

PATCHWORK - MIX - SOCKS

by Elke Becker, April 2019

The Austrian artist Friedensreich Hundertwasser has inspired me with his work for many years. Some of you will know him, http://www.hundertwasser.de/index_en.php here you can get detailed information about him and his work. He was an opponent of straight lines and standardization, and he loved nature.

He inspired me to design these socks, they are worked in different directions and techniques, they are colorful and unconventional and above all: it is almost impossible to produce two identical socks (Hundertwasser **always** wore two different socks).

In advance, this pattern is for experienced knitters, it is definitely not suitable for beginners. Knitting a short-row heel is essential, but I can reassure anyone who has had trouble so far: with an extra short heel flap, the fit is excellent, even for a high instep. At the end of this pattern, there is a detailed step-by-step guide to my version of this heel.



This pattern refers to socks that are knitted with 64 stitches in the round. The foot length can be adjusted individually. After the first pair is done and you have internalized the construction, you will certainly be able to adjust the stitches in width for even wider or slimmer feet.

Materials: 4-ply sock yarn with long and unequally color rapports and with strong contrasts. For that, the brand Opal offers a great assortment, primarily the Hundertwasser collection. But other brands are also suitable if they meet the above requirements. Likewise, colorful leftovers can be processed. For a pair of socks up to approx. size 11 (US) one ball of 460 yards is sufficient.

5 dpns and 2 circular needles (23-32") in usual size. It is helpful if the tips and/or the cables have different colors, but that is no rule.

A crochet hook in the same size as the needles (Is only used for bind-off.)
Or: You do the 3-needle bind-off (choose any YouTube video you prefer).

Markers (optional)

Abbreviations

k = knit

p = purl

ssk = slip, slip, knit

(Slip one stitch as if to knit, Slip another stitch as if to knit. Insert left-hand needle into front of these 2 stitches and knit them together)

CDD = Central Double Decrease

Slip first and second stitches together as if to knit. Knit 1 stitch. Pass two slipped stitches over the knit stitch.

CN = Cable Needle

RS = Right side

WS = Wrong side

Let's begin:

Cast on: Loosely cast on 64 stitches with dpns and join the round. Be careful not to twist.

Cuff: *k2; p2* for 15 rounds

Transition: knit 1 round

Square patches in garter stitch

The patches are worked contrary to the usual knitting direction, thus the first patch over needle #4, the second patch over needle #3, etc.

At this point, if you like, you can slip the stitches of needles 1-3 onto a circular needle, so it is easier to knit.

The yarn is at the end of needle #4. Now you have to cast on 15 stitches at the end of row. For that you have to turn the work. Now you look at the inside of the sock.

Work the cast-on as described in the following video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9TPXC7aJNEc>

After you have added this 15 stitches, there are 31 stitches on your needle.

WS row: Knit all stitches.

Turn work.

You are at the beginning of needle #4.

RS row: k14, CDD, k14, turn

WS row: k14, p1, k14, turn

next RS row: k13, CDD, k13, turn

next WS row: k13, p1, k13, turn

In this manner, the first patch is knitted until only 1 stitch is remaining.

From the vertical edge of the just knitted patch you now have to pick up 14 loops onto a dpn. Together with the remaining st and the 16 stitches from needle # 3 there are 31 stitches again. The **second** and **third** patch are worked in the same way as the first one.

For the **4th** (the last) patch, as before, 14 loops from the edge of the third patch **AND** 15 loops from the vertical edge of the first patch (from the upknitted stitches) are picked up. Together with the intervening 16 basic stitches of needle # 1 there are now 46 stitches on the needle.

If we are talking about "slipping", it means that the stitch is slipped from the left-hand needle to the right-hand needle (as if to purl), with the yarn in back.

The last patch has to be worked as follows:

WS row: k15 (**or** k15 tbl - depending on how the loops are on the needle), k15, ssk* (= the last st of needle #1 with the first st of the edge of patch #1) **or** – depending on how the loops are on the needle – just "k2tog tbl". Turn.

