

Advent Socks 2020



Knit from the cuff down with a short row heel.

Advent/ December countdown: knit one section each day leading up to Christmas.
12 days of Christmas: start on Christmas day, and knit one section of each sock until January 6.
Solstice/ Winter Holiday: knit at your own pace to finish in time for your holiday celebration.

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GAUGE:

35 sts x 37 rows = 4" (10 cm) in colourwork.

Adjust needle size and yarn choice to obtain the gauge you need for your desired sock circumference.

You may need to go all the way up to sport weight or DK yarn on US3 (3.25 mm) needles to get your desired sock size.

FINISHED MEASUREMENTS:

Total circumference of sock is 8" (20.3 cm) at this gauge.

Length of charted leg section: 5 5/16" (13.5 cm)

Length of charted foot section: 5 7/16" (13.7 cm).

Toe: 1 5/8" (4.1 cm). Heel: 1 3/4" (4.45 cm).

Length of foot including heel, toe, and Chart 2: 8 13/16" (22.4 cm).

YARN:

Total: Approximately 350 yards of yarn in fingering weight at the gauge indicated in the pattern. Socks knit at a larger gauge will require more yarn, as will socks with additional toe length.

Sport or DK weight yarn can be substituted for a larger sock or house slippers.

Background colour: 50 grams of fingering weight yarn will be enough for most sizes, especially if you are adding in heels, toes, or cuffs of a contrasting colour.

Contrast colour yardage for each: A 5g scrap of contrast colour for each day of the 9 colourwork sections, or a 50g skein if using the same contrast colour throughout. 5g is enough to knit days 2 and 14, for example.

Heels, cuffs and toes: a 5 gram of scrap yarn for each heel, cuff and toe should suffice if you are not using your background colour for heels, toes and cuffs.

OPTIONAL: 1-2 yard lengths of contrasting colours for duplicate stitching or embroidery.

NEEDLES & NOTIONS:

All needle sizes are those I used to get the gauge described above. Adjust needle size to fit the gauge you are aiming for.

- one set of US1 (2.25mm) dpns or one US1 (2.25 mm) circular needle for magic loop for heels and toes
- US1 (2.25 mm) 9" (23 cm) circular needles for cuffs (optional), or needle size required to get the gauge you want
- one set of US2 (2.75mm) dpns or one US2 (2.75mm) circular needle for magic loop, or one 2.75 mm 9" (23 cm) circular needle for colourwork portion
- Tapestry needle, scissors, 1 stitch marker, waste yarn for heel stitches.
- **OPTIONAL:** small glass beads, thread, and a beading needle for embellishments.

ABBREVIATIONS:

BOR: beginning of round

CC: Contrast colour

CO: Cast-On

dpns: double pointed needles

K: knit

K2tog: knit 2 together

KFB: knit front and back

MC: main colour

P: purl

PM: place marker

PSSO: pass slipped stitch over

S: slip

st(s): stitch(es)



DIRECTIONS

I have designed this sock to be knit one section per day, with optional embellishments to add in as you go, or at the end. You can customize these socks by adding as many or as few embellishments as you like.

DAY 1:

CUFF: US1 (2.25 mm) needles

Using smaller needle, CO 64 sts in cuff colour of your choice. PM. Join for knitting in the round.

NOTE: Customize this to fit your foot. If you prefer a bigger or smaller cuff, cast on your preferred stitch count and adjust for the difference in the set-up round.

Ribbing Round: (K2, P2) repeat to end of round.

Repeat Ribbing Round for 19 more rounds, or desired cuff length.

Set up round: (K10, kfb, k9, kfb, k10, kfb)* 2 times. (70 sts)

NOTE: If you knit your cuff with a different stitch count, adjust here by increasing or decreasing evenly to 70 stitches.

LEG: US 2 (2.75mm) needles

NOTE: All sizing is done with changes in gauge. Adjust your needle size or yarn weight to get the gauge you need to give you the finished circumference you need. You may choose to go up to DK yarn on a larger needle or you may choose to keep the same needle size all the way through your project.

Optional: I have included colouring charts for each section for you to test your colour choices. You may find it easier to knit directly from your own colour coded charts.

DAY 2: Starry night/ Snowfall

Starting at the bottom right corner and working from right to left, knit rounds 1-9 of Chart A/B. It may be helpful to mark each round when finished or to cover the rows above the one being worked with a ruler, magnetic strip, highlighter tape, or plain paper.

