

Cozy Fireside Socks

These colors and patterns reminded me of sitting around my stove here on Hayford Hill during the late autumn, but you can use whatever colors make you happy! Worked cuff-down, made to fit a medium size ladies' foot at mid-calf, adjust tension and length of instep/foot for a more custom fit. Easy fair isle socks – no catching floats! **Instructions are for using the Magic Circle method.**

Materials:

I have not mentioned the yarn brands as at least 3 of them that I used were languishing in a yarn sock drawer for years, and the exact yarns are not available anymore. *As everyone knits differently, the yarn amounts are approximate.*

Fingering weight sock yarn (at least 10% nylon/rayon)

MC, approximately 340 yards for mid-calf size

CC1 & CC2– approximately 75 yards

CC3 – approximately 50 yards

CC4 – approximately 25 yards

#2 US (2.75mm) circular knitting needles, at least 32", or size needed to achieve gauge.

Gauge: 32 sts/40 rounds = 4" (10 cm)

Stitch marker

Stitch holder or scrap yarn



Abbreviations:

k = knit

p = purl

pm = place marker

sm = slip marker

ssk = slip one stitch knitwise, slip next stitch knitwise, put tip of left-hand needle into front part of both stitches and knit them together (slip, slip, knit)

st(s) = stitch(es)

wyib = with yarn in back

Tension:

32 sts and 40 rounds = 4" in stockinette stitch

Instructions:

So let's get started already! With MC, cast on 64 sts, pm, slip with every round to mark the beginning of round. Work in k2 p2 rib for 3"

K for 1/2", then work chart 1 around

	4	3	2	1	
7	Blue	Orange	Blue	Blue	7
6	Orange	Orange	Orange	Blue	6
5	Grey	Blue	Grey	Blue	5
4	Blue	Blue	Blue	Grey	4
3	Grey	Blue	Grey	Blue	3
2	Orange	Orange	Orange	Blue	2
1	Blue	Orange	Blue	Blue	1

	4	3	2	1	
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Chart 1

K for 1/2" in MC, then work chart 2 around

	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	
9		Blue	Blue	Grey	Blue	Grey	Blue	Blue	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Blue	Grey	Grey	Grey	9
8	Blue	Blue	Grey	Blue	Grey	Blue	Grey	Blue	Blue	Grey	Grey	Grey	Blue	Grey	Grey	Grey	8
7	Blue	Grey	Blue	Grey	Blue	Grey	Blue	Grey	Blue	Blue	Grey	Grey	Blue	Grey	Grey	Blue	7
6	Grey	Green	Grey	Green	Green	Green	Grey	Green	Grey	Green	Green	Grey	Green	Grey	Green	Green	6
5	Green	Grey	Green	Green	Grey	Green	Green	Grey	Green	Grey	Green	Green	Grey	Green	Green	Grey	5
4	Grey	Green	Green	Grey	Green	Grey	Green	Green	Grey	Green	Grey	Green	Green	Grey	Green	Green	4
3	Blue	Blue	Orange	Orange	Blue	Orange	Orange	Blue	Blue	Orange	Blue	Orange	Blue	Orange	Blue	Orange	3
2	Blue	Orange	Orange	Orange	Blue	Orange	Orange	Orange	Blue	Blue	Orange	Blue	Orange	Blue	Orange	Blue	2
1	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Blue	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Blue	Blue	Orange	Blue	Orange	Blue	Blue	1
	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	

Chart 2

Work in MC for another ½", then work chart 3

	4	3	2	1	
9	■	■	■	■	9
8	■	■	■	■	8
7	■	■	■	■	7
6	■	■	■	■	6
5	■	■	■	■	5
4	■	■	■	■	4
3	■	■	■	■	3
2	■	■	■	■	2
1	■	■	■	■	1
	4	3	2	1	

Chart 3

Work 3 rounds in MC, then divide stitches for the heel. Remove the pm this part of the sock.

Work 16 sts in next round, slip next 32 onto stitch holder or scrap yarn for the instep. As you'll be working back and forth for the next 2 ½" (33 rows), slide all the active stitches into one group, and you're ready to start work on the heel.

Heel

Set up row 1: S1p, p 14, p2tog, p 15 = 31 sts

Change to CC1 (orange)

Row 1: s1k, *k1, s1p WYIB* to last st, k1

Row 2: s1p, p to end of row.

Repeat two rows until row 33, or heel measures 2 ½", ending with a RS row.

Turning the heel

Row 1: s1p, p 16, p2tog, p1. **Turn**

Row 2: s1k, k4, ssk , k1. **Turn**

Row 3: s1p, p5, p2tog, p1. **Turn**

Row 4: s1k, k6, ssk, k1. **Turn**

Row 5: s1p, p7, p2tog, p1. **Turn**

Row 6: s1k, k8, ssk, k1. **Turn**

Row 7: s1p, p9, p2tog, p1. **Turn**

Row 8: s1k, k10, ssk, k1. **Turn**

Row 9: s1p, p11, p2tog, p1. **Turn**

Row 10: s1k, k12, ssk, k1. **Turn**

Row 11: s1p, p13, p2tog, p1. **Turn**

Row 12: s1k, k14, ssk, k1. **Turn**

Row 13: s1p, p15, p2tog. **Turn**

Row 14: s1k, k across.

18 stitches.



