

Into the Winter Woods

by Fishhead Creations



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I have been obsessed with this tree pattern for quite a while and it makes for a delightfully wintery sock. For a more traditionally Christmas-sy version, try green trees on a red background, add glitter or go completely wild!

Materials

- approx. 50g of MC yarn (dark grey)
- approx. 30g of CC yarn (light grey)
- 2.5mm DPNs or needles for magic loop or size required to get gauge
- 2mm DPNs or needles for magic loop or size required to get gauge
- tapestry needle

The pattern is written for knitting on a set of five DPNs, but can easily be adjusted to your favourite style of knitting socks.

As the sample was knit in size L and used up the main colour completely, please keep a little extra on hand for size XL, which has not been testknit.

Yarn

The sample was knit in *Drops Fabel*. Any regular fingering weight sock yarn in solid or semisolid colours will work well. Using variegated or even speckled yarns might also lead to interesting results, but keep the contrast to the between the colours used next to each other high enough.

Gauge

36 stitches/10cm in stockinette on smaller needles

This will result in a very dense fabric. If you have knit socks before, feel free to adjust the gauge. The four sizes use 56, 64, 72 and 80 stitches in the stockinette part, so choose your size based on that number and your preferred stitch count for vanilla socks.

Size

Sizes S (M, L, XL) with a stitch count of 56 (64, 72, 80) in the stockinette part. The foot circumference at the suggested gauge is 15,5cm (17,75cm, 20cm, 22,25cm). Length can easily adjusted in the stockinette part.

Techniques

To knit these socks, you need the following skills:

- longtail cast-on
- knit
- purl
- knit in the round with two colours, stranding

- increasing and decreasing stitches
- picking up stitches (for the heel flap)
- grafting/kitchener stitch

If you are unfamiliar with any of these techniques please head to Youtube. There are many very helpful tutorials on these things to suit several knitting styles. In general you should be fine if you have basic sock knitting experience or basic colourwork experience. These are good first colourwork socks!

Abbreviations

- k = knit

- p = purl
- m1 = make one stitch by lifting the bar between the stitches onto your left hand needle and knitting it twisted to avoid a hole forming
- sl1 = slip one stitch purlwise
- RS/WS = right side/wrong side
- k2tog = knit two stitches together
- ssk = slip, slip, knit, i.e. individually slip the next two stitches purlwise, insert the left hand needle into them again and knit them together through the back loop
- p2tog = purl two stitches together

Instructions

TIP: To avoid having loads of ends to weave in after finishing the socks, knit them in as you go: Simply knit as if you were catching a float on every other stitch for 10–12 stitches before you need to start the colour or after you are done with it. The pattern has plain rows between the colour changes in most places to make this easy.

Cuff

With smaller needles and CC cast on 56 (64, 72, 80) stitches and distribute evenly around four needles. Knit in 1x1 rib (i.e. k1, p1) for 15 rounds or as long as you prefer.

Leg

Join MC and switch to larger needles. Knit from Chart A, repeating it 8 (9, 10, 11) times per round. When the chart is completed, break CC and change to smaller needles. Continue to knit in MC only for approx. 20 rounds or until the desired length of the leg is reached. Break MC.

Heel

Join CC and knit the **heel flap** over the next two needles (i.e. 28 (32, 36, 40) stitches) as follows:

Row 1 (RS): *sl1, k1*, repeat between * across, turn work

Row 2 (WS): sl1, purl across, turn work

TIP: This will create a slightly ragged line over the colour changes, mimicking the colourwork pattern. If you prefer a clean line, knit across row one the first time instead of slipping every other stitch.

Repeat these two rows a total of 16 (18, 20, 22) times, which gives you 16 (18, 20, 22) slipped stitches along the edge of the heel flap. **Turn the heel** as follows:

Row 1: sl1, k16 (18, 20, 22), ssk, k1, turn work

Row 2: sl 1, p7, p2tog, p1, turn work

Row 3: sl1, knit to one stitch before gap, ssk, k1, turn work

Row 4: sl1, purl to one stitch before gap, p2tog, p1, turn work

Your ssk and p2tog should always work the stitches on either side of the gap together. Repeat rows 3 and 4 until all stitches have been worked (18 (20, 22, 24) heel stitches remain). K9 (10, 11, 12) – this is the middle of the heel/sole and the **new beginning of the round**. Needles 1–4 are counted from here. Break CC and rejoin MC.

