

# Gingerbread Socks

EU sizes 38/39 - 40/41 - 42/43



@TonjeinOslo

## **Yarn suggestion**

- 1 ball of Filcolana Arwetta Classic for your pattern colour (brown)
- 1 ball of Filcolana Arwetta Classic for your background colour (white)

## **Difficulty level**

This pattern requires experience with stranded colorwork. There are many stitches after one another in the same colour in this pattern, which makes it important to lock down those long floats created by the unused colour on the wrong side by twisting the two yarns around each other once every fourth stitch. You also need to avoid the colourwork scrunching up, so make sure that you frequently stretch out your recently knitted stitches along the needle.

## **Gauge, needles, and sizes**

(measured after washing the socks)

- 32 stitches x 28 rounds over 10 x 10 cm for a 21.8 cm circumference
- 34 stitches x 30 rounds over 10 x 10 cm for a 20.5 cm circumference

Please note that the Gingerbread Socks stretched out quite a bit after washing and blocking in Filcolana Arwetta Classic. The sock length suggested before knitting the heel takes this into consideration, but if you use a yarn that will not stretch considerably, you should consider trying on the socks or adding 1 cm of length before starting the heel section.

Checking your gauge is important, but 3.0 mm needles for 21.8 circumference or 2.5 mm for a 20.5 cm circumference are good starting points. The sample socks were knitted with the same needle size from beginning to end, but some knitters may need to use a smaller needle size for the heel and toe to get the same gauge as for the stranded colorwork sections.

Lengths before the for EU sizes 38/39, 40/41, and 42/43 are listed in the pattern.

## **How to knit the socks**

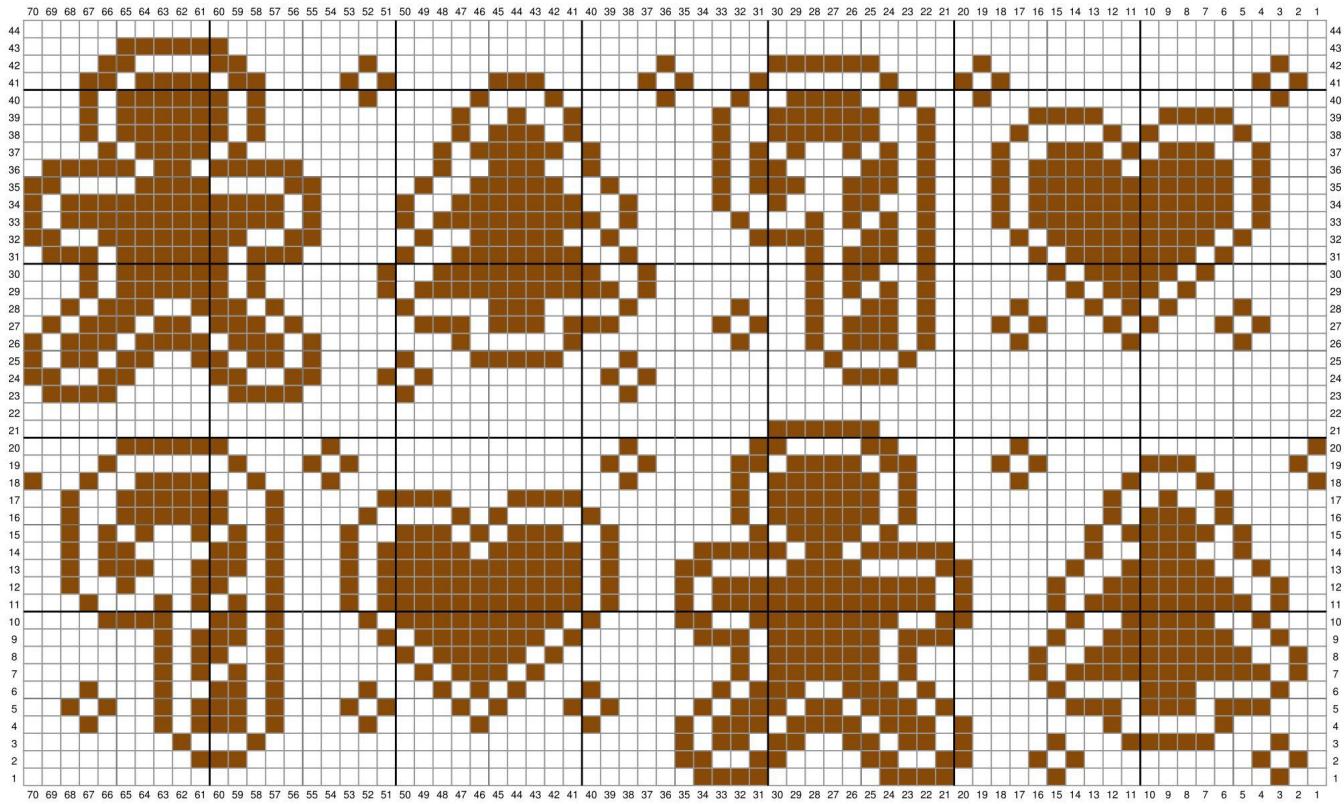
Cast on 28 stitches in the pattern colour on two needles, using Judy's Magic Cast-On. This will be the toe of your sock, giving you a seamless beginning. If you have never done this before, I highly recommend watching a YouTube video of the technique, but I have provided a written explanation on the next page if you need one.

