

LITTLE DOTS SOCKS

SUMMERLEE
DESIGN CO.





MATERIALS

*Fingering weight yarn in the following approximate amounts (**Note: These amounts are for the longest pair of socks I knit, which have an 8" / 7cm leg. You will need less of MC and CC1 for shorter socks.**)

MC: 204 (234, 264, 294, 324) yards /
186 (213, 241, 268, 296) meters

CC1 (Dots): 42 (61, 80, 99, 119) yards /
38 (55, 73, 90, 108) meters

CC2 (Cuffs/heels/toes): 16 (24, 34, 42, 50) yards /
14 (21, 31, 38, 46) meters

- *US Size 1 (2.25mm) knitting needles
- *US Size 2 (2.75mm) knitting needles
- *A tapestry needle for weaving in ends
- *Tape measure
- *Snips
- *Stitch markers

SIZES

(Measured around the circumference of the ball of your foot – the numbers below refer to your measurement, not the finished sock).

Kid (6-7" / 15-18cm) **S** (7" / 18cm) **M** (8" / 20cm)
L (9" / 23cm) **XL** (10" / 25cm)

GAUGE

34 sts over 4" / 10cm and 28 rows, knit in colorwork pattern in the rnd and blocked.

TUTORIALS

HOW TO KNIT AN AFTERTHOUGHT HEEL

<https://summerleedesignco.com/2022/03/18/how-to-knit-an-afterthought-heel/>

HOW TO KNIT COLORWORK SOCKS

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=efb2e_s3Vs8&t=553s



ABBREVIATIONS

CO	Cast on
BOR	Beginning of round
MC	Main color
CC	Contrasting color
K	Knit
P	Purl
St	Stitch
Pm	Place marker
Sl	Slip
M	Marker
M1	Make one (stitch)
K2tog	Knit two together
P2tog	Purl two together
Ssk	Slip, slip, knit
Cont	Continue

PATTERN NOTES

AVOIDING A JOG IN THE CHART

You will notice that on rnds 13 through 17, the first dot you knit straddles the beginning and end of the round. You'll need to work a little magic so you don't end up with a lumpy dot!

On **rnd 14**, when you knit the first st, do the following: Pick up the right leg of the st immediately below that first st and place it on your needle. Knit that leg together with the first st on your needle. And that's it! You've now prevented a jog where your MC and CC meet on that first dot.

You will need to repeat those steps for the first stitch on **rnd 18**.

Need to see this technique in action? Follow this link for a tutorial!

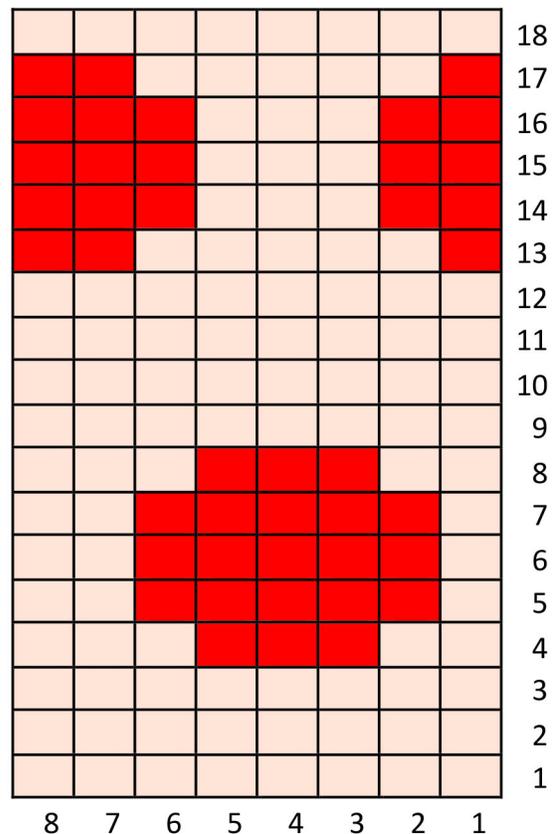
You Tube <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mrz-6ZV9omo&t=56s>

HOW TO WORK AN M1 ("MAKE ONE" STITCH)

When you come across an instruction in the pattern to "M1," you will be making a new stitch. This is an increase that is only used to increase your stitch count after the cuff (and not all sizes will see it!). There are many ways to "M1," but here's how I do it:

With your right needle, pick up the bar between two sts and place it on your left needle. Insert your right needle from front to back into the back of the bar and knit it. Drop it off your needle like you would any other st, and voila! You now have a new st!