OPTIONAL EMBELLISHMENTS: If you like, add some beading on a couple of the stars/snowflakes to really make this section sparkle and shine. You can add beading as you go, or go back after and add them in. If you don't want to try beading...might I suggest a little sparkly yarn for this section?

DAY 3: Cottage in the woods

Knit rounds 10 – 18 of Chart A/B **OR** use the colouring chart for Day 3 if you are not adding in the little cottage.

OPTIONAL EMBELLISHMENTS: Duplicate stitch the cottage using one colour for the wall and one colour for the roof. While knitting this chart section, you can either knit the cottage in your contrast colour to mark the stitches, or you can knit it in your background colour and carry your floats. If you choose not to include the cottage, I have substituted a tree in its place in the colouring chart for this section, so you can carry on with the 2 colours.

DAY 4: Farmhouse neighbours

Knit rounds 19 – 30 of Chart A/B, using just the contrast colour of your choice. The coloured stitches indicate where the optional embellishments will be added later.

OPTIONAL EMBELLISHMENTS: Add some small glass beads, French knots, or duplicate stitch on the marked stitches (indicated as red stitches in this section of the chart) to act as ornaments on the trees.

DAY 5:

Knit rounds 31 – 40 of Chart A/B **OR** use the colouring chart for Day 5 if you are not adding the little trees. (**NOTE:** the tree trunks in row 40 are knit in your background colour and added afterwards).

OPTIONAL EMBELLISHMENTS: Duplicate stitch the evergreen trees in green. While knitting this chart section, you can either knit the trees in your contrast colour to mark the stitches, or you can knit them in your background colour and carry your floats. If you choose not to include the trees, I have substituted small homes in their place in the colouring chart for this section, so you can carry on with the 2 colours of your choice for the houses.

DAY 6:

Knit rounds 41 – 49 of Chart A/B **OR** use the colouring chart for Day 6. If you are not doing the windows in yellow, they are knit in the background colour.

OPTIONAL EMBELLISHMENTS: Duplicate stitch some of the windows in yellow as indicated in the chart. Light them up! While knitting this chart section, the window stitches are knit in the background colour.

DAY 7: US1 (2.25 mm) needles

SHORT ROW HEEL:

Knit 34 sts.

Move the working yarn to the front as if to purl.

Slip the 35th st from the left needle to the right needle. Turn your work. Bring yarn to the front.

Slip the unworked st from the left needle to the right needle. PM.

Purl the next stitch (now the first stitch on your needle is wrapped).

Purl across to the last heel stitch.

Move the working yarn to the back as if to knit. Slip the last heel stitch. Turn your work. Bring yarn to the back.

Slip the first stitch. PM.

*Knit across to the last st before the marker. Remove marker. Wrap and turn. Slip the first stitch. Replace marker.

Purl across to the last st before the marker. Remove marker. Wrap and turn. Slip the first stitch. Replace marker.*

Repeat these last two steps until you have 11 wrapped stitches on the left and right sides and 13 unwrapped stitches in the middle.

You should be ready to start a right-side row.

*Knit across to the marker. NOTE: I prefer to just knit the wrapped stitch. I don't pick up and knit the wrap with the wrapped stitch.

Remove marker. K1. Bring yarn to front as if to purl. Slip 1 st, bring yarn to back. Turn work (yarn is now in front), slip 1. PM.

Purl across to marker.

Remove marker. P1. Bring yarn to back as if to knit. Slip 1 st, bring yarn to front. Turn work, slip 1, replace marker.*

Repeat until you have worked all heel stitches.

Knit across heel stitches with background colour. PM for new beginning of round.

NOTE: FOR DAY 19, you may choose to have the opposite side of your sock as the "front" (ie/so the little cabin from day 3 is at the front) for variety. If this is the case, before starting the heel, slip the last 35 stitches (the stitches you just worked in the background colour) back onto your left needle and begin from there.

FOOT: US 2 (2.75mm) needles

DAY 8: Store shops all dressed up for Christmas (with dentil brickwork)

Knit across heel in background colour. PM. This is the new BOR. Remove the previous BOR marker when you get to it.

Knit rounds 50 – 62 of Chart A/B **OR** use the colouring chart for Day 8. If you are not adding the window wreaths, the green wreath stitches are knit in the background colour.

OPTIONAL EMBELLISHMENTS: Duplicate stitch or embroider little wreaths in the windows as indicated in the chart (or in as many windows as you like). While knitting this chart section, the wreath stitches are knit in the background colour.

