sole stitches: KFB, knit until 2 stitches remain, KFB, K1.

Round 2: Work across the instep stitches in the pattern. Sole stitches: Knit all stitches.

Repeat Rounds 1 and 2 until you have 43 (49, 55, 61) total sole stitches.

Turn the Heel:

You will now work back and forth on the sole stitches (now the heel stitches) and will not knit the instep stitches while turning the heel.

Turn heel as follows:

Row 1: (RS) K 29 (33, 37, 41), KFB, K1, W&T

Row 2: P 18 (20, 22, 24), PFB, P1, W&T

Row 3: K 16 (18, 20, 22), KFB, K1, W&T

Row 4: P 14 (16, 18, 20), PFB, P1, W&T

Row 5: K 12 (14, 16, 18), KFB, K1, W&T

Row 6: P 10 (12, 14, 16), PFB, P1, W&T

Row 7: K 8 (10, 12, 14), KFB, K1, W&T

Row 8: P 6 (8, 10, 12), PFB, P1, W&T

You now have 51 (57, 63, 69) heel stitches, having just completed a wrong-side row. On the right side, knit to the end of the heel stitches. Work 1 row across the instep stitches in the pattern.

Heel flap: Work back and forth on the heel stitches:

Row 1 (RS): K 37 (42, 47, 52), SSK, turn

Row 2: SL 1, P 23 (27, 31, 35), P2TOG, turn

Row 3: [SL 1, K1] 12 (14, 16, 18) times, SSK, turn

Repeat Rows 2-3 until all side stitches have been worked, end having worked Row 2. You now have 25 (29, 33, 37) heel stitches. Turn your work and knit across the heel stitches, increasing 0 (2, 4, 6) stitches across the top of the heel. You now have a total of 50 (60, 70, 80) stitches on your 2 needles.

Begin working in the round again:

Work across Needle 1 in the Front chart pattern. Making sure that you are starting on the same row of the chart as you are working on Needle 1, work the Back chart pattern across Needle 2.

Now work the pattern as set until the leg measures 6" above the heel, or until you reach your desired total length, ending after Row 3 of the pattern. Bind off very loosely in the Row 3 pattern.

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