



Knit and Wave

Holly Christmas Socks



Info

This year, I am slightly obsessed with socks and while knitting my Christmas sweater, I was thinking about a matching pair of socks. After some intense research on Ravelry, Pinterest and Google, I couldn't find what I was looking for: some bigger but not too big holly leaves, some bobbles, but also a kind of plain but elegant looking rest of the sock. So, I took out my coloring pencils and started drawing a couple of charts.

This pattern is not a full-blown pattern for socks of all various sizes, but more a detailed description on how I knitted my pair of socks. Please feel free to use your favorite sock pattern or follow one of the many great ones out there. I've added some tips for the colorwork as well as charts for 64, 68 and 72 stitches.

I knit my socks with 60 stitches on 2,25 mm needles and increase to 64 stitches for color work.

Material

You will need:

- 4-ply fingering sock yarn of your choice in
 - White (I've used ca. 50g) or main color of choice
 - Green (ca. 5g)
 - Red (8 meters)
- Your favorite sock needles in 2,25 mm and 2,5 mm or in the sizes you usually use for colorwork socks
 - I've used DPN sets of 5 needles in 2,25 mm and 2,5 mm
- Tapestry needle
- Optional: a tiny crochet hook, for example 1,5 mm
 - The crochet hook can help to work the bobbles, but you can also work them with your knitting needles

Hint: You have to adapt the amount of main color yarn to your desired sock size. My feet are an EU size 37, so rather small. 50g might not be enough for your size.

Abbreviations

DPN	double pointed needles
st / sts	stitch / stitches
k / k#	knit / knit # number of stitches
p / p#	purl / purl # number of stitches
ktbl / k#tbl	knit through back loop (twisted) / knit # number of stitches through back loop
m1l	make one left, with your left needle pick up the bar between the stitch you just knit and the stitch you're about to knit from front to back, knit this loop twisted (into the back leg of your loop)
kfbf	Knit front back front, knit 2 stitches out of a single stitch (increasing two): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Knit the stitch without taking it off the left needle ▪ Knit the same stitch twisted (through the back loop) and leave it on the left needle again ▪ Knit the same stitch again as usual (through the front loop) and then take it off
sl1	Slip 1, pass one stitch from the left to the right needle without knitting it
p#tog	Purl # number of stitches together
BOR	Beginning of round
ssk	Slip, slip, knit slip one stitch as if to knit, slip another stitch as if to knit, place both stitches back on the left needle, knit 2 together through the back loop

Let's start

All stitch counts in the following sections are based on a 60-stitch sock. Please feel free to adapt the stitch count to your sock size and favorite sock knitting recipe.

Cuff

Cast on 60 sts on 2,25mm needles. Then knit one by one twisted rib.

Round 1 – 12: (k1tbl, p1), repeat until end of row

Leg

Round 13: knit all

Round 14: knit all

Round 15 (while knitting, switch to 2,5mm needles): (k15, m1l), repeat 4 times in total, there are now 64 stitches on the needles

Round 16 – 30: knit chart A

Round 31 (while knitting, switch back to 2,25 mm needles): knit all

Round 32: (k14, k2tog), repeat 4 times in total, there are now 60 stitches on the needles

Round 33 – 62: Knit 30 rounds

Tips for colorwork:

- Remember to catch your floats if needed. I like to catch my floats whenever they get longer than 5 stitches
- Never catch a float in the same spot as in the row before, as this will then be visible
- Spread out your stitches on your needle to avoid that the colorwork is getting too tight. If needed, go up one more needle size, e.g. to 2,75 mm)
- To avoid the very long red floats for the berries, you can cut 4 yarn pieces of about 1 meter. Knit each bobble section by using the red yarn from the below rows (like a ladder). It looks intimidating, but since the yarn pieces are quite short, yarn management is way easier than with 3 yarn balls.

Tips for the bubbles:

- In one round you will knit one red stitch. In the next round, you will knit a red bobble into this red stitch from the previous round. Once the bobble is finished you will put the stitch back on the left needle and knit it with the given color through the back loop.
- For small but visible bubbles, take the red yarn and knit kfbf, turn the sock and p3, turn the sock again and k3tbl, place the stitch back on the left needle and ktbl with the given color

Heel

The heel flap is knitted over all stitches on needle 1 and 4.

Row 1 (do not switch needles, but keep knitting with needle 4): knit all 15 stitches on needle 1, turn, there are now 30 stitches on the needle

Row 2: p30

Row 3: (sl1, k1), repeat until end of the needle

Row 4: sl1, p all remaining stitches

Repeat row 3 and 4 another 11 times. There are 26 heel flap rows in total.

Now turn the heel:

Row 27: k15 (until the middle of your heel), k1, sl1 as if to knit, k1, pass the slipped stitch over the last one knitted, k1, turn

Row 28: sl1 as if to purl, p3, p2tog, p1, turn

Row 29: sl1, k until one stitch before the gap, sl1 as if to knit, k1, pass the slipped stitch over the last one knitted, k1, turn

Row 30: sl1 as if to purl, p until one stitch before the gap, p2tog, p1, turn

Repeat row 29 and 30 until there are no more stitches on the outer sides of the gaps left. If working the same size as I, the last repeat of row 29 and 30 will not have an additional stitch after the decrease (sl1, k1 and pass over, or p2tog). End with a row 30. There are 16 stitches left.

Turn and knit 8 stitches. Place a BOR marker. This is your beginning of round.

Foot

Next, we knit the gusset:

Round 1:

- Needle 1: knit 8 stitches, pick up 14 stitches (13 from every second row of the heel flap plus 1 extra stitch to avoid gaps)
- Needle 2 & 3: knit all
- Needle 4: pick up 14 stitches (1 extra stitch to avoid gaps plus 13 stitches from every second row of the heel flap), k8 to BOR

Round 2: (I like to knit the picked up stitches twisted to avoid holes)

- Needle 1: k8, k11 or ktbl11, k2tog, k1 or ktbl
- Needle 2 & 3: knit all
- Needle 4: k1 or ktbl, ssk, k11 or ktbl11

Round 3 – 5: knit all

Round 6:

- Needle 1: knit until 3 stitches before end of needle, k2tog, k1
- Needle 2 & 3: knit all
- Needle 4: k1, ssk, knit until BOR

Decrease like in row 6 every 4th round until you have 15 stitches left on each needle (60 stitches in total)

Knit until your desired length. I knitted 44 rounds.

Toe

The toe decreases are worked on both sites of the foot. The following instructions are for DPNs and you have to adjust accordingly in case you knit with magic loop or tiny circular needles.

Round 1 (decrease round):

- Needle 1: knit until 3 stitches are left on the needle, k2tog, k1

- Needle 2: k1, ssk, knit to end of needle
- Needle 3: same as needle 1
- Needle 4: same as needle 2

Round 2: knit all

Repeat round 1 and 2 until there are 10 stitches left on each needle (40 stitches in total).

Then repeat only round 1 (only decrease round) until there are 6 stitches left on each needle (24 stitches in total)

Knit all stitches on needle 1. The working yarn should now be at the side of the sock. Place all stitches from needle 1 and 4 on one needle as well as all stitches from needle 2 and 3 on a second needle.

Graft together the stitches from both needles to finish your sock. Weave in all ends and block the sock, especially the colorwork section.

Info

I hope you like your new Christmas socks and would love to see your finished results on Instagram. You can use the hashtag #hollychristmassocks and link @knitandwave.

