

Easy Toe-Up Baby/Toddler Socks: 2 at a time on Magic Loop

by Lynne Lounsbury

These socks are knit toe-up, 2-at-a-time on one long circular needle with a stockinette stitch foot, short-row heel (with no wrapped stitches!), a little bit of ribbing to hold them up, and a rolled cuff for comfort. This pattern is designed specifically for extremely stretchy yarn, so if you are using a less-stretchy yarn you may need to modify to a larger needle size or add several more stitches to the circumference.

Size: 0-12 months [12-36 months] (shown in size 18-24 months)

Finished Measurements:

0-12 months: 4" foot circumference, unstretched

12-36 months: 5.25" foot circumference, unstretched

Materials & Notions:

Cascade Fixation [cotton/elastic; 100 yd/91 m per 50g ball], 1 skein makes 2 pairs of socks up to 24 months size

1 40" US #5/3.75mm circular needle

stitch marker

darning needle

Gauge:

6 sts/10 rows = 1" in stockinette stitch

Abbreviations:

K: Knit stitch

P: Purl stitch

Kfb: Knit stitch, leaving stitch on left needle; immediately knit into the back of the same stitch, then remove from left needle. You now have one extra stitch.

Kwise: Knitwise—right needle inserted as if to knit.

M1KB: (Make one, knitting through back loop) Find the bar running between the last stitch on the right needle and the first stitch on the left needle; using either left or right needle, lift bar up onto left needle so that yarn travels from in front of needle on right side, over top and to the back of needle on left side. Knit through back loop.

M1P: (Make one, purling) Lift bar between last stitch on right needle and first stitch on left needle as described in M1KB; insert right needle purlwise, and purl the stitch.

PSSO: (Pass slipped stitch over) the slipped stitch will be the second stitch on the right needle. Insert left needle into stitch and lift over the left-most stitch on the right needle, and off the end.

Pwise: Purlwise—right needle inserted as if to purl.

Sl: Slipped stitch (will be followed by a number indicating the number of stitches to slip, and either Kwise or Pwise)

St/sts: Stitch/stitches



Note:

You will need to divide your yarn into two separate balls, one for each sock. To knit a round, you will first knit half the stitches on Sock A, then all the stitches on Sock B, and finally the second half of the stitches on Sock A. When you cast on, take note of where your yarn tails and needle tips are—this is the position they will be in at the beginning of a new round (if you used Judy's Magic Cast-on, your tails, working yarns and needle tips will all be pointing the same direction at the beginning of a round).

Toe:

Using the yarn for Sock B, cast on 12 sts using Judy's Magic Cast On. Push the cast-on sts for Sock B farther down on the needle so they're out of your way. Using the yarn for Sock A, cast on 12 sts in the same manner.

Round 1: K all sts on each sock.

Round 2: {K1, Kfb, K to last 2 sts, Kfb, K1} repeat between {} 3 more times. You have increased the number of sts on each sock by 4; each sock should now have 16 sts.

Repeat round 2 for every round until each sock has 24 [32] total sts (increasing every round makes a wider, more rounded toe suitable for children's socks).

You may wish to add a stitch marker to indicate the beginning of the round, since it will get harder to see the tails of the cast-on once the sock gets longer.

Foot:

Work even, K all sts until work when measured from tip of toe is 3/4" less than desired length of sock foot from toe to heel, ending by working the first half of sts on Sock A and Sock B (halfway through the whole round). See chart of recommended sizes on page 2.

Baby Shoe Size	Approx. Age	Sock Foot Length	Start Heel At
2	3-6 months	3.5" - 3.75"	2.75" - 3"
3	6-9 months	3.75" - 4"	3" - 3.25"
4	9-12 months	4.25" - 4.5"	3.5" - 3.75"
5	12-18 months	4.5" - 4.75"	3.75" - 4"
6	18-24 months	5" - 5.25"	4.25" - 4.5"
7	24-30 months	5.25" - 5.5"	4.5" - 4.75"
8	30-36 months	5.5" - 5.75"	4.75" - 5"

Of course, if you have a baby or toddler handy, you could measure his/her foot to figure out how long to make your socks!

Short-Row Heel with no wrapping or picking up wraps:

The heel is worked flat (back and forth with "right" side and "wrong" side) on only the second half of sts of each sock (sole sts). Row 1 finishes off the last round you were working on for the foot section as well as starting the first row of the heel. Here you will work each sock separately, beginning with Sock B.

- Row 1: K11 [15], leave last st unworked, turn
- Row 2: P10 [14], leave last st unworked, turn
- Row 3: K9 [13], leave 2 unworked sts, turn
- Row 4: P8 [12], leave 2 unworked sts, turn
- Row 5: K7 [11], leave 3 unworked sts, turn
- Row 6: P6 [10], leave 3 unworked sts, turn
- Row 7: K5 [9], leave 4 unworked sts, turn
- Row 8: P4 [8], leave 4 unworked sts, turn

Half of the heel is now done! You should have 8 unworked sts, 4 on each end of the sole of the sock. For the second half, you will work back across the sts, closing up the gaps one at a time on each row and turning the heel of the sock in the process.

- Row 1: Sl 1 Pwise, K2 [6], Sl 1 Kwise, M1KB, PSSO, turn
- Row 2: Sl 1 Pwise, P2 [6], Sl 1 Pwise, M1P, PSSO, turn
- Row 3: Sl 1 Pwise, K3 [7], Sl 1 Kwise, M1KB, PSSO, turn
- Row 4: Sl 1 Pwise, P4 [8], Sl 1 Pwise, M1P, PSSO, turn
- Row 5: Sl 1 Pwise, K5 [9], Sl 1 Kwise, M1KB, PSSO, turn
- Row 6: Sl 1 Pwise, P6 [10], Sl 1 Pwise, M1P, PSSO, turn
- Row 7: Sl 1 Pwise, K7 [11], Sl 1 Kwise, M1KB, PSSO, turn
- Row 8: Sl 1 Pwise, P8 [12], Sl 1 Pwise, M1P, PSSO, P1, turn
[please note the "P1" added in row 8]
- Row 9: Sl 1 Pwise, K11 [15]

Repeat all short-row heel instructions for Sock A. You are now back to the beginning of a round.

Now we'll close up the gap in the gusset on this next round before starting the leg ribbing. Pick up a st in the gusset, between the last st on the right needle and the first st on the left needle, and knit the picked-up st together with the first st on the left needle through the back loop. Knit 11 [15] remaining sts across the instep of Sock A. On Sock B, pick up a st in the gusset as you did on Sock A, knit together with first st on left needle through back loop. Knit 11 [15] remaining sts across instep of Sock B. Pick up a st in the gusset on the other side of Sock B and knit together with first st on left needle through back loop. Knit 11 [15] remaining sts across the back of Sock B. Pick up a st in the gusset on the other side of Sock A (the side facing Sock B) and knit together with first st on left needle through back loop. Knit 11 [15] remaining sts across the back of Sock A.

Leg:

Resume working in the round. Work K2, P2 ribbing on all rounds for about 1" to 1.25" or to desired length of leg. For a rolled-edge cuff, stop ribbing 1/4" short of desired leg length, then K all sts for 10 rounds. Cut yarn, leaving an 18" to 24" tail and finish in sewn bind-off. Weave in ends.

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