After casting on, knit one row where you spread your stitches on four needles. Knit one more row.

Now begin increasing like this:

Needle 1 and 3: Knit one stitch, make one stitch from the yarn between your first and second stitch, and knit the rest of the stitches.





Needle 2 and 4: Knit all stitches except the last stitch, then make one new stitch from the yarn between your next-to-last and last stitch. Knit the final stitch.

On the next row, knit all stitches.

Continue increasing every second round until you have increased 10 times, giving you a new total of 68 stitches. On the next round, make only two new stitches, one on needles 1 and 3 respectively, and knit the other two needles without increasing. You should now have a total of 70 stitches.

Switch to your background colour (white chart squares) and knit two rounds in this yarn.

Next, knit according to the chart.

Keep knitting the chart until your sock measures approximately 16.5 (18) 19 cm (see Gauge, needles, and sizes for details). Next, knit the first 35 stitches of the next chart round (and write down which round this is), then knit the last 35 stitches of your round in the background colour only. Then turn your knitting to the wrong side and purl 35 stitches in the background colour. These 35 stitches that you purled will now be worked back and forth in the pattern colour (brown) to make the heel of the sock.

### Short row heel

On the first row, knit 35 stitches in your pattern colour. Turn your knitting and on row 2, take your yarn to the front of your knitting, slip your first stitch purlwise onto your right needle, move

your yarn to the back of your knitting and tighten firmly so that your slipped stitch looks like a double stitch (it will still be counted and knitted like a single stitch). Purl the remaining 34 stitches. Turn your knitting and on row 3, slip the first stitch purlwise and pull your yarn firmly from the front to the back so that your slipped stitch looks like a double stitch, then knit the next 33 stitches. Next turn your knitting, slip your first stitch while pulling your yarn over your needle and tightening firmly, then purl your next 32 stitches.

Continue this way back and forth until you are on the needle where you knit 11 stitches after slipping the first stitch. From this point on, you must include one of the slipped double-looking stitches into your knitting again at the end of each row. Slip the first stitch purlwise (but without making a double-looking stitch from now on), knit until you reach the first double-looking slipped stitch on the other side, then knit this stitch as one stitch. On the next row, slip the first stitch, purl until you reach the first double-looking slipped stitch on the other side and purl this as one stitch, turn your knitting and so on.

Continue knitting and purling like this until you have included all of the double-looking slipped stitches. You should finish this pattern-colour part of the heel with a row on the wrong side.

Once you turn to the right side again, pick up your background colour (white) again and knit the 35 heel stitches in this colour. From now on, you will start knitting in the round again. On the next round, knit the first 35 stitches as the first half of the chart round (the round after the one you ended on before knitting the heel), then knit the next 35 stitches in your background colour. If there is a gap between the heel stitches and the other stitches, you can pick up a stitch in each gap and knit two together to fill this gap, but still have a total of 70 stitches on your needles.

You are now completely done with the heel and you can continue knitting in the round according to the chart with all 70 stitches on your needles.

### **Ankle, rib and casting off**

Continue knitting in the round according to the chart until the ankle area measures approximately 15 cm above the heel, or to the length that you would like. Once happy with your length, knit two rounds in your background colour.

Now switch to the same colour as your toe and heel and knit one round while decreasing the following way: \*knit 5, knit 2 together\*, repeat from \* to \* until the end of the round. This will reduce your number of stitches from 70 to 60. For the next ten rounds, knit a ribbing where you \*knit 1, purl 1\*, repeat between the stars until the end of the round.

Next, cast off all stitches. The sample socks were finished with an Italian bind-off. To see how to do this, you can look at Kimmie Munkholm's 'Italiensk aflukning på rundpind' video here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5j4qFYHLTIY> or search for 'Italian bind-off 1x1 rib' if you prefer English dialogue to your videos.

### Judy's Magic Cast-On

I highly recommend watching a video tutorial, as this is by far the easiest way to understand this technique, but I will provide a written explanation in case a video is not an option for you. When casting on, hold two needles in your right hand, make a loop with the yarn on the needle furthest away from you, and hold the two ends of the yarn in your left hand, one over your index finger and one over your thumb. Move your index finger thread over the needle closest to you and down the middle between the two needles. Then move your thumb thread up between the two needles and over the needle furthest away from you. Continue like this until you have 14 stitches on each needle, 28 in total. It can be a bit tricky the first time, but practice makes perfect!

Thank you for knitting Gingerbread Socks! You can find other festive knitting patterns at

[ravelry.com/designers/tonje-haugli](http://ravelry.com/designers/tonje-haugli)



Feel free to share your Gingerbread Socks project on social media:

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