



MARLED MAGIC SOCKS

BY STEPHEN WEST

These colorful socks are great stashbusters! Hold two strands of fingering weight sock yarn together to create a melting marled fabric. The squishy seed stitch beautifully blends hand dyed colors together. Dive into your leftover bits of speckled, variegated, and semi-solid yarns. These socks will be finished in a flash with the seamless top-down construction and thick gauge. Have fun creating your own unique marled color story!



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Sizes: 1 [2, 3, 4, 5]

Finished Measurements: 6 [6.5, 8, 9, 10]" / 15 [17, 20, 23, 25]cm leg and foot circumference. Measurements taken after blocking.

Size 4 shown on a size US 13 / EU 47 size foot that has a 10.5" / 27cm foot circumference. The sock fits with 1.5" / 4cm of negative ease.

Socks are designed to fit an actual foot circumference of 7 [7.5, 9, 10, 11]" / 18 [19, 23, 25, 28]cm. The socks are designed to fit with negative ease. Choose a size with a finished foot circumference measurement that is approximately 1" / 2.5cm smaller than your actual foot circumference, so that the sock will fit nice and snug on your foot.

The lengths of the cuff, leg, and foot are easily customizable by knitting more rounds for a longer leg or foot or fewer rounds for a shorter leg or foot.

Yarn: Two strands of fingering weight yarn held together for a DK weight gauge

Yardage: Approximately 230 [260, 290, 320, 350]yds / 210 [238, 265, 293, 320]m of both strands of yarn

I recommend having more than the recommended yardage and lots of colors, so you have an abundance of colors choices as you knit the marled fabric.

Shown in: A variety of fingering weight yarns held double including Schoppel Wolle Zauberball Crazy, Twisted Ambitions Sweet Sock, Mominoki Sock Fine 4ply, & Punk Rock Unicorn Soul

Needles: US 4 / 3.5mm circular in 40" / 100cm length or size needed to obtain gauge

Magic loop method is used for knitting in the rnd. Watch this Westknits video to assist with the Magic Loop technique.
<https://youtu.be/hpFHbHmrCcc>

You can use DPNs if you prefer. Watch this Westknits video to assist with knitting with DPNs.
<https://youtu.be/y9bvVy08PeE>

Notions: 2 stitch markers, tapestry needle

Gauge: 22 sts & 38 rnds = 4" / 10cm in stockinette stitch after blocking



Fading Marl

This marling method results in the most blended color melting effect. Hold two colors together and change one strand at a time. Both yarns can change at any time as your colors overlap and mix together. For example, use A+B. Drop A. Use B+C. Drop B. Use C+D. Drop C, etc... This Fading Marl will help blend colors together for smooth transitions. To make the most subtle color melting effects, you will need several shades of a color and fade them from light to dark. Using lots of speckled and variegated yarns in a variety of shades from light to dark will help create a more mixed and blended effect. It's up to you to decide how many rounds to knit with each color combination. Changing colors every 2 – 6 rounds produces quick color progressions. Changing colors every 6–12 rows will create slower color changes and a less blended effect. The sample socks changed one strand of yarn every 2 – 6 rounds during the colorful moss stitch section. Experiment and enjoy the magic of marling yarns.

Westknits Workshops

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<https://www.westknits.com/collections/workshops>

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www.stephenandpenelope.com/pages/westknits-kits

Abbreviations

CO: cast on

k: knit

k2tog: knit 2 sts together

M1L: (make 1 left) with left needle, lift strand between sts from the front, knit through the back loop

p: purl

p2tog: purl 2 sts together

pm: place marker

rnd/s: round/s

RS: right side

sl: slip stitch purl-wise unless instructed otherwise

slm: slip marker

ssk: (slip slip knit) slip first stitch knit-wise, slip second stitch knit-wise, knit those 2 sts together tbl

st/s: stitch/es

tbl: through back loop

WS: wrong side

wyib: with yarn in back

wyif: with yarn in front

INSTRUCTIONS

Always hold two strands of fingering weight sock yarn together throughout the socks. I used one solid orange yarn held together with one self-striping sock yarn called Schoppel Wolle Zauberball Crazy. You can hold two solid colors together or try a speckled or variegated sock yarn for a more splashy effect.

Cuff

Watch this Westknits video to assist with the German Twisted CO.