RS row: sl1, k13, CDD, k14, turn.

next WS row: k14, p1, k13, ssk*, turn.

next RS row: sl1, k12, CDD, k13, turn.

next WS row: k13, p1, k12, ssk*, turn.

Continue in this manner until the 4th patch, including connection, is knitted. The last WS row ends with a CDD. There is still 1 st remaining.

Transition: From the upper edge pick up a minimum of 63 sts.
Knit (**or** knit tbl) 1 round - depending on how the loops are on the needle – **and** increase evenly distributed until you have 70 stitches in the round.

Lace section: Work the 2 rows of the chart for a total of 7 times.(or as often as desired).

10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	2
○		Λ		○					1	



knit stitch

yarn over

Central Double Decrease (CDD)

= Slip first and second stitches together as if to knit. Knit 1 stitch. Pass two slipped stitches over the knit stitch

Attention !!! For men socks you can knit the yarnovers in the following round through back loop!

Transition: Knit 1 rd and decrease 6 sts evenly distributed (= 64 sts)

Ripples:

- purl 4 rds.
- knit 8 rds
- purl 4 rds.
- knit 4 rds.

At this point you can decide which patches you want to have in front and which back, so you just knit the last round until you are at the beginning of the heel flap.

If 'edge stitches' is mentioned from now on, they are knitted as follows:

*At the end of each row the last stitch is slipped as if to purl, with the yarn in front of the needle.
At the beginning of each row the first stitch is a knit stitch.*

Heel: work 12 rows in stockinette stitch for the heel flap (with edge stitches), **then** work a Boomerang heel 10 – 12 – 10, with intermediate **rows** instead of rounds.

!!! Please measure the length of the Boomerang heel and note it.
(Mine measured 4,5 cm)
This measurement is needed for the toe.

A detailed description of the Boomerang (short row) heel can be found at the end of this pattern.

Sole: Work in stockinette stitch back and forth (with edge sts as described above). Stop, when up to the final foot length only the heel measure is missing.

Toe: For the toe work the same Boomerang heel as described above.
The toe ends up in the middle of the instep.

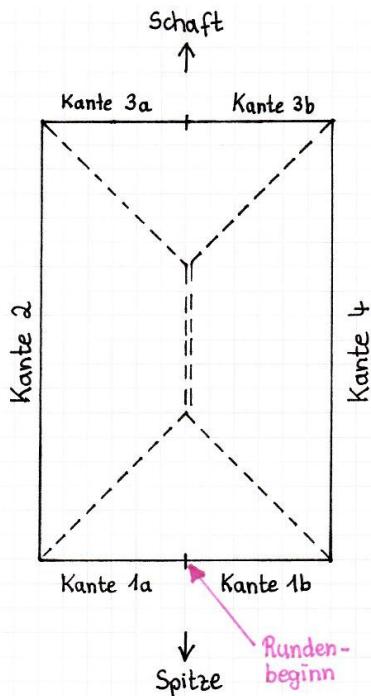
Frontpatch (worked in rounds from the outside to the inside)

For the final big frontpatch only 2 circular needles are needed. Here it is helpful if they are available in different colors (tip and / or cable), of course this is not required.

The beginning of the round is in the middle of the instep, so in half of the just finished Boomerang toe. If you like, mark this spot with a stitch marker.

I was working with the numbers as they were needed for my pair of socks. Alternatively, I added a blank table after that, where you can write in your own numbers as needed.

Here you can see the scheme of the front patch with the edge labels, to let you know where you are, when you read e. g. about the edge 1a (e 1a) in the table.



The green fields in the table mean that these stitches have to be **knit** stitches.

The stitches in the red fields have to be **purl** stitches.

With needle #1 (CN 1) you have to work the stitches of the edges 1a, 2 and 3a.

With needle #2 (CN 2) you have to work the stitches of the edges 3b, 4 and 1b.

Translation: *Schaft* = leg

Spitze = toe

Kante = edge

Rundenbeginn = beginning of round

Explanation of "Number X" and "Number Y"

Number X = Number of stitches picked up from a long edge.

