

# Slip Stitch Delight Socks

©2006 Terry Ross Designs

These socks make liberal use of the ubiquitous slip stitch and have a very dense cuff texture for warmth and durability. They are shown here knitted in Socks That Rock medium weight sock yarn worked over 60 stitches with U.S. size #2 needles.

## Materials:

1 hank Socks That Rock medium weight sock yarn in 24 Karat  
U.S. size 2 (2.75 mm) needles (you may use either double pointed needles, 2 short circulars, or 1 long circular)  
Cable needle  
Tapestry needle  
Stitch markers

## Gauge, size, and finished dimensions:

6½ stitches per inch and 9½ rows per inch in stockinette stitch worked in the round on two U.S. size #2 bamboo circular needles. Fits a women's medium foot. Finished foot length is 9" and finished cuff diameter is 8". Finished height from cuff to bottom of heel is 8½". Please refer to the



**Cuff and Leg**



**Heel**



**Toe**

end of the pattern for alternative sizing suggestions.

The cuff begins with a K4P2 rib, followed by a section featuring a slipped stitch X motif. The leg is then worked in a tweed mock rib. The German heel features a nice sturdy heel stitch. A stockinette sole is complemented by an instep which continues the tweed mock rib broken by 2-stitch columns of stockinette stitch, and tapering off on each side of the instep as it nears the toe. The round toe decreases accelerate after half the decreases are worked on every other row, and the toe is grafted closed with Kitchener stitch.

## Cast on and work cuff ribbing:

Cast on 60 stitches and knit 8 rounds of ribbing using the ribbing pattern \*P1, K4, P1\*.

## X-motif section:

The next 12 rows will be worked as follows using a 6-stitch pattern repeat. Please see the abbreviations and stitch directions section at the end of the pattern for a full explanation of terms.

Round 1	*Kw <sup>2</sup> , K4, Kw <sup>2</sup> *
Rounds 2-5	*SI 1, K4, SI 1*
Round 6	*C3L, C3R*
Round 7	*K2, Kw <sup>2</sup> twice, K2*
Rounds 8-11	*K2, SI 2, K2*
Round 12	*C3R, C3L*

Following Round 12 of the pattern, knit 1 round of stockinette stitch (knit all stitches).

### **Tweed Mock Rib leg:**

Knit the leg repeating the following stitch pattern until it measures 6¾" from the cast on edge, or the height you prefer.

Round 1	*SI 1, K1, YO, PSSO*
Round 2	*K*

### **German Heel:**

*Flap –*

Work each heel back and forth on 30 stitches (one half of the sock stitches), repeating the following stitch pattern until the heel flap measures 2¼" long.

Row 1:	*SI1, K1*
Row 2:	*P*

*Heel turn –*

Starting on the right side, turn the heel in the following manner –

Row 1:	SI 1, K21, K2tog, turn.
Row 2:	SI 1, P15, P2tog, turn.
Row 3:	SI 1, K15, K2tog, turn.

Repeat Rows 2 and 3 until all stitches have been worked. Finish the last RS row by SI 1, and then knitting across the remaining heel flap stitches.

*Gusset –*

Pick up 12 stitches along the edge of the heel turn and flap, which will include one in the V-joint at the instep joint. Knit across the instep stitches using this new stitch pattern: \*K2, SI 1, K1, YO, PSSO\* ending with K2. Pick up the remaining 12 gusset stitches, starting with one in the V-joint at the instep joint. Work to the middle of the heel and place a marker to denote the new beginning of rounds. Knit one complete round, knitting all stitches, and knitting the picked up gusset stitches through the back loop to twist and tighten them.

### **Instep and Sole:**

The instep will continue with the Tweed Mock Rib alternated with stockinette columns. Gusset stitches will be decreased at the same time. The ribs will taper toward the toe over 14-round intervals. If the final center rib is still not completed when it is time to start the toe, simply continue it down the center until it completes. The sections are worked as follows, beginning with the gusset decrease section. Remember that all rounds until the toe starts will begin at the center of the sole.

