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I adore lace socks. I have been fascinated with them since the very beginning of my sock knitting adventure. This design originated after my attempt to knit the Dublin Bay sock from Mossy Cottage Knits - my first non-plain sock. I loved the lace panel but was just never happy with the huge stockinette panel along the front. So over the course of about a year, I have tried to "reinvent" Dublin Bay into a look that I wanted. After much frogging and digging though stitch pattern dictionaries and still more frogging, I finally came up with this design.

It is knitted toe up with a short row heel on circular needles. The lace patterns on the sides are mirror images of each other so that they lean in the same direction as the corresponding lace panel on the front. I used a unique rearrangement of the stitches after the heel to make it easier to knit the lace. It is a little awkward but it works until I think of a better way to knit it. All the lace climbs upward on the sock, hence the name Climbing Lace Sock.

I tried to be very careful when writing out the pattern to avoid mistakes but the pattern has not been test knit, so please contact me if you find any errors.

Climbing Lace Socks

by Tabitha's Heart

Supplies

- 100g Fingering weight yarn (Sample knitted with Knitpicks Memories - Redwood Forest colorway)
- 1 - 32 to 47 inch (81 – 119 cm) size 1 (2.50mm) circular needle or 2 - 16 inch (40 cm) or longer Size 1 (2.50 mm) circular needles
- Optional – tapestry needle

Stitch Patterns

(charts for all lace panels are provided at the bottom of the pattern)

Left Lace Panel -

(worked over 6 stitches)
Row 1 - YO SKP YO SKP YO SKP
Row 2 - Knit all stitches
Row 2 - K1 YO SKP YO SKP K1
Row 4 - Knit all stitches

Right Lace Panel

(worked over 6 stitches)
Row 1 - YO K2tog YO K2tog YO K2tog
Row 2 - Knit all stitches
Row 2 - K1 YO K2tog YO K2tog K1
Row 4 - Knit all stitches

Center Lace Panel

(worked over 9 stitches)
Row 1 – YO SKP YO SKP K1 K2tog YO K2tog YO
Row 2 – Knit all stitches
Row 3 – K1 YO SKP YO S2KP YO K2tog YO K1
Row 4 – Knit all stitches

Instructions

Designers Note
This pattern was knit using Magic Loop. For the sake of clarity, I will call the stitches on front of the needle **Front** and the back stitches on the needle **Back**. For those who prefer to use 2 circular needles,

the **Front** stitches will go on Needle 1 and the **Back** stitches on Needle 2. If you prefer to use double pointed needles, you will used the 2 circular arrangement until there are too many stitches to manage and then add the the other needles as you need them. You will probably want to rearrange the stitches to accommodate the lace panels.

Toe

Using Turkish cast on (or favorite toe up cast on), cast on 8 stitches and knit one round. Begin increasing for the tow as follows:
Row 1 – K1 KFB (knit in the front and back of the stitch, increasing one) K to last two stitches on **Front** KFB K1. Repeat for **Back**.
Row 2 – Knit all stitches
Repeat these two rounds until you have a total of 60 stitches (12 repeats). On the next round, you will increase unevenly so that you can have the required odd number of stitches on the front needle.
Row 27 - **Front -** K1 KFB Knit to end. **Back -** K1 KFB Knit to last two stitches KFB K1
Row 28 – Knit (31 stitches on **Front** and 32 stitches on **Back** for a total of 63 stitches.

Foot

Row 1 - Front - K11 work Row 1 of Center Lace Panel (Chart C) K11
Back – Knit
Row 2 - Front - K11 work Row 2 of Center Lace Panel (Chart C) K11
Back – Knit
Row 3 - Front - K11 work Row 3 of Center Lace Panel (Chart C) K11
Back – Knit
Row 4 - Front - K11 work Row 4 of Center Lace Panel (Chart C) K11
Back – Knit

Repeat these four rounds until the length is 1 ¾ inches (4.45cm) less than the total length of the foot or until desired length ending with Row 3.

Heel

You will be working a short row heel over the 32 **Back** stitches only. The pattern is written assuming that you already know how to knit short row heels. If you need instructions, see one of the many, wonderful online tutorials like http://www.cometosilver.com/socks/2circsocks_heel.htm.

Set up Row. Turn work and purl across Back. Turn.
Row 1 - Knit across to last stitch W&T
Row 2 - Purl to last stitch W&T.
Row 3 – Knit to one stitch before last wrapped stitch W&T
Row 4 – Purl to one stitch before last wrapped stitch W&T
Repeat Rows 3 and 4 until you have until 13 stitches remaining unwrapped in the center and 9 sts are wrapped on both sides. You will be ready for a RS row.

