

KUSCHELSOCKEN™

“TM” does not stand for trademark, but for Tante (Aunt) Maria. She used to knit these super cosy socks for the whole family. In remembrance of her I have written down the pattern from the last pair of socks I have. They have been in my sock drawer for years because they are worn thin and have more than one hole. Happy knitting!



TECHNIQUES USED

- long-tail cast-on or twisted German cast-on/
Norwegian cast-on
- working in the round (with double pointed needles) and in rows
- knit and purl stitches
- yarnovers
- slipping stitches and passing stitches over
- single decreases
- heel with heel flap and gusset decreases
- working with 2 or three strand of yarn

WHAT YOU NEED...

- **Either** two DK yarns/6-ply sock yarns
or one aran yarn/worsted yarn/8-ply sock yarn and one fingering weight yarn/4-ply sock yarn
or three fingering weight yarns/4-ply sock yarns
Feel free to combine colours as desired. The classic Tante Maria-sock used one white/natural yarn and one contrast colour.
- **The socks shown were knitted with:**
100 g = 2 balls Drops, Lima (65% wool, 35% alpaca, 50 g/100 m)
and 100 g = 2 balls Wolle Rödel, Baby Alpaca (100% alpaca, 50 g/115 m)
- set of double pointed needles size 4.5mm–6.00mm/US 7–10
If you use non-sock yarns, you should use a bigger needle size.
- Yarn needle
- Stitch markers (optional)

GAUGE

7.5 sts and 12 rows = 5 cm/2" in stockinette
12 sts and 11 rows = 5 cm/2" in rib pattern

FINISHED MEASUREMENTS

Leg circumference: 17.5–33 cm/7–13"
Length of foot: variable
Length of toe: 5.5 cm/2¹/₆"

PATTERNS**Rib pattern**

Rnd 1 * k2, p2; rep from *.

Rnd 2 * k1, yo, k1, p2; rep from * [1 st per knit column increased].

Rnd 3 * k3, p2; rep from *.

Rnd 4 * sl 1 knitwise, k2, pss0, p2; rep from * [1 st per knit column decreased].

Rep Rnd 1–4.

Stockinette stitch*In rows*

Row 1 (RS) Knit.

Row 2 (WS) Purl.

Rep Row 1–2.

In rounds

Knit each rnd.

ABBREVIATIONS

st/sts stitch/stitches

rnd/rnds round/rounds

RS right side

WS wrong side

st st stockinette stitch

pwise purlwise

wyf with yarn in front

wyb with yarn in back

k knit

p purl

ssk slip, slip, knit: Slip 2 sts as if to knit to the RH needle one after the other, insert the LH into the front loops of these 2 sts, knit the 2 sts together

sl slip

p2tog purl 2 together

k2tog knit 2 together

rep repeat

yo yarn over

SOCKS**LEG**

Cast on 36 sts and distribute sts evenly on four needles

[10 sts each on needle 1 and 3; 8 sts each on needle 2 and 4].

Join for working in rnds and place marker for beginning of rnd, being careful not to twist sts.

Work Rnd 1 of rib pattern once, then repeat Rnd 1–4 of rib pattern, until leg measures desired length

[I usually work 10 repeats].

Finish the last rnd one st before end of rnd (after the first st of a purl column) to shift the starting point of the heel flap.

Note: Since the socks are worn with positive ease, the leg can be worked longer than usual without decreases/increases for shaping.

**HEEL****Heel flap**

The heel flap is worked back and forth on the following 16 sts.

Starting with a RS row, work 16 rows in st st. Knit the first and last st of every row.

Turn heel

Row 1 (RS) k10, ssk, turn.

Row 2 (WS) Sl 1 pwise wyf, p4, p2tog, turn.

Row 3 Sl 1 pwise wyb, k4, ssk, turn.

Rows 4–10 Rep Rows 2–3 three more times, then work R 2 once more.

Next row Sl 1 pwise wyb, k2, taking a free needle and knit the last 3 sts of the heel.

**GUSSET**

Pick up and knit 7 sts along heel flap, pick up an extra st from the corner, work instep in rib pattern (starting and ending with p1), pick up an extra st from the corner and 7 sts along second side of heel flap, k3 (to reach original beginning of rnd) [42 sts total: 22 sole sts and 20 instep sts].

Gusset Decreases

Note: To prevent a hole when picking up the extra stitch from the corner between heel flap and instep stitches, do not use a M1 increase (picking up and twisting the strand between two stitches). Instead pick up a stitch out of the next stitch that is in line with the selvedge stitch of the heel flap. Alternatively, pick up the purl bump of the first and last stitch of the instep and knit into its back loop.

Rnd 1 Knit to 3 sts before beginning of instep, k2tog, k1, work instep sts in rib pattern, k1, ssk, knit to end of rnd [2 sts decreased].

Rnd 2–3 Knit the sole sts, work instep sts in rib pattern.

Rep Rnd 1–3 twice more [36 sts total: 16 sole sts and 20 instep sts].

FOOT

Work even in patterns, until foot measures approx. 5.5 cm/2¹/₆" less than desired foot length (measured from back of heel flap), ending with Rnd 1 or 4 of rib pattern. If necessary, work a few rnds in st st.

Toe

Toe is worked in st st.

Set up rnd Knit to instep sts, k2tog, place marker in st just made (optional), knit to 2 sts before end of instep, ssk, place marker in st just made (optional), knit to end of rnd [34 sts].

Note: The toe decreases are worked on both sides of the marked stitches.

Dec rnd Knit to 2 sts before instep/the marked st, k2tog, k1 (= the marked st), ssk, knit to 3 sts before end of instep/second marked st, k2tog, k1 (= the marked st), ssk, knit to end of rnd [4 sts decreased].

* Work 2 rnds even. Rep dec rnd. * Rep from * to * once.

** Work 1 rnd even. Rep dec rnd. ** Rep from ** to ** once.

Rep dec rnd twice [6 sts].

Cut yarn and pull through all sts twice. Pull tight to close the hole.

Weave in all ends on WS of work.