DAY 9:

Knit rounds 63 – 76 of Chart A/B **OR** use the colouring chart for Day 9. All tree stitches are knit in the background colour. The coloured stitches indicate where ornaments will be added later, if desired.

OPTIONAL EMBELLISHMENTS: Add some small glass beads, French knots, or duplicate stitch on the marked stitches (indicated as red stitches in this section of the chart) to act as ornaments on the trees. **NOTE:** Keep the heavier textures for the top of the foot and/or decorative stockings only. Duplicate stitch will be the best choice for the sole of the foot.

DAY 10:

Knit rounds 77 – 90 of Chart A/B OR use the colouring chart for Day 10. If you are not adding in the snow/stars, all the snow/star stitches are knit in the background colour.

OPTIONAL EMBELLISHMENTS: Duplicate stitch over the star/snow stitches. While knitting this chart section, the snow/star stitches can be knit in the contrast colour to reduce your floats, or in the background colour to keep your snow/stars crisp and clean.

DAY 11:

Note: Total length of foot minus 3.5" (8.9 cm) for heel and toe [1 3/4" (4.5 cm) each] = total length of charted foot section needed. The last colourwork section is 9 rows. Measure 9 rows of your colourwork. If adding this section will make the foot of your sock too long to fit your foot, replace this section with the number of plain stockinette rows you need to get to your desired length, using the same yarn you will be using for your toe.

Otherwise:

Knit rounds 91-99 of Chart A/B OR use the colouring chart for Day 11.

If a longer foot is needed, using the same yarn you will use for the toe, continue in stockinette for as long as necessary to reach the desired foot length.

Break yarn, leaving an 8" (20.3cm) tail to weave in ends.

DAY 12:

TOE: US1 (2.25 mm) needles. Instructions are specifically for dpns. Change to toe colour.

Needle 1: 35 sts; Needle 2: 17 sts; Needle 3: 18 sts (70 sts total)

Round 1: Knit all stitches.

Round 2: Needle 1: k1, s1, k1, pss0, K to 3 stitches before end of needle, K2tog, k1.

Needle 2: k1, s1, k1, pss0, k to end of needle.

Needle 3: k to 3 stitches before end of needle, k2tog, k1.

Repeat these 2 rounds until 22 sts remain. (11) per side.

Kitchener Stitch the toe.

Weave in ends. Block. Add extra embellishments if you choose. Enjoy.

DAYS 13 – 24: (See note for Day 19 in the heel section)

Repeat the process for sock 2. You can use the same colours or switch it all up for a sister sock. You might consider doing one "day" sock and one "night" sock, or keep the background the same on both socks but just switch up the contrast colours for each section. Have fun with it!



STOCKING INSTRUCTIONS:

Follow instructions as per sock, above, with the following changes:

YARN: Substitute DK/ **worsted**/ Aran yarn instead of fingering weight. Feel free to experiment with yarn weights and needle sizes. The yarn and needle size you use will determine your finished stocking size. If you are aiming for a specific size stocking, you may want to do a gauge swatch to determine which yarn and needle combination you require to give you the size you want. If you are knitting your stocking with scraps, have fun with it and enjoy your finished stocking no matter what size it ends up.

CUFF: use US4/ **6/ 7** (3.5/ 4/ 4.5mm) needles. Knit 14 to 20 rows of ribbing, as desired.

HEELS/TOES: use US4/ **6/ 7** (3.5/ 4/ 4.5mm) needles.

COLOURWORK SECTIONS: use US6/ **7/ 8** (4/ **4.5**/ 5mm) needles for all colourwork sections.

If you are knitting your stocking at a loose gauge, you can line it with fabric, or knit an insert so small items don't poke through the fabric. If you knit the stocking at a tight gauge and it is strictly for decorative purposes, you may not need to line it at all. I like to knit a very large stocking in 100% wool and felt it down to size to get a nice dense fabric that doesn't need a liner.

A NOTE ON FELTING: I felt my stockings in the sink, by hand, using dish soap and HOT water (as hot as you can handle) for complete control over the felting process. I can felt as much or as little as I like. I lay it flat to dry when I have reached the desired size. Note: Wet felt is pliable and can be stretched slightly to the desired shape.

My finished measurements before felting were:

15 7/8" (40.3 cm) circumference

30" (76.2 cm) total length with 14 rows of ribbing.

