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FOREVER Ladies (Men's) Basic Socks



MATERIALS: 2(3)- (50g) balls of Forever, double pointed needles size US 2, or size needed to obtain gauge. 2 balls makes 1 pair ladies size medium socks.

GAUGE: 8 sts =1" on size US 2 needles.

Stitch Patterns St St: Knit every round.

Note: When slipping sts, always slip as if to purl, except for the SSK.

SSK = slip 1 st as if to knit, slip a second st as if to knit, then knit the 2 stitches together through the back.

BASIC SOCK CUFF:

With one needle, cast on 64 (72) sts. Divide onto 3 needles. Being careful not to twist the sts, join and work in the round as follows: K2, P2 around. Work in K2, P2 ribbing for 6". Knit 4 rounds. At beginning of next round divide for heel.

DIVIDE FOR HEEL:

Transfer sts around so that there are 32 (36) sts on the first needle, and 16 (18) sts on each of the other two needles. Work back and forth across the first needle ONLY as follows: Row1: (Slip 1, K1), repeat across. Row 2: Slip the first st, PURL ACROSS ALL

THE REMAINING STS. Repeat these 2 rows for 32 (36) rows total, then work row 1 once more. **TURN HEEL:**

Row 1: Purl to 2 sts beyond the center: 18 (20) sts, 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 knit row. There will be 18 (20) sts left.

ABBREVIATIONS: $\mathbf{K} = \text{knit}$, $\mathbf{P} = \text{purl}$, $\mathbf{sts} = \text{stitch}(\text{es})$, $\mathbf{k2tog} = \text{knit}$ two together, SSK = slip 1 stitch as if to knit, slip a second stitch as if to knit, then knit the 2 stitches together.

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GUSSET:

Continuing to work on the same needle, pick up and knit 16 (18) 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 16 (18) sts along the other side of the heel, and continue knitting to the center of the heel sts: 9 (10) sts (needle 3). There should now be 25 (28) sts on needles 1 & 3, and 32 (36) 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, K2tog, K1.

Knit across second needle. On third needle, K1, SSK, knit to end.

Repeat rounds 1 & 2 until there are 16 (18) sts left on both needles 1 & 3. Needle 2 will remain at 32 (36) sts since no decreases take place there. You will now be back to the original # of sts: 64 (72). Begin to knit in the round again until length from back of heel is 2" less than desired length of finished sock. 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 16 (18) sts on each of needles 1 & 3, and 32 (36) sts on needle 2. Begin decreasing as follows:

Round 1: On needle 1: Knit to last 3 sts, K2tog, K1. On needle 2: K1, SSK, knit to last 3 sts, K2tog, K1. On needle 3: K1, SSK, knit to end (center of heel).

Round 2: Knit.

Repeat rounds 1 & 2 until there are 24 (28) sts left.

KITCHNER STITCH:

Continuing to knit with needle 3, knit to the end of needle 1. There are now only 2 needles in use, 12 (14) 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 stitch on the front needle as if to knit, pull the stitch off the needle.

Step 2: Go into the second stitch on the front needle as if to purl, leave stitch on the needle.

Step 3: Go into the first stitch on the back needle as if to purl, pull the stitch off of the needle.

Step 4: Go into the second stitch on the back needle as if to knit, leave the stitch 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 size.

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