Ready. Set. Socks.

ALL EPISODES
Now Streaming
Socks. Notes and numbers.

These socks are basically tube socks. The heel, commonly referred to as the “Afterthought Heel” is inserted after the toe is completed. The graphics are applied to the sock using a Duplicate Stitch after the socks are done being knit.

Materials

SOCK BODY:
- 400 yards of off-white sock weight yarn for the sock body
- 250 yards of red sock weight yarn for the cuff, heel and toe
- Double point needles to obtain gauge
- Socks shown were knit using sizes US 2 and US 1.5.

GRAPHICS:
- Embroidery thread
- Blunt embroidery needle

GAUGE:
- 8 Stitches per inch, 10 Rows per inch.

Directions

CUFF:
Use a long tail cast on and size 2 DPNs, with red yarn cast on 72 stitches. Join into a circle while being careful not to twist stitches. Work a Knit 2, Purl 2 rib for 2 5/8”.

LEG:
Switch to size 1.5 DPN’s and white yarn. Work in Stockinette Stitch (knit every round) for 8 1/2” or 85 rounds.

HEEL:
Break for Afterthought Heel. With a yard of red yarn, knit 1/2 of the sock (36 stitches) then complete the round with white yarn. For a detailed tutorial on the Afterthought Heel, see http://knitting-up-a-storm.blogspot.com/2009/04/afterthought-heel-pt1.html, just one of many wonderful tutorials available.

FOOT:
With white yarn, resume knitting the foot. Knit for 4” from the heel break (40 rounds) and then begin toe shaping. At 5”, switch to red and continue toe shaping. Instructions indicate the top and bottom of the sock toe, each starting with 72 stitches. How your stitches are distributed on the needles may vary depending on how many needles you are using.

TOE SHAPING:
Round 1; Knit 1, K2Tog, knit to last three stitches of top needle(s), SSK, Knit 1.
Knit 1 of bottom needle(s), K2Tog, knit to last three stitches, SSK, Knit 1.
Round 2; Knit even.
Repeat Rounds 1 & 2 five times. Over the 10 rounds, 20 stitches have been decreased. 52 stitches remain.
Switch to red yarn. Decrease 4 stitches every round until 12 stitches remain. Graft toe ends together with the Kitchener Stitch or a three needle bind off.

AFTERTHOUGHT HEEL:
This heel is essentially just another toe. With red yarn, pick up 72 stitches (36 stitches each side of waste yarn) plus a couple of stitches in each end to close the gap. Decrease 4 stitches each round until 24 stitches remain between all needles. Graft edges together with the Kitchener stitch.

GRAPHICS:
The design elements are worked in duplicate stitch after the sock is finished. Follow the chart, working from right to left, where each square equals one complete knitted stitch. Note: Almost all stitches in the chart are whole stitches (a complete “V”) with the exception of several half stitches used in some letters.

DUPLICATE STITCH:
An embroidery stitch that mimics the knit stitch, allowing the stitcher to create a graphic on top of a knitted background.
