

Lorette's Wordy Generic Sock Pattern

Top down, picot top, flap heel, gusset construction **Yarn:** Standard sock weight yarn (fingering)

Gauge/Needles: Gauge?? I don't usually do a gauge swatch for socks. I use either a US 0 or 1 needle with sock yarn, depending on the feel of the yarn. This is an experience-let the force be with you thing. If I start it on 1's and it's too floppy, I rip and start over with the 0's. I use double points, but the pattern can be adapted to circulars or magic loop at will. If I have really thinnish yarn, I use the 0's and go up to 72 stitches instead of 68. This sock fits my biggish foot, if you're petite, you'll need to go down to fewer stitches around. I haven't been petite since about 5th grade.

If you change the stitch count, the only thing that really changes is the heel turning section and the number of gusset stitches. I've included directions for a 64 and a 72 stitch standard heel turn as well.

Pattern: Picot Top:

Cast on 68 stitches, and join in a circle. For the picot top, I just use a regular long tail cast on. I distribute the stitches evenly over 4 needles, and use the 5th as the working needle.

Knit seven rounds.

Next round: *Yarn over, Knit 2 together*, repeat all the way around the round. Knit seven more rounds.

On the next round, knit the first live stitch on the first needle together with the first stitch on the cast on row. You'll need to follow the stitches down to the cast on row so you make sure they line up correctly, or the hem will be twisted. Once you get a few stitches knit together, it gets easier. Continue all the way around

to the last stitch. Sometimes it's a bit awkward to get that last stitch or two on the last needle hemmed. A tiny crochet hook or a sewing needle can help, but sometimes I just skip the hemmed stitch for the last stitch, and knit the live ones on the needles by themselves. It will leave a tiny gap, but you really won't be able to tell, as it's on the inside of the cuff. You also will need to weave in the tail from the cast on row before you do the hem row.

I place a marker at the beginning of the round; when I'm done, that will be the center back of the sock, but it's really not all that important.

An alternate sock top would be to just do 2 inches (or however long pleases you) of 2 by 2 ribbing instead of the picot top. I tend to do a fancier cast on when I do this, and use the Twisted German cast on (instructions [here](#)).

Leg:

Knit around and around until your sock leg is long enough. I usually do a 7 inch or so leg, but it depends on the yardage of your yarn.

Heel flap:

Make sure you have your stitches evenly distributed on the needles. You want to do your heel on exactly half the stitches. I do the heel on needles 4 and 1, "4" being the last 17 stitches of the round, "1" holding the first 17 stitches of the round. Knit across needle 1. Turn, and start your heel flap with a purl row:

Row 1: Slip first stitch as if to purl, purl across the rest of the stitches

Turn:

Row 2: *Slip 1 as if to purl, Knit 1* Repeat this across the 34 stitches (so slip 1, K1, slip 1, K1, etc.)

Keep doing these two rows until you have about 34 rows. If you count the slipped stitches along the side of the flap, you should have 17 of these. The flap should be roughly square. End with the purl row. Here's where you can adjust your sock fit a bit. If you have a big instep, and find that socks are tight going over your foot, you can do a bit longer heel flap to compensate, and just do more gusset decrease rows to get back to the right number of stitches.

Turn heel:

Row 1: Slip 1, Knit 18 stitches, K2 tog, K1. Turn around so you are heading back the other direction, leaving the remaining stitches unworked.

Row 2: Slip 1, Purl 5, P2 tog, P1, turn again.

Row 3: Slip 1, Knit 6, K2 tog, K1, turn

Row 4: Slip 1, Purl 7, P2 tog, P1, turn

Keep doing this until you've "used up" all the stitches on either side, ending with a purl row.

Gusset:

Knit across heel flap stitches. Pick up and knit stitches from the side of the heel flap. Most instructions tell you to pick up a certain # of stitches, usually 17 for this size sock. I

pick up however many works, picking up one for each chain stitch along the side of the flap. I then pick up one extra in the corner:

Here are photos of how I do this in each corner. The first photo shows the area between needles 1 & 2, between the first gusset side and the first needle of the instep stitches. The second photo is of the opposite side, after the instep stitches. I use a tiny crochet hook to get these corner stitches picked up. This is basically a lifted increase from the row below the one you're knitting across.





