

Lewis Creek Socks



Designed by Elizabeth Wall

I was looking for a simplistic sock pattern to use for some of my handspun sock yarn, something that wouldn't bore me stiff like a plain vanilla sock but would still fly off the needles and show off the long color repeats of the yarn. I couldn't find quite what I was looking for, so I pulled out a stitch dictionary and these socks were born. They are ideal for handspun not only for the texture, but their toe-up construction makes it possible to use every little bit of yarn. Also, they are reversible, as seen in the light green sample. ☺

I called the pattern Lewis Creek because the colors of my yarn and the texture of the pattern remind me of looking up through the tall trees around the creek on my family's homestead. My grandfather, Lewis, paved the ground around one side of the creek with stones and set a bench there. As a child I loved slipping out of the house at night to go sit with Grandpa at the creek. The trees formed interlocking waves high above my head, and if the wind blew just right I could see the stars through the branches.



Size: Adjustable, written for an average width foot. Recommend changing needle and yarn size to increase or decrease size.

Yarn: Handspun, 400 yards. Used Navajo-plied Falkland from AllSpunUp for sample socks. Alternative is 1 skein (100 grams) commercial sock yarn.

Gauge: 8 stitches per inch in st st, unblocked.

Needles: 32 inch circular in size needed to obtain gauge (for Magic Loop technique).

Notions: Stitch marker.

Instructions

This pattern uses the Magic Loop method, but could be easily converted to 2 circulars or, with a little more effort, to dpns. You just have to keep track of the top and bottom of the sock.

Using your preferred toe-up cast on method (see end of instructions for more detail), cast on 16 stitches, 8 on each side of your circular needle. Place stitch marker to indicate beginning of round. Knit toe increases as follows:

Row 1: Knit around.

Row 2: K1, m1, knit to last stitch on first needle, m1, k1. Repeat on second needle.

Repeat until you have 60 stitches, 30 on each side of your circular needle.

Stitch Pattern:

Begin working the stitch pattern on the top of your sock only (instep stitches). The sole stitches will be in stockinette. If using the chart, remember that all rows are charted.

Row 1-4: K5, p5, repeat to end.

Row 5, 6: K4, p1, k1, p4, repeat to end.

Row 7, 8: K3, p2, k2, p3, repeat to end.

Row 9, 10: K2, p3, k3, p2, repeat to end.

Row 11, 12: K1, p4, k4, p1, repeat to end.

Row 13-16: P5, k5, repeat to end.

Row 17, 18: P4, k1, p1, k4, repeat to

end.

Row 19, 20: P3, k2, p2, k3, repeat to end.

Row 21, 22: P2, k3, p3, k2, repeat to end.

Row 23, 24: P1, k4, p4, k1, repeat to end.

Repeat rows 1-24.

Knit in stitch pattern until foot is 2.5 inches shorter than desired length. Then continue as follows, with instep stitches on needle 1 and sole stitches on needle 2:



Row 1, needle 1: Knit in stitch pattern.

Row 1, needle 2: K1, m1, knit to last stitch, m1, k1.

Row 2, needle 1: Knit in stitch pattern.

Row 2, needle 2: Knit.

Repeat until you have 52 stitches on needle 2.

Turn heel as follows, working back and forth using the stitches on needle 2.

Row 1: K29, ssk, k1, turn.

Row 2: S1, p7, p2tog, p1, turn.

Row 3: S1, k8, ssk, k1, turn.

Row 4: S1, p9, p2tog, p1, turn.

Row 5: S1, k10, ssk, k1, turn.

Row 6: S1, p11, p2tog, p1, turn.

Continue in this manner until you have worked all of the stitches and are left with 30 stitches on the needle once again.

Begin working in the round again, adding the chart to the heel stitches (now the back of the leg). Be sure to start the chart for the heel stitches at the same place you left off on the instep stitches.

Knit in stitch pattern until leg is 1 inch less than desired length, ending with Row 16 or Row 24. Knit in 5x5 rib, knitting the knit stitches and purling the purl stitches from the stitch pattern. Knit in rib for 1 inch. Bind off *loosely*.





Chart Key:
Blank square = knit
- = purl

	-	-	-	-					-	24
	-	-	-	-					-	23
		-	-	-				-	-	22
			-	-				-	-	21
				-			-	-	-	20
				-			-	-	-	19
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-	-	-				-	-			7
-	-	-	-			-				6
-	-	-	-			-				5
-	-	-	-	-						4
-	-	-	-	-						3
-	-	-	-	-						2
-	-	-	-	-						1

If you are trying toe-up socks for the first time, I highly recommend Judy’s Magic Cast-On as published in the online magazine Knitty.com. It is quick, provides a smooth toe, and is easy to learn. If you prefer a different cast-on method that is, of course, perfectly acceptable, but for new toe-up sock knitters I can’t imagine there’s a more stress-free cast-on method anywhere!

<http://www.knitty.com/ISSUESpring06/FEATmagiccaston.html>

Stitch pattern adapted from Vogue Knitting Stitchionary Vol. 1.

Many thanks to my wonderful test knitters on Ravelry, and especially knittin4britain for letting me use her beautiful photo (light green socks)!