Number Y = Number of stitches which are still left at the end of the front patch, needed for binding-off. (depending on number X)

Picking up round

With **CN 1** knit **16** stitches from the edge of the toe, then pick up and knit **43** stitches (or number X) from the side edge of sole and heel flap, and then knit **16** stitches from the edge of the leg. (= 75 stitches on CN 1)

With **CN 2** knit **16** stitches from the edge of the leg, then pick up and knit **43** stitches (or number X) from the side edge of heel flap and sole, and then knit **16** stitches from the edge of the toe. (= 75 stitches on CN 2)

Attention !!!

The stitches picked up from the edges are knitted **tbl** in the following round!

The stitches 1 and 32 of the short edges are set as corner stitches (center stitches of the decreases).

Then knit according to the table, with a repeat of 4 rounds.

The decreases are always knit as CDD (Center Double Decrease) - as in the square patches. This always puts the second stitch on top and creates a nice diagonal line.

ATTENTION !!!

The last stitches for the edge 1b (last column) have to be **purled in row 2 (as well as in every comparable row of a 4-repeat) and in the next row they have to be **knit** stitches (instead of purled)!**

This is necessary to avoid creating an offset in the purled row at the instep!

The outer right column of the table can be used to check off the rounds.

The last 2 x 15 (or number Y) stitches are crocheted together as follows:

Keep needles parallel. Insert the crochet hook into the front loop of the first stitch on the front needle (as if to knit) **and** into the back loop of the first stitch of the back needle (as if to knit through back loop), take yarn and pull it through both stitches. Then insert the hook into the next two stitches as before, take yarn and pull it through both stitches **and** the stitch on the crochet hook. Bind off in this way until there is 1 stitch remaining.

Cut yarn, pull it through the last loop and sew it on the inner side of the sock so that the "little ear" of the last stitch is taken inside.

And now I wish you great fun and success in knitting the Patchwork Mix Socks!

Round	needle 1 (CN 1)					needle 2 (CN 2)				
	e 1a	CDD	e 2	CDD	e 3a	e 3b	CDD	e 4	CDD	e 1b
1	14	CDD	41	CDD	14	14	CDD	41	CDD	14
2	14	1	41	1	14	14	1	41	1	14
3	13	CDD	39	CDD	13	13	CDD	39	CDD	13
4	13	1	39	1	13	13	1	39	1	13
5	12	CDD	37	CDD	12	12	CDD	37	CDD	12
6	12	1	37	1	12	12	1	37	1	12
7	11	CDD	35	CDD	11	11	CDD	35	CDD	11
8	11	1	35	1	11	11	1	35	1	11
9	10	CDD	33	CDD	10	10	CDD	33	CDD	10
10	10	1	33	1	10	10	1	33	1	10
11	9	CDD	31	CDD	9	9	CDD	31	CDD	9
12	9	1	31	1	9	9	1	31	1	9
13	8	CDD	29	CDD	8	8	CDD	29	CDD	8
14	8	1	29	1	8	8	1	29	1	8
15	7	CDD	27	CDD	7	7	CDD	27	CDD	7
16	7	1	27	1	7	7	1	27	1	7
17	6	CDD	25	CDD	6	6	CDD	25	CDD	6
18	6	1	25	1	6	6	1	25	1	6
19	5	CDD	23	CDD	5	5	CDD	23	CDD	5
20	5	1	23	1	5	5	1	23	1	5
21	4	CDD	21	CDD	4	4	CDD	21	CDD	4
22	4	1	21	1	4	4	1	21	1	4
23	3	CDD	19	CDD	3	3	CDD	19	CDD	3
24	3	1	19	1	3	3	1	19	1	3
25	2	CDD	17	CDD	2	2	CDD	17	CDD	2
26	2	1	17	1	2	2	1	17	1	2
27	1	CDD	15	CDD	1	1	CDD	15	CDD	1
28	1	1	15	1	1	1	1	15	1	1
29	-	CDD	13	CDD	-	-	CDD	13	CDD	-
30	-	1	13	1	-	-	1	13	1	-
31										
32										
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39										
40										

Round	needle 1 (CN 1)					needle 2 (CN 2)				
	e 1a	CDD	e 2	CDD	e 3a	e 3b	CDD	e 4	CDD	e 1b
1										
2										
3										
4										
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Congratulations! You made it! You've completed your first pair of patchwork mix socks!