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Charts

	Knit one in white
Green	Knit one in green
Red	Knit one in red
x	Make a bobble with red, then place the bobble back on the left needle and knit in white through back loop
x	Make a bobble with red, then place the bobble back on the left needle and knit in green through back loop

Chart A for 60 stitches

(to be used for 56 stitch socks with increases for colorwork section OR for 60 stitch socks without increases for colorwork section)

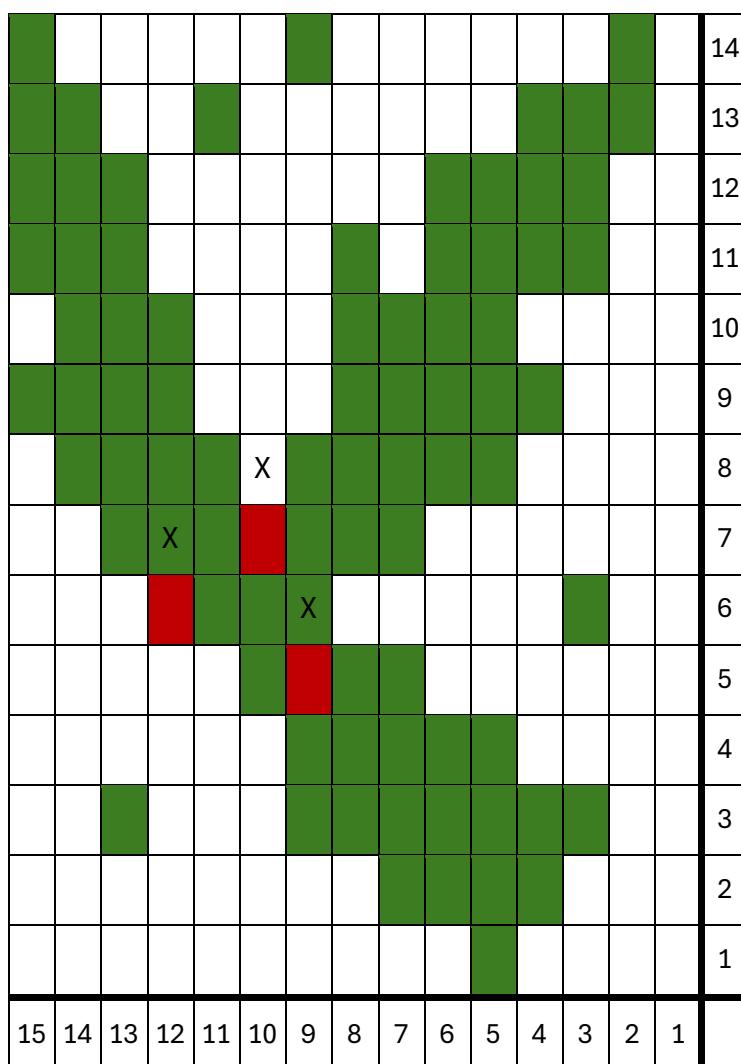


Chart A for 64 stitches

(to be used for 60 stitch socks with increases for colorwork section OR for 64 stitch socks without increases for colorwork section)