Now you will begin to turn the heel by working new wraps together with the wrapped stitches. When instructed to "K or P wrap," you will insert your needle under the wrap and lift it up onto the needle alongside your current stitch – then K them together through the back loops or P them together:

Row 1 - K to last regular st, K wrap (stitch plus wrap together through back loops), turn

Row 2 - Sl 1, P to first wrapped st, P wrap (stitch plus wrap together), turn
Repeat these two rows until one st remains on each end. Sl 1, K to wrapped st, K DO NOT TURN!
Work wraps of remaining st together with the st when working the first round of the foot.

Leg

On the first round we will be knitting and rearranging stitches at the same time. It sounds complicated but I promise it will make knitting the lace panels much easier.

Slip 4 stitches purlwise. Pull right needle out transferring these four stitches to the **Back** of the loop.
Knit 23 stitches. Pull right needle out sliding worked stitches to the front needle and leaving unworked stitches on **Back** needle. This will leave 23 stitches on the **Front** of the needle (center stitch of lace panel should be 12 stitches from either end).
Knit across all 40 stitches. If you do not like asymmetrical arrangement of stitches, you may arrange them slightly more evenly by slipping on of the back lace panels onto the front needle but I will let you do the math for that one.

Row 1 - Front - K11 work Row 1 of Center Lace Panel (Chart C) K7
Back – Work Row 1 of Right Lace Panel (Chart B) over 6 stitches K28, Work Row 1 of Left Lace Panel (Chart A)
Row 2 - Front - K7 work Row 2 of Center Lace Panel (Chart C) K7
Back – Work Row 2 of Right Lace Panel (Chart B) K28, Work Row 2 of Left Lace Panel (Chart A)
Row 3 - Front - K7 work Row 3 of Center Lace Panel (Chart C) K7
Back – Work Row 3 of Right Lace Panel (Chart B) K28, Work Row 3 of Left Lace Panel (Chart A)
Row 4 - Front - K7 work Row 4 of Center Lace Panel (Chart C) K7
Back – Work Row 4 of Right Lace Panel (Chart B) K28, Work Row 4 of Left Lace Panel (Chart A)

Repeat these 4 Rows until leg is 1 inch (2.5 cm) shorter than the desired length ending with Row 4.

Add ribbing as follows.
Row 1 - K1 P1 to last 2 stitches P2tog (this gets you to an even number of stitches so the ribbing is easier to work.
Row 2 - K1 P1 to end of round
Repeat Row 2 until you have completed 1 to 1 ½ inch (2.5 – 3 cm) of ribbing or desired length.
Bind off loosely using a stretchy method. I like EZ's Sewn Bind Off.
Slip them on and enjoy having your feet wrapped in hand-knit love!

Lace Charts

Chart A
(Left lace panel)

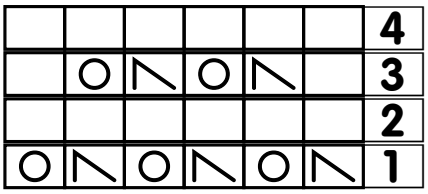

Chart B
(Right lace panel)

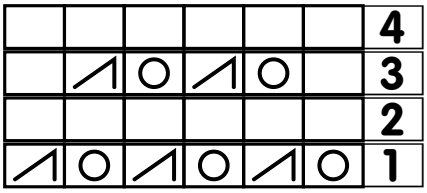

Chart C
(Center lace panel)

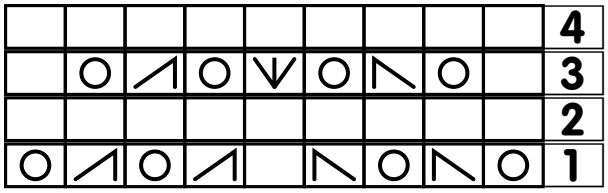

Chart Legend

= Knit
= Yarn Over
= K2tog (Knit 2 together)
= SKP (Slip 1, Knit 1, Pass slipped stitch over)
= S2KP (Slip 2 knitwise, Knit 1, Pass slipped stitches over)

Abbreviations Used

K = Knit
K2tog = Knit 2 stitches together
P2tog = Purl 2 stitches together
SKP = Slip 1 Knit 1 Pass slipped stitch over
S2KP = Slip 2 stitches Knitwise, Knit 1 Pass slipped stitches over.
KFB = Knit in the front and back of stitch (increasing one stitch)
W&T = Wrap and Turn - for instructions see http://www.cometosilver.com/socks/2circsocks_heel.htm

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