CHART



PATTERN NOTES

FLOATS AND TENSION

The key to well-fitting colorwork socks is tension! Keep that tension nice and relaxed as you change between your MC and CC to make your dots. Notice how the brown and white bars (called floats) on the wrong side of my sock are straight and even. They aren't drooping, and they aren't puckered up tight, pulling at the fabric. Both the fabric and the floats are relaxed and even. Make sure to periodically check the wrong side of your work to ensure your tension isn't too tight or too loose!

Additionally, you'll notice I don't cut my CC between rows of dots. Since there are only four rounds between dot sections, I simply let my CC hang until I need it again. When you pick it back up for a fresh round of dots, make sure not to pull too tight when making your first stitch!

INSTRUCTIONS

CUFF

With US Size 1 (2.25mm) needles and MC, CO **48 (57, 63, 72, 81)** sts and join for working in the rnd, being careful not to twist your sts. Establish 2 x 1 ribbing pattern: [k2, p1] to end.

Cont working 2 x 1 ribbing pattern until cuff measures 1" / 3cm, or your desired length.

LEG

Switch to US Size 2 (2.75mm) needles and k rnd 1 of the Dots Chart, making the following increase or decrease according to your size:

Kid: K around to end with no increase or decrease. **48 sts.**

S: K1, ssk, k around to end. **56 sts.**

M: K1, m1, k around to end. **64 sts.**

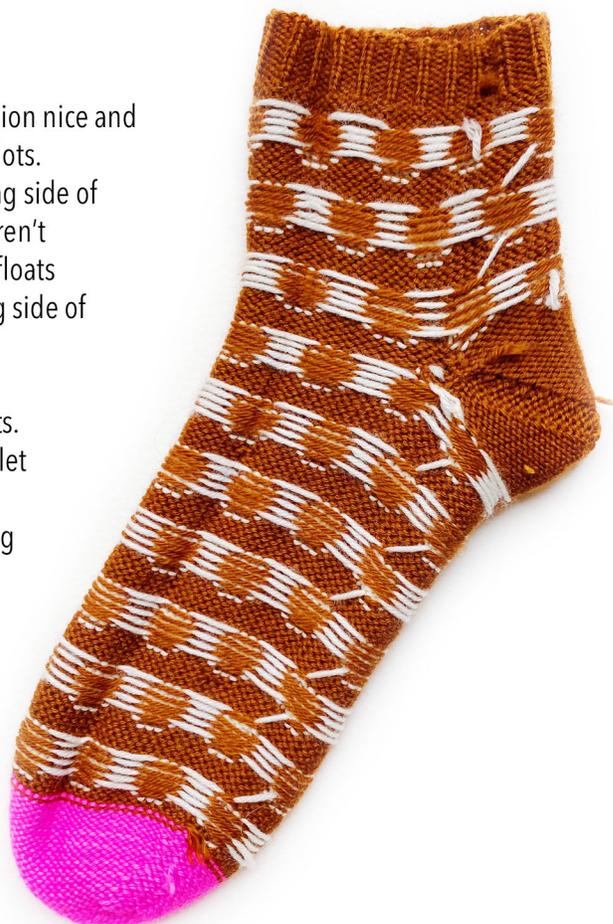
L: K around to end with no increase or decrease. **72 sts.**

XL: k1, ssk, k around to end. **80 sts.**

You have now finished rnd 1 of the colorwork chart. Begin rnd 2 and cont repeating all 18 rnds of the chart until your leg reaches your desired length. My sample socks range in leg length: **1.5" / 4cm** (shorty socks), **4" / 10 cm**, and **8" / 20 cm**.

Once you are satisfied with your leg length, you will need to mark where you intend to place your afterthought heel (this helps you determine when to stop knitting your foot!). I simply place a st marker on the row I intend to snip when I'm ready to knit my afterthought heel! When determining how long to knit your foot, you will measure from this marker.