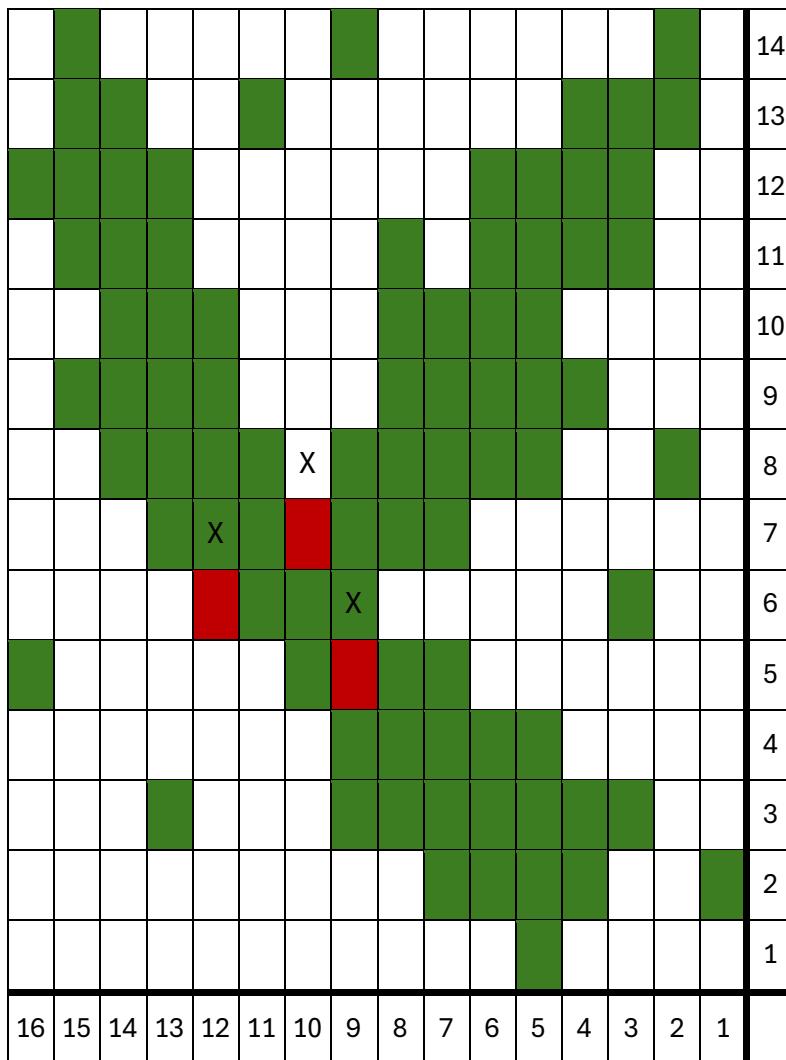


Chart A for 68 stitches

(to be used for 64 stitch socks with increases for colorwork section OR for 68 stitch socks without increases for colorwork section)

