

Twinkle Twinkle Little Socks Pattern



I wrote this pattern for and during the 2010 Ravelympics. It was my first real design! It was trying to find a lace pattern that would work well with the Dream In Color Starry I had, one that would work with the subtle variations in color and the sparkles. I think this fits the bill! It's the Little Arrowhead Lace from pg 193 of my copy of Barbara Walker's *A Treasury of Knitting Patterns*. The charts were made by me.

Knee high, with a flap heel and calf gussets that flow naturally out of the lace pattern, these socks were worked from the toe-up two at a time on a circular needle using Magic Loop. This pattern assumes knowledge of Magic Loop, short rows, the KFB increase and m1 increases, and basic lace. The instructions are only given for a singular sock, but if you've done any Magic Loop sock knitting before you can pretty easily knit both at once—just do everything twice!

Materials: 1 skein Dream in Color Starry in the Gray Tabby colorway, 450 yards. (You can substitute another sock yarn, but I recommend a yarn that's on the thicker end of the fingering spectrum as it works better with the smallish stitch count.)

1 32 or 40 inch circular needle, Size 1 (2.25mm). I used a Knitpicks fixed circular.

Tapestry needle for weaving in ends.

Determination to finish these socks no matter what, foregoing sleep, showering, and real food for 17 days. (Only needed if competing in the Ravelympics.)

Split-ring stitch marker.

Gauge: 8.5 stitches/inch. Row gauge is non-vital as this is a knit-until-it-fits pattern.

Size: This pattern is written to fit my feet and legs, which are around a women's size 8. My foot measures 7.5 inches around the instep, and my calf measures 12 inches around at the widest. For those of you with larger calves than I do, I'm including a couple of extra increase charts. These will not be mentioned in the pattern, but I think you're smart enough to figure out what do do with them.

Pattern

CO 12 sts using Judy's Magic Cast-On. K one round plain. Attach split-ring stitch marker to the bottom right side of the stitches on the needle facing you. This marks the beginning of the round. The stitches on the needle closest to you are the instep stitches. The stitches on the needle furthest from you are the sole stitches.

Round 1: (Kfb, k to 2 sts before end, kfb, k1) twice. (4 sts increased.)

Round 2: K all stitches.

Repeat these two rounds until you have 56 sts total, 28 sts per needle. K 5 rounds plain. Begin lace pattern on instep only. K all sole sts.

Lace Pattern A

		o	/\	o		
	o	/		\	o	

O = Yo	\ = ssk	/ = k2tog	/\ = slip 2 sts tog knitwise, k1, ps2sso	Blank = knit
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Row 1: K all sts

Row 2: (K1, yo, ssk, k1, k2tog, yo, k1), rep across.

Row 3: K all sts.

Row 4: (K2, yo, slip 2 sts tog knitwise, k1, pass slipped sts over, yo, k2), rep across.

Continue knitting lace pattern across instep sts and knitting the sole sts plain until sock measures 5.75 inches (OR when you try it on it hits the point on your instep where your foot starts getting taller), ending with round 4 of lace pattern. This is where you'll begin the gusset increases on the sole stitches while continuing to work the lace pattern on the instep stitches. These instructions are for the sole stitches ONLY.

Round 1: Kfb in first sole st, k to last 2 sts, kfb, k1. (2 sts increased.)

Round 2: K sole sts plain.

Repeat these two rounds on the sole while working the lace pattern as set on the instep until the sock measures 1 inch less than the desired length. (Or, when you try it on the sock hits the back of the ankle bump on the outside of your foot.) End with row 4 in the lace pattern, but work the instep sts only, do not k the sole sts. It's time to turn the heel.

Turn Heel

K across gusset sts (I had 16 gusset sts, you might have more. Count all your sole sts, subtract 28 then divide by 2 to figure out how many you have).

K27 sts, W&T. (Wrap and turn.)

P26 sts, W&T.

Continue in this manner, knitting to one st before the previous wrapped st before you W&T, until you have 12 unwrapped sts left. Time to turn the heel and begin the heel flap. The sole stitches are now going to become the heel stitches as you knit up the heel flap.

K across heel sts, knitting the wraps together with their stitches. After knitting the last wrapped stitch together with it's wrap, turn, sl1wise and purl back, purling the wraps together with their stitches. After purling the last wrapped stitch together with its wrap, turn.

Sl1 K1 (slipping sts as if to purl) to last heel st. Ssk heel st together with first gusset st. Turn.

Sl1, P across to last heel st. P2tog with first gusset st.

Repeat these two rows until all gusset sts are used up. End with a RS (sl1k1) row.

K all sts (row 1 of pattern). You should be back to 56 sts total, 28 on needle 1 and 28 on needle 2. You may need to pick up a st between the heel flap and the instep sts. If you do, pick it up and then immediately ktog with the next st. This will help close any gaps.