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INSTRUCTIONS

You will want to place your marker in between two rows of dots, so a rnd 2 or 10 of the chart is best! I placed my marker in the center of the back half of my sts (st number 48 to be exact!). To find the exact center st of the back half of your sts, refer to the chart below:

K: 36

S: 42

M: 48

L: 54

XL: 60

You've now marked where your heel will go, and you are ready to work the foot!

FOOT

Continue working the Dots Chart until your foot reaches your desired length before beginning your toe decreases.

The Craft Yarn Council has issued the following length guidelines for the foot of a sock, measured from the back of the heel to the end of the toe.

(All sizes are US)

Kid: 6-7.5" / 15-19 cm

Women's shoe sizes 4-6.5: 8 - 9" (20.25 - 23cm)

Women's shoe sizes 7-9.5: 9.25 - 10" (23.25 - 25.5cm)

Women's shoe sizes 10-12.5: 10.25 - 11" (26 - 28cm)

Men's shoe sizes 6-8.5: 9.25 - 10" (23.25 - 25.5cm)

Men's shoe sizes 9-11.5: 10.25 - 11" (26 - 28cm)

Men's shoe sizes 12-14: 11.25 - 12" (28.5 - 30.5cm)

You also need to take into account your heel and toe lengths (They will be the same):

Kid: 1.25" / 3cm

S: 1.5" / 4cm

M: 1.5" / 4cm

L: 1.5" / 4cm

XL: 1.75" / 4cm

2X: 1.75" / 4cm

Now, take your desired foot length, from back of heel to end of toe, and subtract your heel and toe measurements. For example, my desired foot length is 9" / 23 cm. I subtract my heel (1.5" / 4cm) and my toe (1.5" / 4cm) and that leaves me with 6" / 15 cm I need to knit before starting my toe decreases.

You can measure from where you placed the marker for the afterthought heel!

NOTE: Make sure to end your foot AFTER completing a row 9 or 18 of the Dots Chart!

INSTRUCTIONS

TOES

Break CC. Knit your toes with MC, or add in CC2! Switch to US Size 1 (2.25mm) needles and begin the following decrease pattern for your toes:

Rnd 1: K1, ssk, k **18 (22, 26, 30, 34)** sts, k2tog, k1, pm, k1, ssk, k **18 (22, 26, 30, 34)** sts, k2tog, k1.

Rnd 2: K.

Rnd 3: K1, ssk, k to 3 sts before next marker, k2tog, k1, sl m, k1, ssk, k around to 3 sts before end of rnd, k2tog, k1.

Repeat rnds 2 and 3 until **20 (24, 28, 32, 36)** sts remain.

Graft your toes closed using kitchener stitch.



AFTERTHOUGHT HEEL

You should have a long tube with a cuff at one end and a toe at the other end. Go to the point in your tube where you placed your marker. Make sure your tube is pressed flat. You should have half your stitches facing up at you, and the other half facing down. Your toe should look like a wedge, with the decrease lines on the sides of the wedge.

Identify the line of stitches directly below the stitch you've marked. Select the first stitch at the edge of your tube on that line of stitches directly below your marked stitch, and with US Size 1 (2.25mm) needles, insert the tip of your needle into the right leg of that first st. Next insert the needle into the right leg of the second stitch, and then into the right leg of the third stitch. Continue inserting your needle into the right leg of every stitch until you have picked up **24 (28, 32, 36, 40)** stitches.

Now, repeat the same process for the line of stitches on the other side of your marked st. You should have **48 (56, 64, 72, 80)** stitches total divided evenly on your needles. If you are working magic loop, slide all your stitches down to the cables.

Now for the fun (but also kinda scary!) part. Remove the marker and tease that stitch up with your tapestry needle. Now hold your breath and snip that stitch with your scissors, being very careful not to snip anything else!

Using your tapestry needle, tease out the yarn you've snipped from the stitches. Start in the middle where you snipped and go to the end. Then go back to the middle and tease out the stitches to the other end.

You now have a gaping hole in your sock tube, and live stitches on your needles, ready to knit your heel! You also have a strand of yarn dangling on each side of the hole you've made. Those will come in handy later when you weave in your ends – I use them to close up any gaps I get at the corner of the heel!

