



Cupid's Favorite Socks[®]

Deborah Tomasello



Cupid's Favorite Socks is a fun-to-knit, stranded sock that is great for wearing inside hiking boots, or with jeans, or slouched over tights. The pattern is wonderful for anytime, but it's especially perfect for Valentine's Day—as a gift for yourself or a loved one. Because it's stranded, you achieve double the warmth of a single strand of yarn. The pattern also contains instructions for an optional secret pocket for securing a key or cash, and when the top cuff is folded down, the pocket opening is completely hidden... And it has a sister pattern...a matching hat. See Cupid's Favorite: The Hat!

SIZE: Woman and Teen X-small-Small-Medium-Large (You can tweak the sizing on this one by going up or down a needle size or two. Use a #1 for x-small, #2 needle for small. For women's medium, use a #3 needle, and for a women's large and men's small/med, use a #4 or #5 needle.) Pattern socks used #2 DPNs.

MATERIALS: One ball each of Knit Picks Stroll Sock Yarn: colorways **Black** and **White**, and one ball of Stroll Brights: **Pucker**.

Five #2 DPNs (or size needed to obtain desired size)

Tapestry needle

GAUGE: 9 sts = approx. 1 inch using #2 needles

ABBREVIATIONS: K = knit

P = purl

K2TOG = knit 2 stitches together

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NOTE: Float every 2-3 stitches to keep toes from getting caught in floats!

SOCKS: Make 2

Instructions: Socks are worked top-down. On the chart, sts on the right are at the center back of the sock.

LEG: (Instructions are given for Woman/Teen Med. Adjust needle size to suit your specs.) Regardless of size desired, work your top cuff on #2 needles. (If making x-small, however, use #1 DPNs throughout.) Switch to larger needles for leg and foot, if desired.

With #2 DPNs and **Black**, CO **72** sts, split evenly among 4 DPNs. (Join to work in round, placing marker and being careful not to twist stitches if using a circular needle.) Knit **16** rounds 2x2 rib.

OPTIONAL SECRET POCKET: Optional pocket is added on the 16th(last) ribbing round on one of the socks only. On the last ribbing round, Knit first **16** stitches. Using spare needle and **Pucker**, knit the next **14** stitches (DO NOT RIB). Turn. Work back and forth in stockinette st, **ON THESE 14 STS ONLY**, 20-24 rows. BO. Set spare needle aside. Leaving another long tail, CO **16** sts using **Pucker**, and continue working final ribbing round.

After ribbing, continue with #2 needles or change needle for larger sock. Begin following sock CHART. Work chart through round **55**.

HEEL: My socks feature the Sweet Tomato Heel (STH). You may use the heel of your choice, but I recommend one that does not employ a heel flap or gussets to allow for an even design flow. For a tutorial on the STH, see this video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IRc3309JUyc>

Once you understand how to knit the STH, proceed using the STH heel instructions, knitting heel with a single strand of **Black**. Work three wedges on the **36** sts on needles 1 and 4. Work wedges leaving **8** stitch pairs on each side. Knit according to chart across the instep stitches between wedges. And work one complete round between wedges. In other words, work and complete the first wedge, knit one round around even, per chart, and then begin the second wedge. Do the same between 2nd and 3rd wedges. Follow the chart for the instep stitches (the 36 sts you have on needles 2 and 3). After working the first half of wedge one, work across the instep per round **56** of the chart, the 2nd wedge will use the appropriate part of round **58**, and the 3rd wedge will use the appropriate part of round **60**.

FOOT: Working all sts on circular needle or split on DPNs as with leg, attach **Pucker** and work chart from through round **112** (or work more rows, keeping true to the design, for a longer foot if desired.) Detach **Pucker**.

TOE: Using a single strand of **Black**, decrease for toe as follows:

Needle 1: K to last 3 sts of NEEDLE 1, K2TOG, K1

Needle 2: K1, K2TOG, knit remaining sts.

Needle 3: K to last 3 stitches of NEEDLE 3, K2TOG, K1

Needle 4: K1, K2TOG, knit remaining sts.

Repeat these two rounds until there are **14** sts total on needles 1 and 4 and **14** sts total on needles 2 and 3 (7 sts on each of the 4 needles). Place sts from needles 4 and 1 onto one needle. Place sts from needles 2 and 3 onto one needle.

Graft the remaining stitches together using Kitchener st. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W7i5JwEReW0>

Finishing: With long tails left from detaching and CO pocket sts, sew pocket down to inside of sock. On the front of the sock, pick up the 14 CO st loops and, using **Pucker**, work a 2x2 rib (starting and ending odd rows with knit 2, and even rows with purl 2), back and forth for 4 rows. BO. Secure ribbing sides to sock. Tie and weave in or trim all yarn ends at beginning and ends of rounds. Wash & block to fit.

CHART:

