

Water Bubbles

by Fishhead Creations



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My horse Nixe may not look as delicate as the creature she was named after, but she certainly enjoys playing with water. When we go to the beach, while soft waves roll over the sand, she likes to stick her head into the sea and blow big bubbles. These socks are my tribute to her favourite game.

Materials

- approx. 50g of MC yarn
- approx. 30g of CC yarn
- 2.5mm DPNs or size required to get gauge
- 2mm DPNs or size required to get gauge
- tapestry needle

The pattern is written for knitting on a set of five DPNs, but can easily be adjusted to your favourite style of knitting socks. Consider using a marker to indicate where needles would be changed if working on magic loop, two circulars etc.

Yarn

The sample was knit in *Drops Fabel*. Any regular fingering weight sock yarn in solid or semisolid colours will work well. Using variegated or even speckled yarns might also lead to interesting results, but keep the contrast to the between the colours used next to each other high enough.

Gauge

36 stitches/10cm in colourwork on larger needles

This will result in a very dense fabric. If you have knit socks before, feel free to adjust the gauge. When choosing your size,

keep in mind that colourwork is less stretchy than one-colour stockinette fabric.

Size

Sizes S (M, L, XL) with a stitch count of 56 (64, 72, 80). The foot circumference at the suggested gauge is 15,5cm (17,75cm, 20cm, 22,25cm). Length can easily adjusted by adding more repeats.

Techniques

To knit these socks, you need the following skills:

- longtail cast-on
- knit
- purl
- knit in the round with two colours, stranding
- decreasing stitches
- picking up stitches (for the heel flap)
- grafting/kitchener stitch

If you are unfamiliar with any of these techniques please head to Youtube. There are many very helpful tutorials on these things to suit several knitting styles. In general you should be fine if you have basic sock knitting experience or basic colourwork experience. These are good first colourwork socks!

Abbreviations

k = knit

p = purl

sl1 = slip one stitch purlwise

RS/WS = right side/wrong side

k2tog = knit two stitches together

ssk = slip, slip, knit, i.e. individually slip the next two stitches purlwise, insert the left hand needle into them again and knit them together through the back loop

p2tog = purl two stitches together

Instructions

TIP: To avoid having loads of ends to weave in after finishing the socks, knit them in as you go: Simply knit as if you were catching a float on every other stitch for 10–12 stitches before you need to start the colour or after you are done with it. The pattern has plain rows between the colour changes in most places to make this easy.

Cuff

With 2mm needles and MC cast on 56 (64, 72, 80) stitches and distribute evenly around four needles. Knit in 1x1 rib (i.e. *k1, p1*) for 15 rounds or as long as you prefer. Switch to larger needles and knit one round.

Leg

Join CC and knit from Chart A, repeating it 7 (8, 9, 10) times per round. Repeat the chart 5 times or until the desired length of the leg is reached. Break CC.

Heel

With MC knit the **heel flap** over the next two needles (i.e. 28 (32, 36, 40) stitches) as follows:

Set-up row 1 (RS): *Sl1*, knit across, turn work

Set-up row 2 (WS): *Sl1* purl across, turn work

Row 1 (RS): **sl1, k1**, repeat between * across, turn work

Row 2 (WS): *sl1*, purl across, turn work

Repeat these two rows a total of 16 (18, 20, 22) times, which gives you 16 (18, 20, 22) slipped stitches along the edge of the heel flap. **Turn the heel** as follows:

Row 1: *sl1, k16* (18, 20, 22), *ssk, k1*, turn work

Row 2: *sl 1, p7, p2tog, p1*, turn work

Row 3: *sl1*, knit to one stitch before gap, *ssk, k1*, turn work

Row 4: *sl1*, purl to one stitch before gap, *p2tog, p1*, turn work

Your *ssk* and *p2tog* should always work the stitches on either side of the gap together. Repeat rows 3 and 4 until all stitches have been worked (18 (20, 22, 24) heel stitches remain). *K9* (10, 11, 12) – this is the middle of the heel/sole and the **new beginning of the round**. Needles 1–4 are counted from here. Rejoin CC.

