

Leyburn Socks

(Named for a dear, dear friend.)

A delicate lattice stitch makes for a pair of sturdy, comfy socks. Because the lattice stitch is relatively flat, without much stretch, it's important that you work with more stitches than you would normally use. These toe-up socks feature my favorite toe, the short-row toe, and the short-row heel, which I find the most easy to do without thinking, but substitute your own favorites! The only thing to keep an eye on is that you will need to increase stitches in a few instances (before working the foot, before working the heel, and before working the leg) in order to accommodate the pattern. Email me (mintyfreshflavor@gmail.com) with questions or photos!

Yarn

2 skeins Koigu KPPPM

Materials

2.5 mm (US 2ish) needles, or whatever size you like for socks.

stitch marker(s)

Gauge

7.5 sts = 1 inch

Finished Dimensions

Fits a US Size 7.5 foot 7" around ball of foot, unstretched 8.5" long 7.5" from heel to cuff

Directions

Toe

Work your favorite toe. I prefer a short-row toe, personally. Lately I have been using the provisional crochet cast-on where you produce each provisional stitch onto the needle (see Eunny's Majoring in Lace series. It's the Variation I here: http://www.eunnyjang.com/knit/2006/03/majoring_in_lace_part_iv.html—scroll down). When you use this one, proceed as follows:

Cast on 25 provisional stitches.

Knit across all the provisional stitches.

Purl to the last stitch, wrap and turn.

Knit to the last stitch, wrap and turn.

Purl to one stitch before the wrap, wrap and turn.

Proceed in the normal short-row toe manner, working to one stitch before the wrap, then wrapping and turning, until you have approximately 14 stitches between the wraps; I prefer flatter toes to pointy ones, so I have 14 between the wraps.

Next, start picking up the wraps and working them with the last stitch, wrapping stitches again and picking up both wraps when encountered. See more about short-row toes in my Anastasia Socks Pattern or do a Google search. ©

Unravel the provisional cast-on and pick up those stitches; knit to end of round.

The reason I like this provisional cast-on is that you work the last wrap and are ready to knit—you don't have to work an additional row before working in the round. I find this helps eliminate holes.

Whichever toe you chose, you should now have 50 stitches around. See the next little bit before moving on—you need to increase the number of stitches for the instep while leaving the sole alone. Place a marker at the beginning of the round; place a second marker at the end of the instep stitches if desired (after stitch 25).

Next round: K1, M1L, knit to last instep stitch, M1R, k1, knit to end of round.

Next round: Knit.

Repeat these two rounds twice more. 31 instep stitches, 25 sole stitches.

Foot

Begin Quilted Lattice on instep only as follows. Knit sole stitches without patterning.

Row 1: *K1, sl 5 wyif; repeat to end of instep stitches, end k1.

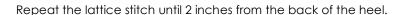
Row 2 and all even-numbered rows: Knit.

Row 3: K3, *insert needle under loose strand and knit next stitch, bringing stitch out under strand, k5; repeat from *, end k3.

Row 5: SI 3 wyif, *k1, sl5 wyif; repeat from *, end sl 3 wyif.

Row 7: *Knit first stitch under loose strand, k5; repeat from *, end knit first stitch under loose strand.

It's really important that you "stretch the float" as if you were doing traditional Fair Isle knitting, or else you will end up with a lattice that is too tight, causing puckering. Widen the slipped stitches on the needle before knitting the anchoring stitch as shown at right.



Next Row: M1R, work in pattern to end of instep, M1L.

Next Row: Work even in pattern.

Repeat these two rows twice more, taking them into the pattern; 37 instep stitches. These additional stitches provide some ease for getting the sock on and off.



Perform a standard short-row heel on the 25 heel stitches. Use the same method as for the toe.



Next round: Work across instep stitches in pattern as established, k1 of heel, M1L, knit to one stitch before end of round, M1R, k1.

Next round: Work in pattern as established across instep, knit heel stitches.

Repeat these two rounds 4 more times; 35 heel stitches, 37 instep stitches. 72 stitches total.

Lea

To work the lattice in the round, on row 5 you have to "steal" stitches from the next round. This gives the appearance of a seamless lattice, but if inspected closely you can see that there's a little jump. It's practically imperceptible. Work the lattice in the round as follows:

Round 5 (corresponding to row 5 above): K4, *sl 5 wyif, k1; repeat from *, ending by slipping 3 stitches at beginning of round 6.



Work leg for 5.75 inches from the beginning of the patterning at the top of the heel, or to desired length, ending with an even-numbered row.

Cuff

Next round: *Knit 10 stitches, k2tog; repeat from * to end.

Next round: *K1, p1; repeat from * to end.

Repeat last round for 12 rounds, or until desired cuff length.

Bind off using preferred stretchy bind-off method. I like the EZ sewn cast-off:

Break off your yarn to a length about three times as long as the knitting, and thread it on a tapestry needle.

- 1. Draw the yarn through the first two stitches as if you are going to p2tog. Leave them on the needle.
- 2. Draw the yarn through the first stitch as if to knit, and remove that stitch from the needle. Repeat steps 1 and 2 until the end.

Weave in ends.

Block and enjoy!