<https://youtu.be/K60RcmjJqiw>

Using 2 strands of sock yarn held together, CO 32 [36, 44, 48, 56] sts using the German Twisted CO method. Place marker and join to work in the rnd, being careful not to twist sts.

Rnd 1: (K2, p2) to end of rnd.

Rnd 2: K to end of rnd.

Repeat last 2 rnds until the ribbing measures approximately 3" / 7.5cm. Finish after completing Rnd 1.

Break both strands of yarn.

Leg

The leg and top foot are knit in seed stitch using the Fading Marl technique. Follow the instructions along with the Fading Marl color notes to achieve a blended color effect for this seed stitch fabric.

Rnd 1: Using 2 new colors held together, k to end of rnd.

Rnd 2: (K1, p1) to end of rnd.

Rnd 3: (P1, k1) to end of rnd.

Repeat last 2 rnds while working the Fading Marl technique until the leg measures approximately 7" / 18cm from the CO edge or until the leg reaches your desired length. Stop the Leg after completing Rnd 3.

Break both strands of yarn.

Heel Flap

You will use half of your sts to do the heel flap. 16 [18, 22, 24, 28] sts are used for the heel flap. Leave the remaining 16 [18, 22, 24, 28] sts on your needle to work later. The sample socks feature the same 2 colors held together throughout the entire Heel Flap and Heel Turn instructions.

Using 2 new strands of yarn held together for Row 1.

Heel Flap Pattern Repeat

Row 1 (RS): K15 [17, 21, 23, 27], sl1 wyif, turn to work WS.

Row 2 (WS): K1, p14 [16, 20, 22, 26], sl1 wyif, turn to work RS.

Row 3 (RS): K1, p14 [16, 20, 22, 26], sl1 wyif, turn to work WS.

Row 4 (WS): K15 [17, 21, 23, 27], sl1 wyif, turn to work RS.

Repeat last 4 rows 3 [4, 5, 5, 6] more times, resulting in 4 [5, 6, 6, 7] reverse stockinette ridges.

Heel Turn

Row 1 (RS): K10 [11, 13, 14, 16], ssk, k1. Turn to work WS.

Row 2 (WS): Sl1 purl-wise wyif, p5, p2tog, p1. Turn to work RS.

Heel Turn Pattern Repeat

Row 3 (RS): S1 knit-wise wyib, k to 1 st before gap, ssk, k1, turn to work WS.

Row 4 (WS): Sl1 purl-wise wyif, p to 1 st before gap, p2tog, p1, turn to work RS.

Repeat last 2 rows until you have worked all the way to each end. You should have 10 [12, 14, 14, 16] sts on your needle after you have turned the heel. If you are missing a stitch or two or if you have one or two extra sts, you can sneak in a decrease or increase during the next rnd.

Break both strands of yarn and keep these 10 [12, 14, 14, 16] sts on spare needle or waste yarn.

Top Foot

The Top Foot instructions work with the 16 [18, 22, 24, 28] sts from the seed stitch Leg. You can use the same 2 colors that you were working with at the end of the Leg instructions to produce a smooth color transition from the Leg into the Top Foot seed stitch fabric.

Row 1 (RS): Using 2 new strands of yarn held together, M1L, (k1, p1) 8 [9, 11, 12, 14] times. Turn to work WS. 17 [19, 23, 25, 29] sts.

Row 2 (WS): M1L, (p1, k1) 8 [9, 11, 12, 14] times, sl1 wyif. Turn to work RS. 18 [20, 24, 26, 30] sts.

Continue doing the Fading Marl color technique as you work the Top Foot Pattern Repeat rows.

Top Foot Pattern Repeat

Row 3 (RS): K1, (k1, p1) 8 [9, 11, 12, 14] times, sl1 wyif. Turn to work WS.

Row 4 (WS): K1, (p1, k1) 8 [9, 11, 12, 14] times, sl1 wyif. Turn to work RS.

Repeat Rows 3 & 4 of Pattern Repeat until the Top Foot reaches just below the tip of your smallest toe. If you are unsure about the correct length of the Top Foot, you can add more rows later once you knit the Bottom Foot instructions.

Leave these 18 [20, 24, 26, 30] sts on a spare needle or waste yarn. Break both colors of yarn.



Gusset

The Gusset and Bottom Foot section are knitted flat in stockinette stitch while being attached to the edges of the Top Foot seed stitch fabric.