My finished measurements after felting were:

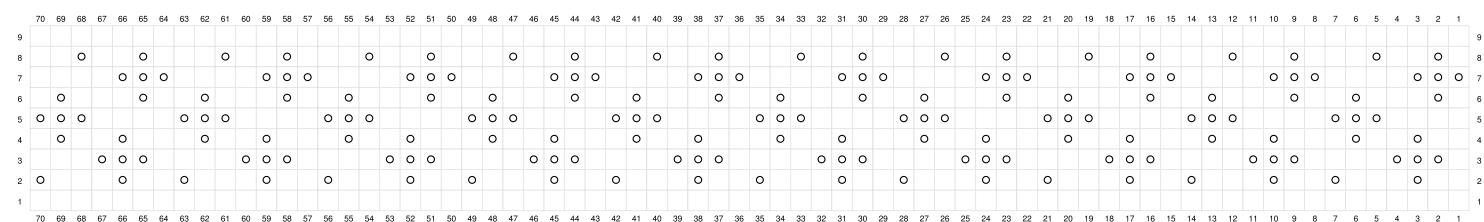
13" (33 cm) circumference

26" (66 cm) total length with 14 rows of ribbing.

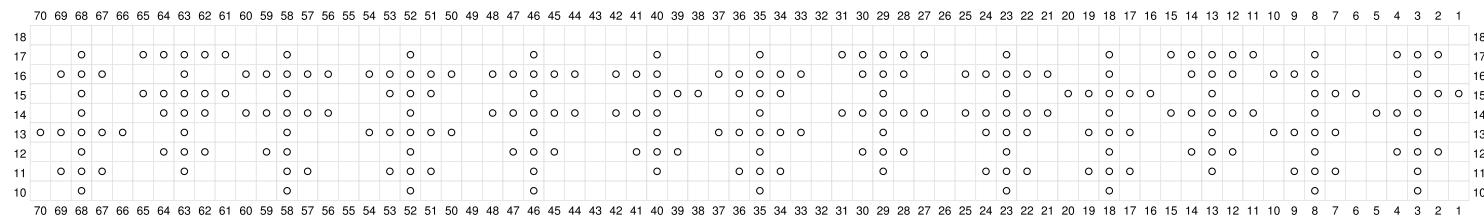
If desired, you can go back when the stocking is felted and add a little loop for hanging.

Colouring charts to test drive your colour choices:

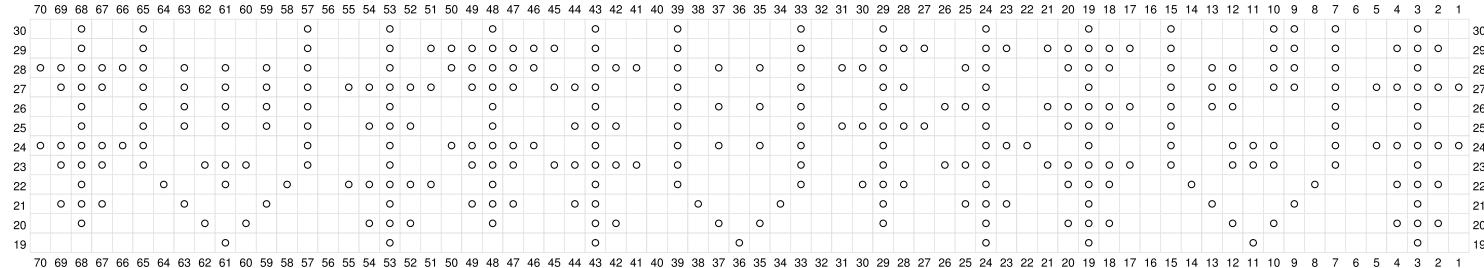
DAY 2:



DAY 3:



DAY 4:



DAY 5:

70 69 68 67 66 65 64 63 62 61 60 59 58 57 56 55 54 53 52 51 50 49 48 47 46 45 44 43 42 41 40 39 38 37 36 35 34 33 32 31 30 29 28 27 26 25 24 23 22 21 20 19 18 17 16 15 14 13 12 11 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

DAY 6:

DAY 8:

70 69 68

70 69 68 67 66 65 64 63 62 61 60 59 58 57 56 55 54 53 52 51 50 49 48 47 46 45 44 43 42 41 40 39 38 37 36 35 34 33 52 51 30 29 28 27 26 25 24 23 22 21 20 19 18 17 16 15 14 13 12 11 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

DAY 10:

70 69 68 67 66 65 64 63 62 61 60 59 58 57 56 55 54 53 52 51 50 49 48 47 46 45 44 43 42 41 40 39 38 37 36 35 34 33 32 31 30 29 28 27 26 25 24 23 22 21 20 19 18 17 16 15 14 13 12 11 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