Knit 9 (10, 11, 12) according to Chart B, then pick up 16 (18, 20, 22) stitches along the slip stitch edge of the heel flap plus one to close the gap between the needles, while continuing to change colour according to Chart B. Knit across 28 (32, 36, 40) instep stitches in the established pattern according to Chart A. Pick up one stitch to close the gap and 16 (18, 20, 22) along the slip stitch edge according to Chart B, starting on stitch 3 (4, 1, 2) of the chart to make the pattern match under the foot. K9 (10, 11, 12) whole continuing to work from Chart B.

You now have 14 (16, 18, 20) on needles 2 and 3, 26 (29, 32, 35) on needles 1 and 4.

TIP: For a neater transition, knit the last stitch of needle 1 and the first stitch of needle 4 in MC throughout the foot. Note that this will affect where in the chart you start on needle 4: Pick up one stitch in MC, then according to chart starting on stitch 4 (1, 2, 3).

Gusset

Continue to knit in the established pattern from both charts while decreasing as follows:

Round 1: Knit to 3 stitches before the end of needle 1, k2tog, k1. Knit across needles 2+3. K1, ssk, knit to end of needle 4/round

Round 2: Knit across

Repeat these two round until 14 (16, 18, 20) stitches per needle remain.

Foot

Continue to knit in MC for approx. 30–40 rounds or until the foot (including heel) measures 3 (4, 5, 6) cm less than the full desired length. Break CC.

Change to smaller needles. Knit one round in MC.

Toe

The toe is knit in MC only. Decrease as follows:

Round 1: *Knit to 3 stitches before the end of needle, k2tog, k2, ssk, knit to end of needle*, repeat between * once. Round 2: Knit across

Repeat these two rows a total of 5 (7, 9, 11) times (9 stitches per needle/36 stitches total remain), then repeat Round 1 another three times (6 stitches per needle/24 stitches total remain). K6 to have the yarn end at one side of the toe.

Finishing

Graft the toes using Kitchener stitch. Weave in all ends. Soak in lukewarm water with a mild wool wash for twenty minutes. Press dry by rolling it up in a towel. Lay flat to dry or put on a sock blocker. Enjoy!

Charts

Legend

- MC
- CC

Chart A

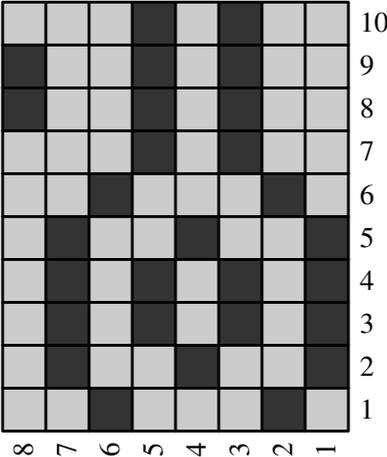
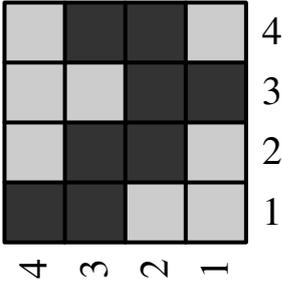


Chart B



Inverted Charts

If your main and contrast colour do not match the above charts in terms of brightness, use these inverted charts instead to make it easier to follow.

Legend

- MC
- CC

Chart A

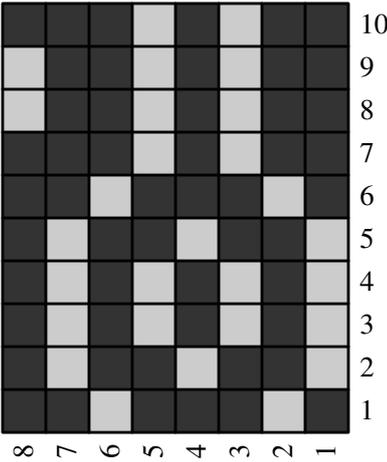


Chart B

