

## **FAMILY SLIPPERS**

Our version of these nostalgic slippers evolved from several versions of the pattern found in every auntie's knitting bag. We finessed the toe a little but left the heel in its simplest form. Embellish your slippers with pom-poms, tassels, or buttons—or try our split cuff for a preppy oxford shirt look. It's so easy!

Finished Sizes: Small: 6½"/16.5cm length, fits up to 8½"/22cm foot.

Medium: 8"/20cm length, fits up to 10"/25cm foot. Large: 9½"/24cm length, fits up to 11½"/29cm foot.

Note: These slippers actually fit a wide range of sizes but the more they stretch to fit, the better they stay on! If you'd like to adjust the length, the heel should be about two-thirds of

the total length and the toe about one-third.

Directions given for small size; medium and large sizes in parentheses ().

Yarn: Approx. 150 (200, 300) yds/137 (183, 274)m of a medium or heavy worsted-weight yarn.

Note: Yarn is used double throughout, so you can mix yarns and colors.

Or, use 75 (100, 150) yds/69 (91, 137)m of a chunky- or bulky-weight yarn that can be

knit to gauge when held singly.

If you opt for the split cuff, remember to purchase more yarn; the cuff requires 25%

more yardage.

**Needles** US 8 (5mm) or 9 (5.5mm) needles, or size to obtain gauge.

& Notions: 2 stitch markers. Darning needle to finish.

**Gauge:** Approx.  $16 \text{ sts} = 4^{\circ}/10 \text{cm}$  in garter stitch.

**Glossary:** K = knit; K2Tog = knit 2 together; KFB = knit into front then into back of same stitch;

P = purl; PM = place marker; RS = right side; St(s) = stitch(es); WS = wrong side.

Cast on: With yarn held <u>double</u>, or single if using a chunky- or bulky-weight yarn, using long-tail

cast-on method, cast on 27 (33, 39) sts, leaving a 12" tail for sewing up later.

Garter heel: Row 1 (WS): K8 (10, 12), PM, P1, K9 (11, 13), PM, P1, K8 (10, 12). Note: Markers will

remind you when to purl on WS rows; on subsequent WS rows, slip marker then purl next stitch.

Row 2 (RS): Knit.

Repeat Rows 1 & 2 until piece measures 4 (5, 6)"/10 (13, 15)cm, ending with a WS row.

Ribbed toe:

Toe shaping: Row 1 (RS): (K1, P1) to last st, K1. Note: Remove markers on first ribbed row.

Row 2 (WS): (P1, K1) to last st, P1.

Repeat Rows 1 & 2 until piece measures 6 (7½, 9)"/15 (19, 23)cm, ending with a WS row.

Row 1 (RS): K1, then K2Tog 13 (16, 19) times. [14 (17, 20) sts remain]

Continued on reverse...

Family Slippers continued...

Row 2 (WS): Purl.

Row 3 (RS): K2Tog across row; for medium size only, knit last st. [7 (9, 10) sts remain]

Finishing:

With a darning needle, thread tail (both strands if using yarn doubled) through all remaining stitches and draw up tightly. Run the ends through these same stitches again for strength.

Use one of the ends to sew edges of ribbed toe together using mattress stitch, taking a half-stitch seam so one full K1 rib remains. Take a couple of small stitches at the end to secure.

Using one of the cast-on tails and mattress stitch, sew heel seam all the way down to the end. Don't worry—the little heel 'corner' will flatten nicely and disappear as you wear the slippers.

Weave in all ends on the inside.

Blocking:

Wet- or steam-block if desired. To wet-block, soak for 20 minutes in tepid water with a little no-rinse wool soap. Gently squeeze out as much water as possible. Roll in towels and squeeze out more moisture; or run through spin-only cycle in washing machine in lingerie bag or zippered pillow case. Dry flat or stuff with crumpled newspaper and shape slippers. To shorten drying time, place on a baker's cooling rack.

**Embellishments:** 

Embellish with two small pom-poms, tassels, or crocheted flowers, if desired. Or add buttons or bows to the toes.

Split cuff:

For a handsome cuff, turn your slipper wrong side out. Pick up and knit into each garter ridge around ankle edge.

Rows 1-3: Knit.

Row 4 (increase): KFB, knit to second to last st, KFB, K1.

Repeat Rows 1-4 twice more. Repeat Rows 1-3 once more.

Bind off loosely.

Turn slipper right side out and fold cuff over. Tack down corners with buttons if desired.

Make a pair for everyone in the family!