

Campfire Socks



Campfire Socks Materials List

1 – 2, 110 gram skeins of sportweight superwash wool sock yarn. Number of skeins needed depends on what size socks you knit.

Size 4 US double pointed needles (or size required to achieve gauge) Size 4 US 12" circular needles (or size required to get gauge) – Optional. I like using circular needles for the leg and foot of the sock, but you can certainly do the entire socks on DPNs if you desire.

Row counter

Yarn needle

Stitch markers

Campfire Socks Step by Step

Size: Women's (Men's, Bigfoot). Instructions are written in that order, with the women's first, men's first inside the parenthesis, and Bigfoot second inside the parenthesis.

Finished Measurements: Size will depend on length of foot

Gauge: 6 sts in stockinette stitch = 1" (after blocking); 8 rows = 1" in pattern stitch (after blocking)

Abbreviations found at end of pattern.

1. Loosely CO 44 (48, 52) sts on either your circular or double pointed needles (dividing evenly on DPNs). Join into a round, being careful not to twist your stitches, and place a stitch marker where the round begins.
2. Knit the first 8 rounds in a *K1, P1* repeat.
3. Reset your row counter. Repeat the following 2 rounds until leg of sock measures 7" (or desired length) ending after round 2:
 - 1 – *K3, P1* to end.
 - 2 – *P1, K1, P2* to end.
4. After knitting the length of the leg, it's time to start the heel flap (you can ditch the stitch marker during the heel shaping). Begin by knitting the first 11 (12, 13) sts of the next round – just knit these, don't knit them in pattern.
5. At this point, if you'd like to switch to a contrasting color for the heel, go ahead and break your yarn, leaving at least a 6" tail to weave in. If just knitting in on color, skip ahead to step 6.

6. Turn work and P22 (24, 26) sts onto a new needle. These are the heel stitches, which will be worked back and forth in rows from this point. Place other 22 (24, 26) sts on to a spare needle or stitch holder to hold for the instep.
7. Knit the following 3 rows on your heels sts:
 - 1 - K2, *S11, K1* to end.
 - 2 - S11, Purl to end.
 - 3 - *S11, K1* to end.
8. Repeat the last 2 rounds 8 (9, 10) more times for a total of 19 (21, 23) rows.
9. Knit row 20 (22, 24): S11, Purl across.
10. Now it's time to turn the heel! Woo-hoo! This is done using short rows. If you've never done this before, don't be afraid. Basically what you'll be doing is knitting part way across the row, and then turning your work to knit (or purl) back in the opposite direction. You will not be knitting every stitch of the row until the end of heel. Got it? Good. Here we go!
11. To set up the turning of the heel, knit the following row: K15 (16, 18), SKP, turn work. You should now be looking at the purl side of the heel flap.
12. Repeat the following 2 rows until all the heel stitches have been worked, ending after you've completed Row 1. You should have 10 (10, 12) sts remaining on the heel needle.
 - 1 - S11, P8 (8, 10), P2TOG, turn work.
 - 2 - S11, K8 (8, 10), SKP, turn work.
13. If you've changed colors for the heel flap, this would be a good time to go ahead and switch back to your original sock color.
14. The next exciting step of your sock adventure is to shape the gusset! What happens here is that you'll pick up stitches along the side of the heel flap to connect the heel flap back to the instep. Don't panic, just take your time. It'll be okay. One little hint to help you along your way - what we do to avoid the dreaded "Holey Gusset" syndrome is to knit the picked up stitches through the back loops. This tightens the stitches up a little bit, and creates a firmer gusset. Just do this while you're knitting the picked up gusset stitches, and go back to knitting the regular way on the next round.

15. Take a deep breath, and start by knitting all of the stitches on your heel needle.

16. With a new needle, pick up and knit 11 (12, 13) sts along the first side of the heel flap.

17. With another new needle, knit across the instep sts in pattern: *P1, K3* x 5, P1, K1 ([*K3, P1* x 6], [K2, P1, *K3, P1* x 5, K3]).