And you see how variable this pattern can be implemented.

For example, other variants of the cuff can be selected, you can replace the lace section with another pattern. If you want to, place the square patch rounds elsewhere - or knit a second square patch round.

Shorten or lengthen the leg by adding or omitting a few rounds, etc ...

There are no limits to the diverse design possibilities.

For feet that require less or more stitches in the width, the stitch count/round can be adjusted. But then pay attention to the square patches that the basic line (including upknitted loops) always has an odd number of stitches!

And now let your creativity run wild!



PhotoGrid

Boomerang heel (German short-row heel or toe) à la Elke

Since not everyone is familiar with a short-row heel, and for the Patchwork Mix Socks a variant without intermediate round is required, I write down exactly how I knit this kind of Boomerang heel or toe.

You choose the side of your sock you want to be the front and knit until the yarn is to the left of the front.

Now turn your work counterclockwise (as if to knit the next needle) and look at the back of your sock. The yarn is on the right.

Now, for a better fit of the heel you have to knit a short heel flap over 32 stitches (usually 12 rows are enough, which are worked with edge stitches.) The last stitch of the last back row is not slipped, but purled. This is necessary for forming the first double stitch.

Then the actual Boomerang heel is knitted, which is later also used as toe.

Turn work.

The needle with the 32 stitches is facing you.

Now you have to slip the first stitch as if to purl (with yarn in **front**) and pull the yarn backwards over the right-hand needle. The two "legs" of the stitch are lying onto the needle. This looks like there are two stitches, but these are just the lower loops of the stitch, also called "legs". The whole thing is now called a "**double stitch**".

Now knit the remaining 31 stitches of the needle.

Turn work.

Now slip (as in the previous row) the first stitch as if to purl (with yarn in front) and pull the yarn backwards over the needle, so that you create a double stitch again.

Purl the next 30 stitches until only the double stitch is remaining. Leave it unworked.

Turn work.

Now create a double stitch (as described above) and knit the following 29 stitches until you reach the double stitch at the end of the row.

Turn work.

Continue in this manner. I find the following mantra helpful:

"Beginning one ... End one ...

Beginning two ... End two ...

Beginning three ... End three ... "

And if you arrived at "Beginning 10 ... End 10", you should have the following stitches on your needle:

10 double stitches, 12 center stitches, 10 double stitches.

After the 10th double stitch you have worked on the wrong side, purl the next 12 stitches, and then purl the 10 double stitches at the end of the needle! That means, you have to insert the tip of your right-hand needle into the 2 little legs of the double stitch and purl it. You have to be careful to catch both legs. Depending on how tight you worked the stitches, it can be a bit tricky.

After you reached the end of needle, turn work.

Now slip the first stitch as if to knit, with yarn in **back**.

Knit all following stitches until you reach the double stitches at the end of needle.

Now you have to knit these stitches and also make sure that you catch both legs.

Don't worry, at the latest after 2./3. Boomerang heel you see how the wind is blowing. ;-))

Half of the heel is done! Yippee!

Now the second part follows ... everything goes backwards there ... ;-))

You have to purl and count:

10 ... 12 ... plus one (you have purled 23 stitches, 9 stitches remaining.)

Turn work.

Now create the first stitch from the left-hand needle into a double stitch.

Knit 13 stitches. Count: 12 (the 12 center stitches) ... plus 1.

Turn work.

Create a double stitch.

Purl until you reached the double stitch.

Purl the double stitch.

Purl another stitch.

(Count: purl to the double stitch, the double stitch, plus one)

Turn work.

Create a double stitch.

Knit until you reached the double stitch.

Knit the double stitch.

Knit another stitch.

(Count: Knit to the double stitch, the double stitch, plus one)

Continue in this manner until all stitches are worked.

After that you have to continue for the sole with forwards and backwards rows.

