



Toe-up Ginkgo Socks *by Kyoko Nakayoshi*

Skill Level

Intermediate

Techniques Required

Basic knitting knowledge and following techniques are expected to do this pattern.

- Crochet [provisional cast on](#) and [unravelling](#).
- Either knitting in round using double pointed needles or magic loop method if circular needles are used.
- [Tubular rib cast off](#)
- Short-row knitting

Size

Depending on the yarn and the needle size used, you could make the socks ranging from small to large. The yarn and the needle I used made a women's S/M size socks.

Foot circumference: 21cm / 8.3"

Ankle circumference: 21cm / 8.3"

Yarn

1 skein of hand-dyed sock yarn from [Yarn Yard](#).

Needles

2.75mm circular or a set of double pointed needles. Use larger needles if you want larger socks (e.g. 3mm to 4mm needles with appropriate yarn for medium to large socks).

Notions

- Waste yarn (preferably slippery)
- Darning needle

Tension / Gauge

29 sts and 40 rows over 10cm square in st st using 2.75mm needle.

I hope you enjoy knitting the ginkgo socks. If you have any questions about the pattern please don't hesitate to contact me.

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Stitch Guide

Short-row toe / heel turn

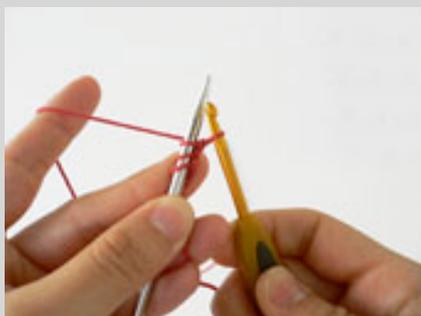


Figure 1. Crochet cast on with waste yarn. Leave few chain sts after making 26 sts so that you know where to unravel from.



Figure 2. Bring yarn in front as if to purl.



Figure 3. After the turn. The last st has the working yarn wrapped around it.



Figure 4. Bring yarn back as if to knit.



Figure 5. After the turn. The last st has the working yarn wrapped around it.



Figure 6. After the turn. The last two sts has the working yarn wrapped around them.



Figure 7. Repeat rows 5 and 6. The piece will have a slope like above.



Figure 8. Scoop up the wrapped st and tog.



Figure 9. After wrapping the st and turn. This st now has two wrapped yarn around it.



Figure 10. Unravel the crochet provisional cast on. Unravel from the free chain sts.



Figure 8. The last st does not look like an ordinary st. Make sure you don't miss it or you will have 51 sts instead of actual 52 sts.

Useful Links

- [Tiptop Toes](http://www.knitty.com/ISSUEwinter02/FEATtiptoptoes.html), Knitty, winter 2002. Excellent article about various technique in toe-up sock knitting (<http://www.knitty.com/ISSUEwinter02/FEATtiptoptoes.html>)
- My video tutorial on crochet provisional [cast on](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TPSZVII05-4) (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TPSZVII05-4>) and [unravelling](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dLy39unCmT0) of crochet cast off (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dLy39unCmT0>).
- My blog [tutorial](http://cottonandcloud.blogspot.com/2009/01/tutorial-tubular-cast-off-for-single.html) on tubular cast off for single rib (<http://cottonandcloud.blogspot.com/2009/01/tutorial-tubular-cast-off-for-single.html>)

PATTERN

Toe (short row techniques)

If you are new to short-row toe-up sock knitting, please refer to [this](#) really good sock knitting tutorial on Knitty.com

Use only 2dpn for the toe until indicated.

First half of the toe

CO 26 using crochet provisional cast on (**figure 1**. I also have a video tutorial [here](#)).

Row 1: Knit.

Row 2: Purl

Row 3: *K until the last st, bring the yarn front as if to purl and wrap the last st, turn (**figure 2 & 3**).

Row 4: P until the last st, bring the yarn back as if to knit and wrap the last st, turn (**figure 4 & 5**).

Row 5: K until one st before the last wrap, bring the yarn front as if to purl and wrap and turn (**figure 6**).

Row 6: P until one st before the last wrap, bring the yarn back as if to knit and wrap and turn.

Repeat rows 5 and 6 six more times (**figure 7**). There should be 8 wrapped stitches on either sides of the row.

N.B. If you want the toe to be a little flatter, reduce the number of repeat at rows 5 and 6.

Second half of the toe

Row 1: K until the first wrapped st encountered. K this st with the wrapped yarn by scooping it from the bottom (**figure 8**).