Work Lace Pattern A across all sts. (Needle 1 will now be called the shin sts, and needle 2 holds the calf sts.) Continue in pattern until when tried on, sock is snug around the calf and would soon become too tight around the calf without increasing. (This was about 5.5 inches in pattern from the top of the heel flap for me.) End with round 4 of Lace Pattern A.

Work shin sts in Lace Pattern A as set. On calf sts, work Lace Pattern A once, then work Increase Pattern A twice, then work Lace Pattern A once more. 8 sts increased at end of Increase Pattern A.

Increase Pattern A

		o	/	o	/\	o	\	o		
	o		o	/		\	o		o	
	v	■						■	v	

O = Yo	V = m1	\ = ssk	/ = k2tog	/\ = slip 2 sts tog knitwise, k1, ps2sso	Blank = knit	Black = no stitch
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Row 1: K1, m1, k5, m1, k1.

Row 2: K1, yo, k1, yo, ssk, k1, k2tog, yo, k1, yo, k1.

Row 3: K all sts.

Row 4: K2, yo, ssk, yo, slip 2 sts tog knitwise, k1, pass slipped sts over, yo, k2tog, yo,

k2.

Once Increase Pattern A is complete, needle 1 will contain four repeats of Lace Pattern A. Needle 2 will contain one repeat of Lace Pattern A, two repeats of Lace Pattern B (see below), and one more repeat of Lace Pattern A.

Lace Pattern B

		O	/	O	/\	O	\	O		
	O	/	O	/		\	O	\	O	

O = Yo	\ = ssk	/ = k2tog	/\ = slip 2 sts tog knitwise, k1, ps2sso	Blank = knit
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- Row 1: K1 all sts
- Row 2: K1, yo, ssk, yo, ssk, k1, k2tog, yo, k2tog, yo, k1.
- Row 3: K all sts.
- Row 4: K2, yo, ssk, yo, slip 2 sts tog knitwise, k1, pass slipped sts over, yo, k2tog, yo, k2.

Work in patterns as set for four pattern repeats, or until when sock is tried on the stitches are again tight across the calf. End with round 4 of pattern. On needle 1, work Lace Pattern A across all stitches. On needle 2, work Lace Pattern A once, then work Increase Pattern B twice, then Lace Pattern A once more. 8 sts increased at the end of Increase Pattern B.

Increase Pattern B

		O	/	O	/	O	/\	O	\	O	\	O		
	O		O	/	O	/		\	O	\	O		O	
	V	■										■	V	

O = Yo	V = m1	\ = ssk	/ = k2tog	/\ = slip 2 sts tog knitwise, k1, ps2sso	Blank = knit	Black = no stitch
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- Row 1: K1, m1, k9, m1, k1.
- Row 2: K1, yo, k1, yo, ssk, yo, ssk, k1, k2tog, yo, k2tog, yo, k1, yo, k1.

Row 3: K all sts.

Row 4: K2, yo, ssk, yo, ssk, yo, slip 2 sts tog knitwise, k1, pass slipped sts over, yo, k2tog, yo, k2tog, yo, k2.

When Increase Patten B is completed, continue working the sts on needle 1 in Lace Pattern A. On needle 2, work one repeat of Lace Patten A, two repeats of Lace Pattern C (see below) and one more repeat of Lace Patten A.

Lace Pattern C

		O	/	O	/	O	/\	O	\	O	\	O		
	O	/	O	/	O	/		\	O	\	O	\	O	

O = Yo	\ = ssk	/ = k2tog	/\ = slip 2 sts tog knitwise, k1, ps2sso	Blank = knit
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Row 1: K all sts.

Row 2: K1, yo, ssk, yo, ssk, yo, ssk, k1, k2tog, yo, k2tog, yo, k2tog, yo, k1.

Row 3: K all sts.

Row 4: K2, yo, ssk, yo, ssk, yo, slip 2 sts tog knitwise, k1, pass slipped sts over, yo, k2tog, yo, k2tog, yo, k2.

Continue in patterns as set until sock measures 1 inch less than desired length when tried on, ending with row 1 of pattern. (A plain knit row.)

Rib Pattern

Needle 1: (K1, p2, k1, p2, k1) across.

Needle 2: (K1, p2, k1, p2, k1) once, then (k1, p2, k2, p2, k1, p2, k2, p2, k1) twice, then (k1, p2, k1, p2, k1) once.

Work in rib patten for about 16 rounds (more or less depending on how you think it should look.) Break yarn, leaving generous length. BO using Elizabeth Zimmerman's sewn bind off method or your favorite stretchy bind-off.

Finishing

Weave in ends. Shove feet in socks gleefully, baking in the glory of your accomplishment. Collapse into bed, as you were up until 11:45pm finishing these socks. Sleep like the dead.