TIP: If you are concerned that the colour change in the middle of the heel will give you an uncomfortable ridge, join MC at the edge of the heel turn instead of knitting to the new beginning of the round first.

Knit 9 (10, 11, 12), then pick up 16 (18, 20, 22) stitches along the slip stitch edge of the heel flap plus one to close the gap between the needles. Knit across 28 (32, 36, 40) instep stitches. Pick up one stitch to close the gap and 16 (18, 20, 22) along the slip stitch edge. K9 (10, 11, 12).

Gusset

Continue to knit in MC while decreasing as follows:

Round 1: Knit to 3 stitches before the end of needle 1, k2tog, k1. Knit across needles 2+3. K1, ssk, knit to end of needle 4/round

Round 2: Knit across

Repeat these two round until 14 (16, 18, 20) stitches per needle remain.

Foot

Continue to knit in MC for approx. 30 rounds or until the foot (including heel) measures 5 (6, 7, 8) cm less than the full desired length.

Change to larger needles and join CC. Knit from Chart B. When the chart is completed, break MC and change to smaller needles.

Toe

The toe is knit in CC only. Decrease as follows:

Round 1: *Knit to 3 stitches before the end of needle, k2tog, k2, ssk, knit to end of needle*, repeat between * once. Round 2: Knit across

Repeat these two rows a total of 5 (7, 9, 11) times (9 stitches per needle/36 stitches total remain), then repeat Round 1 another three times (6 stitches per needle/24 stitches total remain). K6 to have the yarn end at one side of the toe.

Finishing

Graft the toes using Kitchener stitch. Weave in all ends. Soak in lukewarm water with a mild wool wash for twenty minutes. Press dry by rolling it up in a towel. Lay flat to dry or put on a sock blocker. Enjoy!

Charts

Legend

- CC
- MC

Chart A

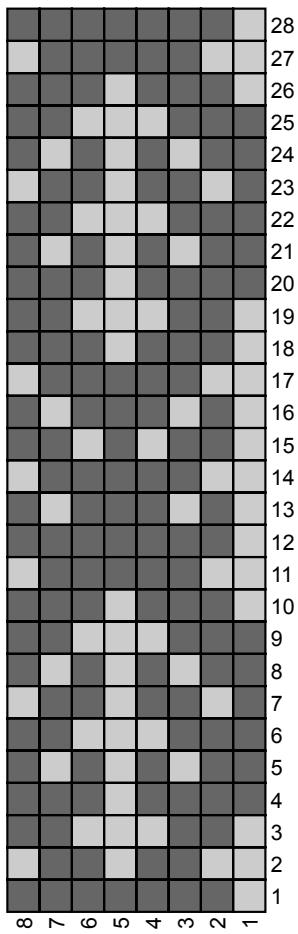
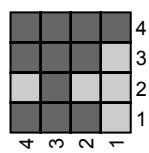


Chart B



Inverted Charts

If your main and contrast colour do not match the above chart in terms of brightness, use these inverted charts instead to make it easier to follow.

Legend

- CC
- MC

Chart A

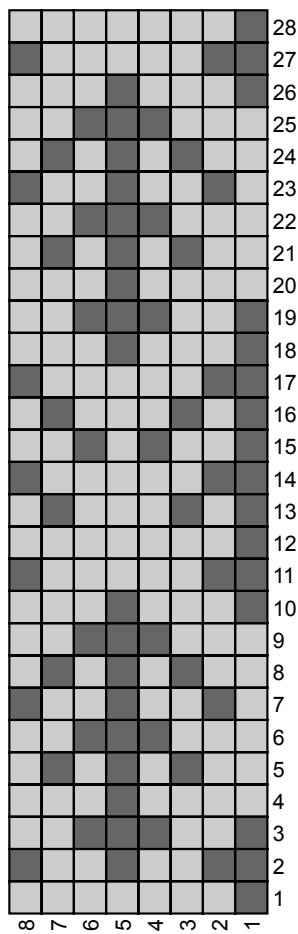


Chart B

