

## Mountain Laurel Toe-Up Socks

(This pattern assumes that you have some working knowledge in sock knitting, and is not for beginner sock knitters.)



You will need **US size 1 needles**. (I use one 40" long circular needle, and use the magic loop method, knitting 2 socks at once.) You could use five size 2 double point needles in the traditional way of knitting socks. Here is a link showing how to do magic loop. (<http://www.wonderhowto.com/how-to/video/how-to-do-magic-loop-knitting-4601/view/>) You can also google 'knitting magic loop' for more information.

You will need approx. **100 grams of sock yarn**. (I never use the full amount of yarn, but some people need to.)

I used Debra Norville Sock Yarn in the color Paprika.

My gauge for these socks is 8 ½ stitches per inch, and 11 rows per inch in stockinette stitch

You will also need:  
**1 Crochet hook.**



**The pattern:** I have included a chart for you.

### Mountain Laurel Toe Up Socks - 28 stitches

28	27	26	25	24	23	22	21	20	19	18	17	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1		
																												4	
	\	o				o	/	\	o			o	/	\	o			o	/	\	o					o	/	3	
																													2
	\	o		o	/			\	o		o	/		\	o		o	/		\	o		o	/		\	o	1	

**Legend:**

**knit**  
knit stitch

**k2tog**  
knit two stitches together as one stitch

**yo**  
Yarn Over

**ssk**  
Slip one stitch as if to knit, Slip another stitch as if to knit. Insert left-hand needle into front of these 2 stitches and knit them together

Created in Knit Visualizer ([www.knitfoundry.com](http://www.knitfoundry.com))

**Notes:**

**Pattern:**

R1 (RS): k, k2tog, yo, k, yo, ssk, k2, k2tog, yo, k, yo, ssk, k2, k2tog, yo, k, yo, ssk, k2, k2tog, yo, k, yo, ssk, k  
 R2: k28  
 R3: k2tog, yo, k3, yo, ssk, k2tog, yo, k3, yo, ssk, k2tog, yo, k3, yo, ssk, k2tog, yo, k3, yo, ssk  
 R4: k28

**Begin** by casting on a total of 28 stitches, using your favorite cast on for toe up socks. I use the Judy Becker Magic Cast-on for all of my toe up socks. Cat Bordhi has an EXCELLENT tutorial at YouTube. She is 'silly' in the way she teaches, but she gets the idea across and it's so easy to follow her. She uses 2 circulars in this tutorial instead of magic loop, but it's the same concept as using one long circular. The link is: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IhBIS0AhhQY> or you can google Cat Bordhi if this link doesn't work for some reason. You can use either 1 long circ. needle, or 5 dbl point needles depending on your preference for sock knitting. *(I use one long circ. needle, aka magic loop, knitting both socks at once. So if you cast on 28 stitches, you would have 14 stitches on each needle, per sock.* Once you have completed the Judy Becker Magic Cast on, you are all set to begin knitting in the round.

**Toe shaping:** (you will be knitting in the round)

**Round 1:** knit all stitches around

**Round 2:** knit in the front and back of the *first and last stitches* (per needle) to increase the toe if using Magic loop method

(If using 4 dbl point needles, k in the front and back of the first stitch on needle 1, the last stitch of needle 2, the first stitch of needle 3, and the last stitch of needle 4) I have found that by doing the first round of increase stitches this way the 'rabbit ears' that you get if you do a k2, m1 increase on the first increase round are eliminated.

**Round 3:**Knit all stitches around

**Round 4:** If using 1 long circ. needle k2, m1R, k across needle, until 2 stitches remain, m1L, k2. Repeat on second needle.

(If using 4 dbl point needles, on needle 1- knit 2 m1R, knit across: needle 2- knit to last 2 stitches and m1L, k2. Needle 3 - same as needle 1, needle 4- same as needle 2)

Repeat rounds 3 and 4 until you have 28 stitches per needle per sock.

### **Work foot:**

Continue working in the round, following the above chart pattern on the instep stitches and stockinette stitch for the sole stitches until you achieve the total foot length you want *BEFORE* the gusset increases. Note: You will work the above chart pattern on *ONLY* the instep part of the foot.

The gusset will begin when the measurement from the toe is 2 ½" **less** than what you want the total length of your sock to be.

**Begin gusset** by knitting across instep stitches (continuing to follow the chart), and then increase one stitch on each side of the sole stitches. Increase as for toe increases every other round until you have increased 10 stitches on each side of the sole. You will still be working in the round, but only increasing the sole stitches, NOT the instep stitches.

Work **heel** as follows:

After completing the gusset increases, you are ready to turn the heel.

Place a marker in the *exact center* of the heel stitches to mark the center. You will now work only on the sole part of the sock, and let the instep stitches rest for now. Begin on the knit side of the sole.

**Row 1:** Slip the first stitch, k to 3 stitches past the center marker. SSK, k1, turn.

**Row 2:** Slip the first stitch, p8, p2tog, p1, turn.

**Row 3:** Slip 1, k9, SSK, k1, turn.

**Row 4:** Slip 1, p10, p2tog, p1, turn.

**Row 5:** Slip 1, k11, SSK, k1, turn.

**Row 6:** Slip 1, p12, p2tog, p1, turn

Continue in this manner, working back and forth until all of the extra stitches from the gusset increases are worked and the original number of stitches are on your needle again. It's so easy!

**Leg:** When you are back to the original number of stitches, (28 stitches) just begin working in the round again, working the above pattern on the instep stitches and stockinette stitch on the heel stitches. Do several rounds this way and then begin the pattern on the leg back also.

Knit the leg until it's about an inch or two shorter than the total desired length, and then knit about 2 inches of k2, p2 ribbing.

Bind off loosely. I used "Jeny's Surprisingly Stretchy Bindoff" for these socks, and I am very, very happy with the results. *On toe up socks, you need to have a very stretchy cuff, so be sure to use a stretchy bindoff*, or else your cuff will not fit over your foot. There is a video showing Jeny's bindoff here:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=abBhe-JYmgl&feature=related>.

With a crochet hook, weave in the ends, and then block the socks as normal.

For questions, email me at [wilmab4397@gmail.com](mailto:wilmab4397@gmail.com)

Put 'toe up sock question' in the subject line so I don't think it's spam.