



Strago

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Designed by Jared Flood

Every other pattern so far has used a yarn spun in the worsted or semiworsted method for maximum durability. Does this mean you can't knit socks out of the fluffier, woolen-spun farm yarns? It depends on how you envision using the socks. Jared Flood proves the point with this thick and cozy pair of socks intended for padding around the house on cold winter days.

The use of two-color stranding on the leg and foot gives these socks an intentionally extra-warm, double-thick fabric. While the heels and toes are worked

on smaller needles for greater durability, the sock may be too thick to fit in most shoes. But that's OK, because these are meant to be slippers, not everyday jam-in-your-shoe-and-go socks.

While stranded colorwork normally produces a notoriously inelastic fabric that can be tricky in socks, which rely on elasticity to give a good fit, Jared's woolen-spun yarn is extremely spongy and forgiving. As an added bonus, its fuzzy surface conceals any irregular puckering you may have in your colorwork—especially after you block the socks and let the fibers bloom in place.

SIZE

Women's L/Men's M

FINISHED MEASUREMENTS

Foot circumference: 9" (23cm) unstretched, to fit foot circumference of about 9½" (24cm)

YARN

300 yd (274m) of worsted-weight yarn: Brooklyn Tweed Shelter, 100% wool, 1¾ oz (50g), 140 yd (128m), 2 skeins of Long Johns (MC), and 1 skein of Fossil (CC)



NEEDLES

Set of 4 U.S. size 8 (5mm) double-pointed needles, or size to obtain gauge

Set of 4 U.S. size 6 (4mm) double-pointed needles, or 2 sizes smaller than needles used to obtain gauge

NOTIONS

Tapestry needle

GAUGE

24 stitches and 23 rows = 4" (10cm) in colorwork pattern on larger needles (knit in the round)

Notes



The solid-color sections of this sock (cuff, heel, and toe) are worked with the smaller needles. The colorwork sections of this sock (leg and foot) are worked with the larger needles.



See the Working Wrapped Stitches entry for details about how to knit or purl a stitch together with its wrap.

Stitch Guide

W&T (wrap and turn): With yarn to the wrong side of the work, slip the next stitch purlwise. Bring yarn to the right side of the work and move the slipped stitch back to the left-hand needle. Turn the work, ready to knit or purl in the other direction.

Cuff

With smaller needles and main color (MC), loosely cast on 56 stitches. Arrange stitches on 3 needles and join to work in the round, being careful not to twist the stitches around the needles.

Round 1: *K2, p2; repeat from * to the end of the round.

Repeat this round until the cuff measures 1" (2.5cm) from the cast-on edge.

Next round: Knit all stitches.

Leg

Switch to larger needles and begin working the Strago Chart on all stitches using main color (MC) and contrasting color (CC). Continue in pattern until you have completed 9 repeats of the chart, or as many complete repeats as needed to reach desired leg length. End having worked round 4 of the chart.

Heel

Work the first 29 stitches according to round 1 of the Strago Chart. Hold these stitches aside on needles 1 and 2 to be worked later as the instep. Drop CC (but do not cut yarn). Arrange the remaining 27 stitches on needle 3 for the heel.

Using the smaller needles and MC only, work the heel back and forth in rows over the stitches on needle 3, as follows:

Row 1 (RS): Knit to 1 stitch before the end of the needle, W&T.

Row 2 (WS): Purl to 1 stitch before the end of the needle, W&T.

Row 3 (RS): Knit to the last unwrapped stitch (leaving it unworked), W&T.

Row 4 (WS): Purl to the last unwrapped stitch (leaving it unworked), W&T.

Repeat rows 3 and 4 until there are 11 stitches left unwrapped at the center of the heel, ending with a wrong-side row.

Row 5 (RS): Knit across the unwrapped stitches, then pick up the wrap of the next stitch and knit it together with its stitch, W&T (this stitch will now have 2 wraps around it).

Row 6 (WS): Purl across the unwrapped stitches, then lift the wrap of the next stitch and purl it together with its stitch, W&T so that this stitch has 2 wraps around it.

Row 7 (RS): Knit to the double-wrapped stitch, lift both wraps and knit them together with their stitch, W&T.

Row 8 (WS): Purl to the double-wrapped stitch, lift both wraps and purl them together with their stitch, W&T.

Repeat rows 7 and 8 until all single-wrapped stitches have been worked, ending with a wrong-side row. At this point, there is 1 double-wrapped stitch at each end of the heel needle.

Switch back to the larger needles and work row 1 of the Strago Chart over the next 26 stitches on the heel needle, *beginning with column 3 of the chart* and knitting the final stitch together with its wraps. Do not turn. The double-wrapped stitch at the other end of the needle will be worked on the next round.

Foot

Return to working in the round on needles 1 and 2 (the held instep stitches) and needle 3 (the heel stitches), using the larger needles for all stitches, as follows: Move the last stitch of needle 2 onto the beginning of needle 3—28 stitches total on needles 1 and 2, 28 stitches on needle 3. Work across the stitches on needles 1 and 2, following round 2 of the Strago Chart. Continue to work the chart across stitches on needle 3, picking up the wraps on the 2nd stitch and knitting them together with their stitch.

Continue to work the Strago Chart on all stitches until the foot measures about 1½" (4cm) less than the desired sock length; end having worked round 1 of the chart.

Toe

Switch to smaller needles, cut CC, and knit 4 rounds using only MC.

Round 1: On needle 1, k1, ssk, knit to the end of the needle. On needle 2, knit to the last 2 stitches, k2tog. On needle 3, k1, ssk, knit to the last 2 stitches, k2tog.

Round 2: Knit all stitches.

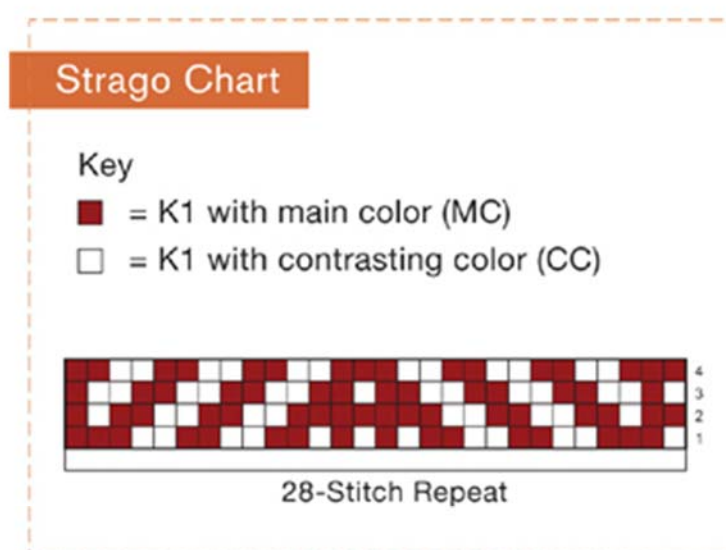
Repeat the last 2 rounds once more—48 stitches remain.

Repeat round 1 only 5 times—28 stitches remain.

Move stitches from needle 1 onto needle 2 and graft the toe closed with Kitchener stitch.

Weave in ends.

Repeat the pattern to make a matching pair.



To download a printable copy of this chart, go to rhlink.com/kbs016.

