## ENCORE WORSTED COLORSPUN Kids Slipper Socks



> Size: Child's small (age 1-2) , medium (age 2-4), large (4-8).
> Materials: $1-100 \mathrm{~g}$ ball of Encore Worsted Colorspun. Shown in color 7511 Gauge: 6 sts = 1" on a US 5 needle. Needles: US 5 double pointed needles, or size necessary to obtain given gauge.

Note: When slipping stitches, always slip as if to purl, except for the SKP. Try to start both socks at the same point in the color pattern repeat.

With one needle, cast on $24(32,40)$ sts. Divide onto 3 needles. Being careful not to twist the sts, join and work in garter st in the round for $8(10,12)$ rounds as follows: *(Knit 1 round, purl 1 round); repeat from * $3(4,5)$ times more. Knit 2 rounds, stopping $6(8,10)$ sts before the end of the last round.

## DIVIDE FOR HEEL:

Transfer sts around so that there are 12 $(16,20)$ sts on the first needle (the last $6(8,10)$ sts of the last round, and the first $6(8,10)$ sts of the next round), and $6(8$, 10) sts on each of the other two needles. Work back and forth across the first needle ONLY as follows:

Row1: Slip 1, knit across.
Row 2: Slip 1, purl across.
Repeat these 2 rows for $12(16,20)$ rows total, then work row 1 once more. The heel will be $13(17,21)$ rows long.

## TURN HEEL:

Row 1: Slip 1, purl to 1 st beyond the center $[7(9,11)$ sts more], p2tog, p1, TURN.
Row 2: Slip 1, k5, k2tog, k1, TURN.
Row 3: Slip 1, purl to 1 st before the last turn (you'll see a small gap where the last turn was), p2tog, p1, TURN.
Row 4: Slip 1, knit to 1 st before the last turn (look for the gap), k2tog, k1, TURN.
Repeat rows $3 \& 4$ until all sts at the ends are used up, ending with a right side row. (Last rows won't have the final p1 or the final k 1$)$. There will be $8(10,12)$ sts left.

## GUSSET:

Continuing to work with the same needle, pick up and knit $8(10,12)$ sts along the side of the heel (needle 1 ). Using a new needle, knit across the sts on the next 2 needles (needle 2 ). Using a new needle, pick up and knit $8(10,12)$ sts along the other side of the heel, and continue knitting to the center of the heel sts $[4(5,6)$ sts ] (needle 3 ). There should now be 12 $(15,18)$ sts on needles $1 \& 3$, and $12(16,20)$ sts on needle 2 . The center of the heel is the beginning of the round, needle 2 contains the instep sts. Begin decreasing as follows:
Round 1: Knit.
Round 2: Knit to within 3 sts of the end of the first needle, $\mathrm{k} 2 \mathrm{tog}, \mathrm{k} 1$. Work across second needle in st st. On third needle, k1, SKP, knit to end. Repeat rounds $1 \& 2$ until there are $6(8,10)$ sts left on both needles $1 \& 3$. Needle 2 will remain at 12 $(16,20)$ sts since no decreases take place there. You will now be back to the original \# of sts. Begin to work even again, until length from back of heel is $1(1,1 / 2)$ " less than desired length of finished sock (about $9(13,18)$ rows even). At this point you can slip the sock on to see the length. Only the toes should stick out.

TOE SHAPING: Rearrange the sts on the needles, if necessary, so that there are now $6(8,10)$ sts on each of needles $1 \& 3$, and $12(16,20)$ sts on needle 2 . The beginning of the round is still at the center back of heel. Begin decreasing as follows: Round 1: On needle 1: knit to last 3 sts, k2tog, k1. On needle 2: K1, SKP, knit to last 3 sts, k2tog, k1. On needle 3: K1, SKP, knit to end (center of heel).
Round 2: Knit.
Repeat rounds $1 \& 2$ until there are $12(16,20)$ sts left $[3(4,5)$ sts on needles $1 \& 3$, and $6(8,10)$ sts on needle 2].

KITCHNER STITCH: Continuing to knit with needle 3, knit to the end of needle 1 . There are now only 2 needles in use: $6(8,10)$ sts on each. Cut the yarn, leaving 18 ". Thread it onto a blunt needle. Hold the 2 needles parallel, you will now have a front needle and a back needle. Always keep the yarn beneath the needle as you work.
Step 1: Go into the first st on the front needle as if to knit, pull the st off the needle.
Step 2: Go into the second st on the front needle as if to purl, leave st on the needle.
Step 3: Go into the first st on the back needle as if to purl, pull the st off of the needle.
Step 4: Go into the second st on the back needle as if to knit, leave the st on the needle.
Now you have 4 new sts to work with. Repeat steps $1-4$ until all sts are woven. Anchor on inside, weave in ends.
Make a second sock; counting rows to make sure it is the same length.
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