

Campfire Socks Toe-up Version (For Two Circular Needles or Magic Loop)

From Cider Moon Yarns

This pattern is based on the same principles used in the Widdershins pattern by Brooke Chenoweth Creel from Knitty.com for a toe-up sock that has a standard slip-stitch heel flap and gusset instead of using the short-row or afterthought heel which some find does not fit as well. (Of course, use the heel you like best...they are **your** socks!!) (This pattern can easily be used with double-pointed needles as well, simply distribute the stitches in the manner you are accustomed to for double points and proceed!)

Materials: 1 Skein Glacier Yarn from Cider Moon (SW merino dk weight, 110 g, approx. 253 yd). Size 4 (3.5 mm) needles, or as required to get gauge, 2, 24" circular needles or 1, 40" circular for Magic Loop.

Gauge: 6 sts/inch over stockinette stitch.

Using your favorite cast-on method for toe-up socks, cast 8 sts to each needle or 8 sts to each end of the needle for Magic Loop. I use the Magic Cast-On from Knitty.com (search "Magic Cast-On" in the website), or you could use the figure-8 cast-on or the one in Wendy Knits for her basic sock pattern. Increase 1 st each side (on 2nd and 2nd to last st) 7 times (3 every round, 2 every other round and 2 every 3rd round) to 22 sts per needle. (This makes the toe a little less "pointy".) Commence pattern stitch on instep needle:

Round 1: *P2, K1, P1* to last 2 sts, P2.

Round 2: *P1, K3* to last 2 sts, P1, K1.

Knit all sts on heel needle.

Start gusset increases at 5½ to 6" of the foot, or desired length. Make gusset increases on heel needle 2 sts every other round for a total of 14 rounds (7 sts added each side).

Heel turn: On the next round, K across the instep sts in pattern. On the heel needle, K22, M1, K1, W&T.

Next row: P10, M1P, P1, W&T

Next row: K9, M1, W&T

Next row: P8, M1P, P1, W&T

Next row: K7, M1, K1, W&T

Next row: P6, M1P, P1, W&T

Next row: K5, M1, K1, W&T

Next row: P4, M1P, P1, W&T

A total of 4 more sts added each side. (Total of 44 sts on heel needle.)

Next round, K around all sts on both needles, picking up the wraps as they are encountered and knitting them together with the stitch they wrapped. (Work all sts on the instep needle in pattern.) When you reach the heel needle again, begin the heel flap.

On heel needle: K across 32, SSK, turn (do not wrap).

Next row: S11, P20, P2tog, turn.

Next row: S11, K1 across to the gap left by the slipped st in previous row, SSK across the gap, turn.

Next Row: S11, P across to the gap, P2tog across the gap, turn.

Continue in this manner until all the extra sts on heel needle have been worked, ending with a K row (there will still be one extra st on the other side of the heel needle). Do not turn here, but continue across the instep needle in pattern. When you reach the heel needle, K2tog on the first 2 sts (44 sts total).

Continue in pattern around all sts until the leg is the desired length minus one inch (6").

Work the last inch or so in K1, P1 rib. **Loosely** bind off all sts. (I make a backward-loop M1 after each knit stitch in the ribbing the row before the bind-off, then work the bind-off as usual except slip each made stitch, purl the next stitch, and slip the made stitch over the purled stitch to bind it off. Or you can use needles a size or two larger to do the bind-off row.)