Round 1	K to the last 3 sole stitches, K2tog, K1, *K2, SI 1, K1, YO, PSSO* to the last 2 instep stitches and then K2, K1, SSK, K to the end of the round.
Round 2	K

Repeat Rounds 1 and 2 until all 24 picked up stitches have been decreased. This should also coincide with the completion of 7 pattern repeats of the Tweed Mock Rib.

Knit the 2<sup>nd</sup> 14 rows with the following pattern:

- Round 1 K to the end of the sole, K6 \*Sl 1, K1, YO, PSSO, K2\* to the last 4 instep stitches and then K6, K to the end of the round.  
Round 2 K

Knit the 3<sup>rd</sup> 14 rows with the following pattern:

- Round 1 K to the end of the sole, K10 \*Sl 1, K1, YO, PSSO, K2\* to the last 8 instep stitches and then K8, K to the end of the round.  
Round 2 K

Knit the final Tweed Mock Rib section as follows. If you need to begin your toe decreases before the end of the section, simply start them on one of the Round 1 passes.

- Round 1 K to the end of the sole, K14 \*Sl 1, K1, YO, PSSO, K2\* to the last 12 instep stitches and then K12, K to the end of the round.  
Round 2 K

### **Round Toe:**

When you are ready to begin the toe, move the beginning of round marker back from the center of the sole to the beginning of the sole and work toe decreases as follows:

- Round 1 K1, SSK, K to the last three stitches of the sole and then K2tog, K1. Repeat for the instep stitches.  
Round 2 K

Work Rounds 1 and 2 until there are 20 sole stitches and 20 instep stitches, then continue the last half of the decreases using only Round 1 until there are 10 sole stitches and 10 instep stitches remaining on the needles.

Cut the yarn and graft the toes closed using the Kitchener Stitch and a tapestry needle.

### **Abbreviations and Stitch Directions:**

- K Knit  
P Purl  
Kw<sup>2</sup> Insert the needle into the stitch as if to knit it, and wrap the yarn around the needle twice. Pull the two loops through the stitch. The 2<sup>nd</sup> loop of the stitch will be dropped on the next round to create an elongated stitch that will be slipped for several rows.  
Sl Slip the stitch from the left needle to the right needle purl-wise.  
C3L Cross three stitches left. Slip 1 stitch to a cable needle and hold to the front. Knit two stitches from the left needle and then knit the stitch from the cable needle.  
C3R Cross three stitches right. Slip 2 stitches to a cable needle and hold to the back. Knit one stitch from the left needle and then knit the two stitches from the cable needle.  
YO Yarn over the needle  
PSSO Pass slipped stitch over. Lift the slipped stitch and pass it over the stitches indicated.  
K2tog Knit two stitches together.  
P2tog Purl two stitches together.  
SSK Slip two stitches once at a time, knit-wise, to the right needle. Insert the left needle into the front of both stitches, then knit the two stitches together. (Or, pass both back to the left needle and then knit them together through the back loop, which is exactly the same thing said differently.)

### **Alternative Sizing Suggestions:**

The socks shown here can be varied in size by several means. Listed below are some things to consider. Before beginning, know your own foot measurements and the gauge at which you knit the yarn and needles you choose for this pattern. Then, you can determine if you need to select one of these alternate suggestions for producing the socks.

To make the socks **smaller**, you could –

- Use the same weight yarn and the pattern as written, but substitute a smaller needle.
- Use the same needle called for here, but substitute a finer gauge sock yarn (lightweight Socks That Rock, for instance).
- Use both finer yarn and smaller needles.
- Use the same needle and the same yarn, but decrease the total number of stitches from 60 to 48. However, this would also entail deciding how to taper the rib pattern on the insole.
- Or any combination of things which would work with your yarn and knitting gauge.

To make the socks **larger**, you could –

- Use the same weight yarn and the pattern as written, but substitute a larger needle.
- Use the same needle called for here, but substitute a heavier gauge sock yarn (heavy weight Socks That Rock, for instance).
- Use both heavier yarn and larger needles.
- Use the same needle and the same yarn, but increase the total number of stitches from 60 to 72. However, this would also entail deciding how to taper the rib pattern on the insole.
- Or any combination of things which would work with your yarn and knitting gauge.