

Ifthen Socks

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IF color change, **THEN** do this! That's all there is to this sock pattern for self-stripping yarn.

Yarn Requirements

You'll need 100g self-stripping sock yarn in MC. Optionally, you'll also need 20g sock yarn in the same weight in CC.

Sample used Knit Picks Felici in "Cheshire Grin" (100g/436y) as MC and Knit Picks Stroll in "Sprinkle Heather" (100g/462y) as CC.

Tools

- Long circular needle for Magic Loop in your preferred size for socks
- Tapestry needle

Sizing/Gauge

This pattern is written for three sock gauges: *S* (58 sts), *M* (66 sts), *L* (74 sts). Choose the stitch count that is closest to your normal sock gauge. Sample was knitted on 58 sts with US1/2.25mm needles.

Techniques

Prior to knitting this pattern, you should be familiar with Magic Loop, Judy's Magic Cast On, basic lace techniques, and German short rows.

Pattern Key

Written	Description
k	knit
p	purl
st st	stockinette stitch
k tbl	knit through the back loop
kfb	knit front back: knit stitch through front loop as usual, then in the same stitch, knit through the back loop
m1l	make 1 left: with right needle, pick up bar between sts back to front, knit tbl
m1r	make 1 right: pick up bar between sts front to back, knit through front loop
s1	slip 1: stitch purlwise with yarn in back (wyib)
yo	yarn-over
k2tog	knit 2 together
ssk	slip slip knit
sk2p	slip k2tog psso: slip 1 st knitwise, k2tog, pass slipped st over (psso)
double st	See this linked tutorial for German Short Rows.



Toe-Up Instructions

Rounded Toe

Instructions are given for needle 1 only. Repeat each round instruction twice—once on needle 1 and once on needle 2—to complete a round. Using CC, CO 18 sts with Judy's Magic CO (9 sts on each needle). Work the following rounds through Round 17 (25, 33):

Rnd 1: k1, kfb, k to last 2 sts on needle, kfb, k1 (22 sts)

Rnd 2: k1, m1l, k to last st on needle, m1r, k1 (26 sts)

Rnds 3-5: Repeat Rnd 2 three times (38 sts)

Rnd 6: k across

Rnd 7: Repeat Rnd 2 (42 sts)

Rnds 8-13: Repeat Rnds 6-7 three times (54 sts)

Rnds 14-16: k across

Rnd 17: Repeat Rnd 2 (58 sts)

Rnds 18-25: Repeat Rnds 14-17 twice (66 sts)

Rnds 26-33: Repeat Rnds 14-17 twice (74 sts)

Break CC. Your "instep stitches" are now on needle 1 and your "sole stitches" are on needle 2. You should have 29 (33, 37) sts on each needle.

Foot

Instructions are given for needle 1 (instep) only. Work round instruction once across needle 1, then k across needle 2 (sole). Join MC. This counts as a color change, so work the following **Foot Color Transition Rounds** once:

Rnd 1: s2, k11(13, 15), s3, k11(13, 15), s2

Rnd 2: k2tog, k5(6, 7), yo, k1, yo, k5(6, 7), sk2p, k5(6, 7), yo, k1, yo, k5(6, 7), ssk

Continue in st st until next color change then work Foot Color Transition Rounds 1 and 2. Repeat until foot is desired length (approximately 1.5 to 2 in short of total foot length), then begin the heel.

If you decide to use your own toe method, start with an odd number of sts on each needle.

German Short Row Heel

Feel free to substitute a toe-up heel method of your choice. Contrasting heel is optional. Work across instep as established. Your sole stitches will now become the "heel stitches".

Part 1

Without breaking MC, join CC. Work back and forth on needle 2 as follows:

Row 1: (RS) k to 1 st from end, double st

Row 2: (WS) p to 1 st from end, double st

Row 3: k to double st, double st

Row 4: p to double st, double st

Repeat Rows 3 and 4 until there are 9 (10, 11) double sts on each side of the heel.

Boomerang

Work the following rows once.

Row 1: (RS) k to double st, work all double sts as they come until you are 1 st from end, double st

Row 2: (WS) p to double st, work all double sts as they come, double st

Part 2

Continue to work back and forth.

Row 1: (RS) k to 9 (10, 11) sts from end, double st

Row 2: (WS) p to 9 (10, 11) sts from end, double st

Row 3: k to double st, work double st, double st

Row 4: p to double st, work double st, double st

Repeat Rows 3 and 4 until your double st is the last st at the end of a WS row. You should be back to where you left MC. Break CC and pick up MC. K across all heel sts, working double sts as they come, to complete the heel.

Leg

Your instep stitches will now become the “front stitches” on needle 1 and your heel stitches will now become the “back stitches” on needle 2. Round instructions are given for both needles. Work in st st until the next color change. Work **Leg Color Transition Rounds 1** and 2 once as follows:

Rnd 1, front: s2, k11(13, 15), s3, k11(13, 15), s2

Rnd 1, back: k13(15, 17), s3, k13(15, 17)

Rnd 2, front: k2tog, k5(6, 7), yo, k1, yo, k5(6, 7), sk2p, k5(6, 7), yo, k1, yo, k5(6, 7), ssk

Rnd 2, back: k13(15, 17), yo, sk2p, yo, k13(15, 17)

Continue as established until leg is desired length. Break MC.

Cuff

Join CC. Knit one complete round, then work ***[k1 tbl, p1]*** until cuff is desired length. Bind off loosely and/or with a stretchy method such as Jeny’s Surprisingly Stretchy BO. Weave in all ends.



Cuff Down Recipe

These are not complete instructions for knitting the sock pattern cuff down. Rather, this is a recipe for adapting the pattern for cuff down socks.

Cuff: With CC, CO 58 (66, 74) sts. Work 1x1 twisted ribbing until cuff is desired length, then k one more round. Break CC.

Leg: Join MC. If you reach a color change, work the Leg Color Transition Rounds once. Otherwise, work st st. Continue until leg is desired length.

Heel: In CC, insert heel method of your choice. The German Short Row heel given in the toe-up instructions works here, too.

Foot: Rejoin MC. If you reach a color change, work the Foot Color Transition Rounds once. Otherwise, work st st. Continue until foot is desired length, about 2” short of total foot length. Break MC.

Toe: Join CC. Decrease and use kitchener stitch to graft toes together.