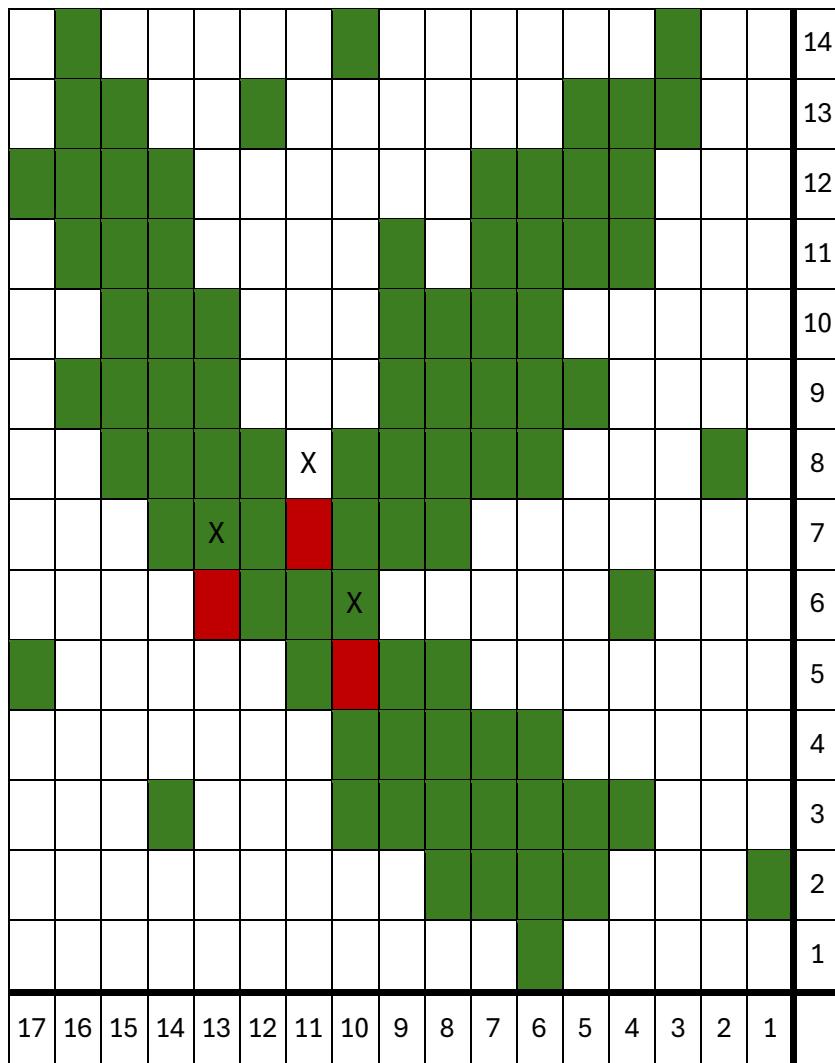
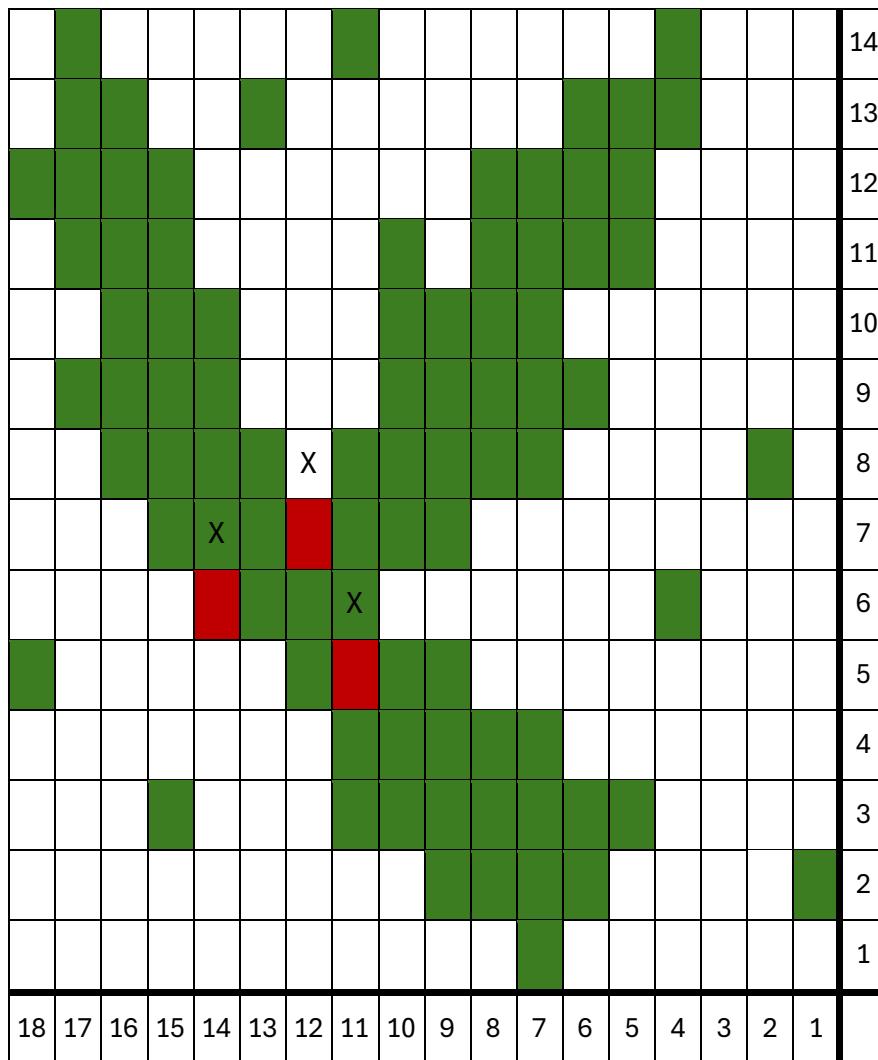


Chart A for 72 stitches

(to be used for 68 stitch socks with increases for colorwork section OR for 72 stitch socks without increases for colorwork section)





Change Log

Version	Date	Changes
v1.0	24 NOV 2024	- First release
v1.1	25 NOV 2024	- Clarified chart description (64 stitch chart for 60 stitch socks etc.) - Added 60 stitch chart