

Matt's Socks

Size: Made for a US mens' size 9½ to 10

Materials: 4.3 oz handspun 3-ply teal Cotswold/mohair (22 wraps/inch); 2.3 oz handspun 3-ply light gray Shetland (24 wraps/inch).

Needles: Size 1 (2.25 mm) 11" circular and set of size 1 short double points (It's easier to divide the stitches over 5 needles).

Gauge: 1 31x31 pattern repeat measures 3.125"x3.125".

Instructions:

Cast on 92 st in teal on circular needle. Join without twisting, placing a marker at the join (this will be the center back). Work k2 p2 rib for 10 rounds. Knit one round in stockinette, increasing one stitch to a total of 93 st. Begin the pattern on the next round. Work 1½ pattern repeats for the cuff, ending on pattern row 16 at the center back marker. Break the yarns.

Move 22 stitches on either side of the marker to a double pointed needle. Join the teal yarn on the wrong side, and p across the 44 stitches. Work heel stitch (slip 1, k1 on the right side, slip 1, p across on the wrong side) until there are 20 slipped loops, ending with a purled row. On the next row, start to turn the heel: work heel stitch to 2 stitches past the center marker, SSK (slip 2 stitches as if to knit and knit through the back of the loops), k1. Turn. Slip 1 and purl to two stitches past the center marker, p2 tog, p1. Turn. Slip the first stitch, and work heel stitch across to one stitch before the little gap. SSK, K1. Turn. P across row to one stitch before the gap. P2 tog. Turn. Repeat, decreasing across the gaps until all the edge stitches are used. There will be 24 stitches left.



Pick up 21 st on the heel flap in teal. Place a marker, join the gray yarn, and work the pattern across. Break the gray yarn, place a marker, and pick up 21 stitches on the opposite flap. Work in teal to center marker, knit stitch after marker in teal, knit next stitch in gray. Alternate teal and gray until two stitches before the marker, and then k2 tog in teal. Work pattern across to the next marker. SSK in teal. Alternate teal and gray, starting so that the stitch before the center back marker

Garments designed by Catherine Devine (devine@lightlink.com)

will be gray. Maintain the teal and gray vertical stripes (*except on the two rounds where the pattern is solid teal*), decreasing at the instep markers every other round and always working the decrease (K2 or SSK) in teal. Continue decreases until there are 93 stitches on the needle, and then resume the pattern over all stitches. (You can remove the two instep markers, but leave the one at the center back.)

Finish the pattern repeat, and work another straight through to the round just before that marked for the toe decreases. Work 23 stitches past the center back marker, place a marker and work to 23 stitches before the center back marker. Place another marker. You'll work the toe decreases at these markers.

On the next round, work to within 3 st of the first toe decrease marker, k2 tog in teal, k2 gray, SSK in teal. Work to within 3 st of the next toe marker and repeat. Continue decreasing every other round. Move the work evenly onto four double points when necessary; note that one of the top needles will have one more stitch than the other three. Break off gray yarn at the last pattern round to work the last of the toe in teal only. Use heel stitch for a stretchier toe. When there are 57 stitches left, begin decreasing every round until there are 37 stitches left. K2 together somewhere on the needle with 10 stitches to bring the total stitches to 36. Graft toe with Kitchener stitch.

