

**MACHINE KNIT CIRCULAR SOCKS FOR MEN**  
Designer: Olwen Carne

***\*\*Updated February 16, 2015 – see text in red italics.  
Thanks to Rita McElroy for the corrections.\*\****

[olwin.carne1@ntlworld.com](mailto:olwin.carne1@ntlworld.com) *Email address no longer valid*

To fit an 11 inch (28 cms) Foot. Leg length to top of heel = 11 ins plus 3 in ribbing.  
(Leg length can be shortened if desired between the ribbing and first decrease.)

**MATERIALS** - 1 Cone 4-ply Wool. (Wool/nylon mix if possible.)

Original socks were knitted on a Brother KH 836 with KR 850 using Forsell's Software  
4-ply 60% Wool/40%Nylon.

This produced 7 socks so 2 cones should produce 7 pairs.

***Designer's Personal Notes***

*Although my pattern is set for men's socks, it can be scaled down for ladies' socks too.*

*When taking the measurement around the foot there is no need to make any ease allowance.*

*I would also suggest that for anyone knitting socks with wool that does not have any nylon content that they add wooly nylon (the typed used with sergers) when shaping the heels and toes.*

*The yarn sold by the Plymouth firm which is Sockotta yarn, does have wool, cotton and nylon in its blending so would be ideal.*

*The machine gauge may be slightly different from my own gauge in the pattern but just a slight change in tension should produce a wearable fit.*

**TENSION:** TD 5./5. (5 plus 1 dot) Slide Lever on I for circular knitting gave a tension of 9 sts 12 rows to 1 inch on each bed.

**METHOD**

**CAST ON** 84 sts for 1x1 rib. T0/0II for zig-zag row.  
T1/1 II Knit 3 circular rows (RC shows 004). T2/2 II  
Knit 41 rows rib  
T3/3 I Knit 1 row rib, then transfer stitches to Main Bed (MB).

T5.. Knit 2 rows on MB. Break off main yarn. Hang 2 claw weights on centre of work.  
Remove ribber comb and hook weights.

*I would pull all stitches but the 21 stitches nearest the carriage to HOLD.  
Knit 4 or 5 rows WY at a tighter tension to prevent stitches running whilst transferring them to the ribber*

*Take the 21 stitches nearest the carriage off on waste yarn.*

*Pass carriage to other side and put the 21 stitches nearest the carriage into upper working position.  
Knit with waste yarn. Knit 4 or 5 rows WY at a tighter tension to prevent stitches running whilst transferring them to the ribber and remove from machine.*

*Now you have 42 stitches hanging on the main bed and 21 stitches on each side on waste yarn.*

*Turn the stitches on waste yarn and hang them on the ribber.*

*(The result of this part is that you have first taken 21 stitches off of one side on waste yarn, then 21 stitches on the other side, so that you now have a funny piece with 42 stitches on the main bed and a floppy "wing" hanging down on each side. The "wings" then get hung on the ribber needles, making a circle of the knitting instead of a straight line.)*

Drop ribber one position. Bring into WP on the ribber 21 needles at left and 21 needles at right of centre O.

Transfer the first 21 sts at right of O on MB to right of O on RB.) Remove claw weights whilst making the transfer.

Repeat for the last 21 sts at left of O on MB to left of O on RB. The open sides are now at the centre nearest RB centre O

Weave a knitting needle through both thicknesses of rib and weigh with claw or side hook weights.

You should now have 42 stitches on each bed.

Set Pitch lever to H5. Slide Lever to I. Tension Dials to 5./5. and continue with main yarn, in circular knitting.

## **LENGTH OF LEG**

RC 000 Knit to RC 110 Using the 3-prong transfer tool, decrease 1 stitch Fully Fashioned (FF) at BOTH ENDS OF BOTH BEDS (4 sts decreased).

Repeat at RC 142, RC 174, RC 206. Total 16 sts decreased.

Continue in circular knitting to RC 242 and commence Heel Shaping at T5. (T5 and + 2 dots).

## **HEEL SHAPING**

Hang a claw weight centrally behind sts on MB. Set to HOLD on MB.

Set MB to st. st and RB to SLIP both ways. (That is both RB cam levers in the UP position.)

Continue on MB stitches only. **NOTE:** MB sinker plate can be used, with ribber lowered by one position.

1. Push 1 needle nearest the carriage into HP on next 20 rows (10 each side).
2. Push 1 needle nearest the carriage into UWP on next 20 rows (10 each side).

## **TIPS**

Hold down the weight hung on centre stitches with spare hand.

Open beds slightly if fabric needs pushing down, or poke it down with a tool as shaping proceeds - if not using the MB sinker plate.

It also helps to push needles which are knitting to UWP to ensure stitches knit off correctly, if not using MB sinker plate.

Before starting foot, be sure to transfer the end stitch each end of both beds to the opposite bed. This helps to prevent a hole forming.

**LENGTH OF FOOT** - Set to circular knitting as before at T5./5. I RC 000.

Knit to RC 160 Carriage on the right (COR).

## **TOE SHAPING**

RC 000. Decrease 1 stitch FF at each end of both beds (as before) (4 sts decreased).

Knit 2 circular rows (i.e. RC 004). Repeat by 6 times in all (RC 024. Decrease 1 st FF at both ends of each bed. Knit 1 row (i.e. 2 on RC). Repeat by 6 in all (12 rows) RC 036.

Take off with 12 rows WY (RC 048). Release from machine

## **MAKING UP**

Stitch up the back seam with mattress stitch (rib). Graft toe stitches. Remove waste yarn.

**Designed by OLWEN CARNE**

This is my own pattern for Men's Socks, and may be used freely.