18. With one more new needle, pick up and knit 11 (12, 13) sts along the other side of the heel flap.

19. Using the same needle, knit 5 (5, 6) sts off of the heel needle. You've picked up the heel stitches! Hooray!



Look! It's how to knit through the back of the loop! Be empowered!

20. After you're done celebrating, slip the 6 remaining sts on your heel needle to the needle with your first picked-up stitches on it. This needle is now called Needle 1. At this point, you should have 16 (17, 19) stitches on Needles 1 and 3, and 22 (24, 26) stitches on the instep needle, or Needle 2. The beginning of Needle 1 is now the beginning of the round, and you can go ahead and put your stitch marker back on. If you're knitting with a circular needle, you can go ahead and put stitch markers in between the stitches where Needle 2 would begin and end.

21. Next you'll decrease the gusset. This is done by decreasing stitches at the end of Needle 1 and the beginning of Needle 3. It's a piece of cake; don't worry.

22. Repeat the next 2 rounds 5 (5, 6) times for a total of 10 (10, 12) rounds:

- 1 - Needle 1 - Knit to the last 3 sts, K2TOG, K1
Needle 2 - *P2, K1, P1* x 5, P2 ([*P1, K1, P2* x 6], [*K1, P3* x 6, K1, P1])
Needle 3 - K1, SSK, Knit to end
- 2 - Needle 1 - Knit all sts
Needle 2 - *P1, K3* x 5, P1, K1 ([*K3, P1* x 6], [K2, P1, *K3, P1* x 5, K3])
Needle 3 - Knit all sts

23. After the gusset is shaped, there will be 11 (12, 13) sts on each of Needles 1 and 3.

24. The next bit is to knit the length of the foot. How long do you make your sock? We normally measure the length of the foot in question from heel to toe, and then add about a ½" to it. Once you have this measurement, knit the foot of your sock in the following two round repeat until the sock measures 2" less than the desired measurement (measure the length of your sock from the back of the heel up to the working round of stitches). The two round repeat that gets you to that point is as follows:

- 1 - Needle 1 - Knit all stitches
Needle 2 - *P2, K1, P1* x 5, P2 ([*P1, K1, P2* x 6], [*K1, P3* x 6, K1, P1])
Needle 3 - Knit all stitches
- 2 - Needle 1 - Knit all stitches
Needle 2 - *P1, K3* x 5, P1, K1 ([*K3, P1* x 6], [K2, P1, *K3, P1* x 5, K3])
Needle 3 - Knit all stitches

25. Once you're 2" shorter than your target measurement, it's time to start the toe. You're almost there! If you're changing colors for the toe, go ahead and do that now. Also, if you're using circular needles, go ahead and switch to DPNs starting with the next round.

26. Ready? Okay - repeat the next 2 rounds until 24 sts remain:

- 1 - Needle 1 - Knit to last 3 sts, K2TOG, K1
Needle 2 - K1, SSK, Knit to last 3 sts, K2TOG, K1
Needle 3 - K1, SSK, K to end
- 2 - Knit all stitches on all needles.

27. When 24 sts remain, repeat round 1 until 8 sts remain. At this point, you can go ahead and Kitchener Stitch the 8 sts together, or you can break your yarn, leaving a longish tail, thread a yarn needle with the end, and draw the yarn tightly through the loops of the remaining stitches.

28. All you have left to do is turn the sock inside out and weave in all of your ends. Oh, and knit the second sock. ☺ Congratulations!



Abbreviations

sts = Stitches

CO = Cast on

DPNs = Double pointed needles

K = Knit

P = Purl

Sl1 = Slip one stitch purlwise

SKP = Slip one stitch knitwise, knit the next stitch, and then pass the slipped stitch over the knitted stitch and off the needle

P2TOG = Purl two stitches together

K2TOG = Knit two stitches together

SSK = Slip one stitch knitwise, slip the next stitch knitwise,

and then knit the two slipped stitches together through the back loops

The socks were actually knit at a campfire! Hence, the name!

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