DAY 11

70 69 68 67 66 65 64 63 62 61 60 59 58 57 56 55 54 53 52 51 50 49 48 47 46 45 44 43 42 41 40 39 38 37 36 35 34 33 32 31 30 29 28 27 26 25 24 23 22 21 20 19 18 17 16 15 14 13 12 11 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

CHART A (DAY):

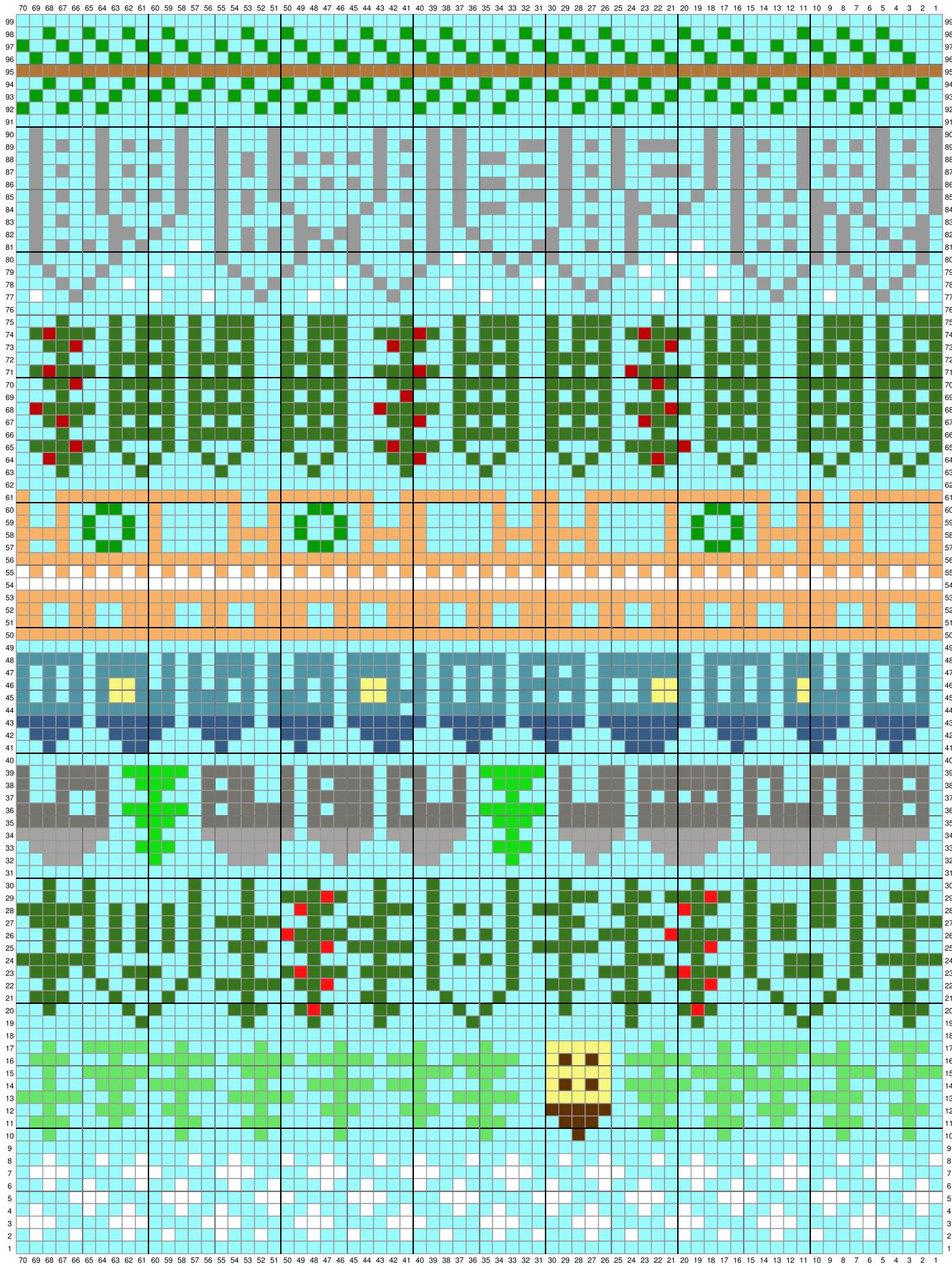


CHART B (NIGHT):