Bring the yarn front as if to purl and wrap and turn (this st would have two wrapped yarns on it (**figure 9**)).

Row 2: P until the first wrapped st encountered. P this st with the wrapped yarn by scooping it from the bottom. Bring the yarn back as if to knit and wrap and turn (this st would have two wrapped yarns on the st).

Repeat rows 1 and 2 six more times making sure to knit the two wrapped yarns together. There will be one double-wrapped st left on either sides of the row.

Next row: k until the first wrapped st. Pick up the two wraps and ktog the wrapped st.‡

Carefully [unravel](#) the crochet provisional cast on by inserting the dpn in the stitch below the chain (**figure 10 & 11**).

Divide the sts evenly over 4 needles.

Work 1 row in round, making sure to work the double wrap st together.

Abbreviations

CO - cast on

dpn - double pointed needles

k - knit

M1L - left slant increase - using left needle tip, lift strand between needles from front to back. K the lifted loop through the back to twist the stitch.

M1R - right slant increase - using left needle tip, lift strand between needles from back to front. k the lifted loop through the front to twist the stitch.

p - purl

rnd / rnds - round or rounds

ssk - slip, slip, knit. i.e. slip the first two stitches then knit these slipped stitches together. This results in the first slipped st on top of the second (as supposed to k2tog).

st st - stockinette stitch

st / sts - stitch or stitches

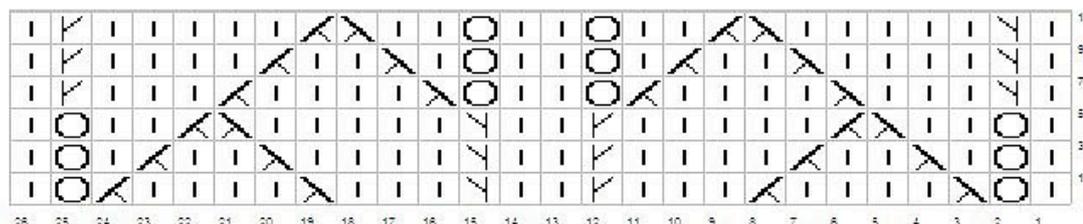
tbl - through the back of loop

tog - together

yo - yarn over

Foot

Up to the heel turn, work the pattern below for the first 26 sts. The rest of the sts (i.e. the sole) are worked all in st st. After the heel turn, work the pattern below for all 52 sts (i.e. all around the sock).



KEYS

- | knit
- ↘ k2tog
- Y M1L
- ∩ M1R
- ↗ ssk
- yo

Below is the pattern in writing up to the heel turn:

Row 1: (k1, yo, ssk, k4, k2tog, k3, M1R, k2, M1L, k3, ssk, k4, k2tog, yo, k1), k until end.

Row 2, and every alternate rows: k

Row 3: (k1, yo, k1, ssk, k2, k2tog, k4, M1R, k2, M1L, k4, ssk, k2, k2tog, k1, yo, k1), k until end.

Row 5: (k1, yo, k2, ssk, k2tog, k5, M1R, k2, M1L, k5, ssk, k2tog, k2, yo, k1), k until end.

Row 7: (k1, M1L, k3, ssk, k4, k2tog, yo, k2, yo, ssk, k4, k2tog, k3, M1R, k1), k until end.

Row 9: (k1, M1L, k4, ssk, k2, k2tog, k1, yo, k2, yo, k1, ssk, k2, k2tog, k4, M1R, k1), k until end.

Row 11: (k1, M1L, k5, ssk, k2tog, k2, yo, k2, yo, k2, ssk, k2tog, k5, M1R, k1), k until end.

Repeat rows 1 to 12 until the length is about 5cm / 2" short of the desired foot length. You don't need to complete the pattern. If you reach the desired length halfway the pattern (for example, I have repeated the pattern 4 times and knitted up to row 7 when I reached the desired length) that is OK. Just remember which row you have knitted.

Heel turn

Next row: Continue with the pattern for the first 26 sts.

You will now be working back and forth from * to ‡ of the toe.

Leg

Next row (you will be working in round from this row): Continue with the pattern. For example, I have knitted up to row 7 just before the heel turn and worked row 8 just after starting the heel turn. This means that I continue from row 9.

Work the pattern for all 52 sts until the piece reaches just before the calf. I have repeated the pattern 4 times and the length was 12cm / 5".

Rib

*k1tbl, p1. Repeat from * until end.

Repeat this row 9 more times.

Cast off.

For the best result, use [tubular cast off](#) method to finish off. This makes the ribbing edge a lot more elastic and makes the socks more comfortable to wear.