Row 1 is written on several lines for easier reading. Use 2 new colors of sock yarn held together for the Gusset and Bottom Foot instructions. I used the same 2 yarns held together for the entire Gusset and Bottom Foot sections (1 strand of solid neon orange + 1 strand of self-striping yarn from Schoppel Wolle Zauberball Crazy).

Row 1 (RS): Pick up and k8 [10, 12, 12, 14] sts along the right selvedge of the Heel Flap.

K10 [12, 14, 14, 16] sts from the live sts of the Heel Turn.

Pick up and k8 [10, 12, 12, 14] sts along the left selvedge of the Heel Flap.

Sl1 picked-up selvedge stitch wyif from the Top Foot seed stitch section.

27 [33, 39, 39, 45] sts.

This photo shows the “Sl1 picked up selvedge stitch wyif from the Top Foot Seed stitch section.” This photo is from the Stripestep Socks pattern, but it is the same pick-up technique.



Row 2 (WS): K2tog, p to last st, ssk (last st together with a picked-up selvedge st from the Top Foot seed stitch section). 26 [32, 38, 38, 44] sts.

This photo shows the “ssk” at the then end of Row 2 (WS). This photo is from the Stripestep Socks pattern, but it is the same pick-up and ssk technique.



Gusset Pattern Repeat

Row 3 (RS): Sl1 wyif, place yarn in back, k1, ssk, k to last 4 sts, k2tog, k1, sl2 wyif (last st and next picked-up selvedge st from the Top Foot seed stitch section).

Row 4 (WS): K2tog, p to last st, ssk (last st together with next picked-up selvedge st from the Top Foot seed stitch section).

Each time you work Rows 3 & 4 of the Gusset Pattern Repeat, 2 sts are decreased.

Repeat Rows 3 & 4 of Gusset Pattern Repeat 4 [6, 7, 6, 7] more times. 16 [18, 22, 24, 28] sts.

Continue working with the same 2 colors of yarn held together for the Bottom Foot instructions.

Bottom Foot

Bottom Foot Pattern Repeat

Row 1 (RS): Sl1 wyif, place yarn in back, k to last st, sl2 wyif (last st and next picked-up selvedge st from the Top Foot seed stitch section).

Row 2 (WS): K2tog, p to last st, ssk (last st together with next picked-up selvedge st from the Top Foot seed stitch section).

Repeat Rows 1 & 2 of Bottom Foot Pattern Repeat until it reaches the same length as the Top Foot fabric and all edge sts are knitted together with the Top Foot selvedge. The foot fabric should reach just below the tip of your smallest toe. Then you should be ready for the toe decreases. If you need to make your foot longer, you can work more Top Foot rows in seed stitch, and then work more Bottom Foot rows in stockinette stitch.

Break both strands of yarn.

Toe

Use 2 new strands of yarn held together for the Toe. Rnd 1 of the Toe begins with the 16 [18, 22, 24, 28] Bottom Foot sts, then it continues working with the 18 [20, 24, 26, 30] Top Foot sts. The toe section measures approximately 1 [1, 2, 2, 2]" / 2.5 [2.5, 5, 5, 5]cm long.

Rnd 1: K16 [18, 22, 24, 28], k2tog, k14 [16, 20, 22, 26], ssk. 32 [36, 44, 48, 56] sts. PM and continue to work in the rnd.

Rnd 2: K1, ssk, k10 [12, 16, 18, 22], k2tog, k1, pm, k1, ssk, k10 [12, 16, 18, 22], k2tog, k1. 28 [32, 40, 44, 52] sts.

Rnd 3: K all sts.

Toe Pattern Repeat

Rnd 4: (K1, ssk, k to 3 sts before m, k2tog, k1, slm) twice. 4 sts decreased.

Rnd 5: K all sts.

Repeat last 2 rnds 2 [3, 4, 4, 5] more times. 16 [16, 20, 24, 28] sts.

Repeat Rnd 4 only 1 [1, 2, 3, 3] more time/s. 12 [12, 12, 12, 16] sts.



FINISHING

Graft the remaining sts together. Watch this Westknits video to assist with Grafting Stitches Together.

<https://youtu.be/Vks4ERYhU44>

Weave in ends and wet block the finished socks to smooth the fabric. Watch this Westknits video to assist with weaving in the ends.

<https://youtu.be/33NkCgk27rQ>

