

DANCING DIAMONDS SOCKS

Wendy D. Johnson



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Sizes

Extra-Small (Small, Medium, Large): 6 (7, 8, 9)” around foot and leg, stretched slightly

Gauge

8 stitches and 12 rows per inch in stockinette stitch

Needles

US size 1 (2.25mm) needles – either double-pointed needles (dpns), 2 short circulars, or 1 long circular (see note below), or size to attain gauge

Yarn

Fingering weight yarn (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 as if to purl (unless otherwise noted)

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



Notes:

You can knit these socks using your favorite sock-knitting method: dpns, 2 short circulars, or 1 long circular for magic loop. The pattern divides the stitches into 2 groups: instep (top of the foot) and sole (bottom of the foot). You will either divide each group over 2 dpns, place the whole group on 1 of your 2 short circulars, or on half your long circular for magic loop.

When you work the “make 1” increases for the toe and the gusset, you can do a lifted increase, or knit in the front and back of a stitch, whichever you prefer. I prefer the “knit in the front and back of a stitch” method – I find it makes a neater increase with no hole.

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:

Note: the pattern charts show the odd-numbered rows only. On all even-numbered rows, knit across.

Needle 1: Work across the 25 (29, 33, 37) stitches of Row 1 of the pattern chart.

Needle 2: Knit across.

Continue in this manner, working as many rows of the 44-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 on Needle 2.

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 as set.

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

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

Row 2: SL 1 as if to knit, P 23 (27, 31, 35), P2TOG, turn

Row 3: [SL 1 as if to knit, 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 – the same number as on Needle 1.

Begin working in the round again:

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

Now continue to work the pattern as set on both needles until the leg measures approximately 6" above the heel, or until you reach your desired total length. Work in k1 p1 rib for 1" and bind off very loosely in rib.

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