INSTRUCTIONS

You will work your afterthought heel the same as you did your toes. Join in MC or CC2 and knit 3 rnds even. Then begin the following decrease pattern:

Rnd 1: K1, ssk, k 18 (22, 26, 30, 34) sts, k2tog, k1, pm, k1, ssk, k 18 (22, 26, 30, 34) sts, k2tog, k1.

Rnd 2: K.

Rnd 3: K1, ssk, k to 3 sts before next marker, k2tog, k1, sl m, k1, ssk, k around to 3 sts before end of rnd, k2tog, k1.

Repeat rnds 2 and 3 until 20 (24, 28, 32, 36) sts remain.

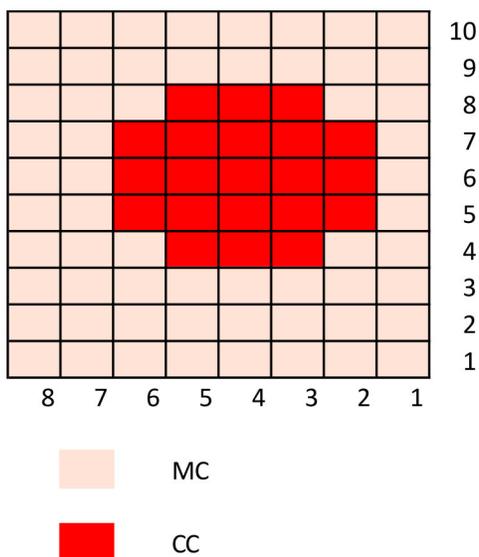
NOTE: You can adjust the depth and fit of your heel by working more or less decrease rnds. Try the sock on occasionally as you work your decreases to see how it's fitting! Stop your decreases when you can easily pinch the fabric closed. If you have to pull the fabric to get it to close over your heel, then you need to work more decrease rnds to give your heel more depth so it doesn't feel tight across the top of your foot!

FINISHING & BLOCKING

Weave in all your ends and immediately start the second sock so you aren't stricken with Second Sock Syndrome (a terrible affliction that leads to millions of forlorn single socks every year). Once your socks are done, I recommend blocking them. I am a HUGE fan of blocking socks! Not only does it improve the look of your finished sock, but more importantly, it improves the comfort as well. Blocking evens out the fabric and relaxes it, giving you nice, squishy, soft, supple socks for your feet. It especially improves the look and feel of colorwork knitting. To block your socks, simply soak them in lukewarm water and a dollop of wool wash for 30 minutes. Then, squeeze out excess water, and either lay them flat to dry, shaping them with your fingers, or pop them on a sock blocker to dry!

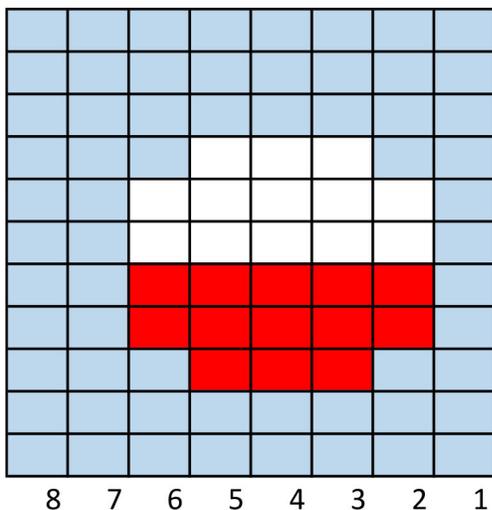
BONUS ALTERNATE CHART MOD!

Would you prefer your dots to be lined up in neat rows, like the sock on the right, as opposed to staggered? Simply follow this modified chart below!



BONUS CHART

Want to knit your dots with even more color? Try this half and half modification! You can use many colors like I did, or simply repeat the same two colors on every dot.



- MC
- CC1
- CC2

Repeat all 11 rnds of the chart down the length of the leg and the foot.

If you are repeating the same two colors for the dots, don't cut your yarn in between dots! Simply carry it on the inside of your sock.

THANK YOU!



Thank you so much for your support in purchasing this pattern! For pattern support, feel free to reach out anytime ~ my email is summerleighknits@outlook.com

You can find me on the following social channels!



summer.lee.knits



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