Knit across the 34 stitches of the instep, then pick up the opposite side gusset stitches the same way as the first. If you end up with one more stitch on one side than the other, no worries. Just compensate when you do the gusset decreases by doing one of the decrease rounds on just one side.

Gusset Decreases:

Knit the first round just plain knit after you pick up the stitches. I divide up the stitches so I have 17 stitches on each instep needle (needles 2 & 3), and half the heel stitches and one side of the gusset stitches on each of the other needles (1 & 4). I put a marker at the beginning of needle one (between stitch 1 & 2).

Now do the gusset decreases:

Round 1: Knit to 3 stitches before the end of needle one (half the heel stitches and the first side of the gusset stitches. K2tog, knit 1.

Knit across the 34 instep stitches

On needle 4, Knit 1, SSK, knit the rest of the stitches

Round 2: Knit around

Repeat these two rounds until you have 17 stitches again on all 4 needles.

Foot:

Knit plain until foot is as long as it needs to be. You can try it on for fit, I usually knit until the end of the foot comes to just past where my big toe meets the ball of the foot. The end of the foot should be just covering the end of your little toe. This obviously is different with different feet, experience will tell you how long to go.

Toe:

Round 1: On needle 1, knit to last 3 stitches, K2 tog, K1 Needle 2: K1, SSK, knit across

Needle 3: Knit until last 3 stitches, K2 tog, K1

Needle 4: K1, SSK, knit across.

Round 2: Knit around

Repeat these 2 rounds until you have the toe shape you want. I usually decrease down to 6 or 7 stitches on each needle, or 24 or 28 stitches total. Just make a note of how many you end up with, so you do it the same way on the second sock. Knit across needle 1 again so your working yarn is at the side of the toe. Cut yarn, leaving enough to graft the toe closed.

Kitchener stitch* the toe together. Repeat for second sock.

*With a darning needle, start with each half of the toe stitches on one needle, with the two held parallel. The working yarn should come off the back needle, on the right side of the toe as it faces you.

Preparatory steps:

1. Go through the first stitch on the front needle as if to knit (right to left). Leave stitch on

the needle.

2. Go through the first stitch on the back needle as if to purl (left to right). Leave stitch

on needle.

Now proceed with grafting:

1. Go through first stitch on front needle as if to knit, slip off needle.

2. Go through next stitch on front needle as if to purl, leave on needle. 3. Go through first stitch on back needle as if to purl, slip off needle. 4. Go through next stitch on back needle as if to knit, leave on needle.

Repeat until you have grafted all the stitches. Go back across the row from the beginning, working carefully with the tip of your darning needle to snug everything up and make it look like a real knitted row. You may have to go back to the beginning more than once to get it all even. Take the end of the yarn through to the inside of the sock and weave in.

Turn heel 68 stitch sock:

Row 1: Slip 1, Knit 18 stitches, K2 tog, K1. Turn around so you are heading back the other direction, leaving the remaining stitches unworked.

Row 2: Slip 1, Purl 5, P2 tog, P1, turn again.

Row 3: Slip 1, Knit 6, K2 tog, K1, turn

Row 4: Slip 1, Purl 7, P2 tog, P1, turn

64 stitch sock: Turn heel:

Row 1: Slip 1, Knit 17 stitches, K2 tog, K1. Turn around so you are heading back the other direction, leaving the remaining stitches unworked.

Row 2: Slip 1, Purl 5, P2 tog, P1, turn again.

Row 3: Slip 1, Knit 6, K2 tog, K1, turn

Row 4: Slip 1, Purl 7, P2tog, P1, turn

And a 72 stitch sock:

Row 1: Slip 1, Knit 19 stitches, K2 tog, K1. Turn around so you are heading back the other direction, leaving the remaining stitches unworked.

Row 2: Slip 1, Purl 5, P2 tog, P1, turn again.

Row 3: Slip 1, Knit 6, K2 tog, K1, turn

Row 4: Slip 1, Purl 7, P2tog, P1, turn

Of course, if you're making the other sizes, adjust the numbers for the gusset pickup and decreases as well.