Instep

Change to MC. With /right side showing, pick up and knit 18 stitches along left side of heel. Before picking up the stitches on the stitch holder or scrap yarn, pick up an extra stitch between the join to avoid a nasty hole. Place marker. →

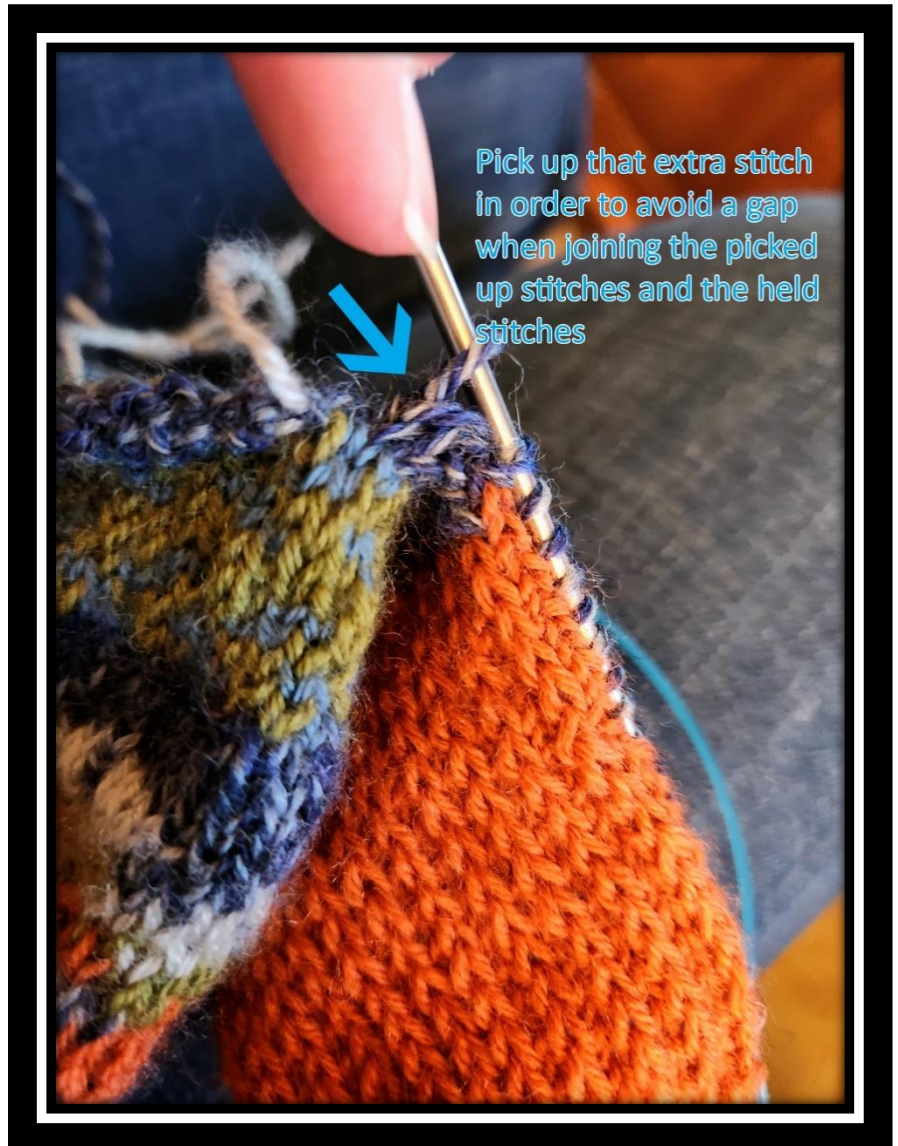
Pick up and knit the 16 sts from the holder. This will be the middle of the long round, so this is where I divide for the “circle”. Knit the other 16 sts. Place marker. Pick up the “spare” st, then pick up and knit 18 sts along the right side of the heel. Knit the first 9 stitches. You’re now at the beginning of the round and should have 88 sts.

Instep Decreases

Round 1: Knit to 4 sts from first pm, k2tog. K to 2 stitches past second pm, ssk, k to end of round.

Round 2: Knit

Repeat these two rounds until there are 64 sts. Remove the pms next round – they won’t be needed until later.



Work chart 4

	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	
3									3
2									2
1									1
	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	

Chart 4

Work in MC for another 1/2" then work chart 5

	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	
9																	9
8																	8
7																	7
6																	6
5																	5
4																	4
3																	3
2																	2
1																	1
	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	

Chart 5

Work in MC for approximately ½" inch or 6 rounds then work chart 6

	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	
9									9
8									8
7									7
6									6
5									5
4									4
3									3
2									2
1									1
	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	

Chart 6

Switch back to MC and knit a few rounds. Depending on your tension and size of foot, start trying on the sock and measuring the distance from the working edge to the end of your toes. We're looking for 1 ½ " and then we'll start shaping the toe and you're almost done. *Switch to CC1.*

Shaping the toe

Round 1: k13, ssk, k1, pm, k1, k2tog, k26, ssk, k1, pm, k1, k2tog, k13.

Round 2: k

Round 3: k to 3 sts before first marker, ssk, k1, sm, k1, k2tog, k to 3 sts before second marker, ssk, k1, sm, k1, k2tog, k to end of round.

Repeat rounds 2 & 3 for a total of 11 rounds and **40 sts remain**, then repeat round 3 5 (five) more times until 20 sts remain.

Grafting

Knit to the first pm, remove it, and using this as the beginning of the grafting, scotch stitches until you have 10 stitches on each needle, lined up with the decreases, ready for grafting. BEFORE cutting the yarn for grafting, ensure the fit is where you want it.

Unless you have a preferred grafting method, here is the link I use to walk me through the Kitchener Stitch. <https://youtu.be/I7jIzwO5Nv4>. It is not a technique that is easily explained through words alone but once you get it, it's easy.

Tuck in the ends and wear!

