



FANCY ❖ TIGER ❖ CRAFTS

BASECAMP SOCKS

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These simple socks are named Basecamp not just because they are the perfect summer camping sock (though they definitely qualify), they are also the perfect jumping off point for learning how to knit socks. When it comes to socks there are many different techniques and styles and everyone you talk to will have their own opinion on which is the best. These socks are my favorite combination of elements: toe-up socks, with a short row heel, knit using magic loop on a long circular needle. This is just one of many combinations that are available though, so use this pattern as a base for learning how to make socks and then explore all the different elements and ways you can knit them!

[#basecampsocks](https://twitter.com/basecampsocks)

BASECAMP SOCKS PATTERN

MATERIALS

1 (1, 1, 1, 2, 2) Skein(s) Hue Loco Tweed Sock or other fingering weight sock yarn (Retrosaria Mondim, Tukuwool Fingering, or Madelintosh Twist Light would all be suitable options)

TOOLS

US Size 0, 32" circular for magic loop

GAUGE

36 sts per 4" in stockinette stitch OR
32 sts per 4" in stockinette stitch

SIZE

XX-Small (X-Small, Small, Medium, Large, X-Large)

NOTE

This pattern is written and intended to be used with a large circular needle utilizing the magic loop technique. Stitches should be split evenly on two needles.



ABBREVIATIONS

st(s)- stitch(es)

k- knit

p- purl

yo- yarn over

tbl- Through the back loop

w&t- wrap and turn

ktog- knit together

ptog- purl together

SPECIAL TECHNIQUES

There are a few special techniques utilized when knitting the Basecamp Socks. If any of the following techniques are new to you, please follow the links for additional help on how to accomplish them.

Magic Loop

Judy's Magic Cast On

Wrap and Turn + Resolving Wrap and Turns

Elizabeth Zimmermans Sewn Bind Off

CHOOSING A SIZE

There are two things to think about when making perfectly fitting socks. The circumference of the foot and the foot length. You will first need to determine the circumference size as that will determine how many stitches you cast on and the sizing instructions you will be following through out the pattern.

CIRCUMFERENCE

One of the great things about making this sock is that the stretchy, rib stitch pattern is more forgiving when it comes to fitting the circumference of the foot. If you are not sure if you (or your sock recipient) has a wide or narrow foot, the sock stretches and scrunches to compensate which is great for new sock knitters and for gift socks. Below is a chart for recommend cast-on sizes, but this is just a jumping off point. If you know that you have a narrow or wide foot, you may want to consider selecting one size down or up from the recommendation on the chart.

Although this pattern is forgiving, I still recommend knitting a gauge swatch. You may find it difficult to get the recommended 36 sts / 4" gauge with some more sturdy yarns, like Tukuwool Fingering. Below is a size guide for both 36 sts / 4" (for thinner, softer yarns like Hue Loco Tweed Sock and Mondim) and 32 sts / 4" for more thicker, more sturdy yarns like Tukuwool Fingering).

Circumference for 36 stitch per 4" in gauge

WOMENS

Shoe Size	Sock Size
4 to 6	X-Small
7 to 9	Small
9 to 12	Medium

MENS

Shoe Size	Sock Size
7 to 10	Medium
11 to 13	Large
14 to 16	X-Large

Circumference for 32 stitch per 4" in gauge

WOMENS

Shoe Size	Sock Size
4 to 6	XX-Small
7 to 9	X-Small
9 to 12	Small

MENS

Shoe Size	Sock Size
7 to 10	Small
11 to 13	Medium
14 to 16	Large



LENGTH

After you have cast on your socks and increased to the indicated number of stitches for your sock size, you are going to have to decide how far to knit before you begin turning the heel. Below is a chart to help you figure out the distance you should knit from the tip of the sock toe before you should begin your heel turn. The length knit is unaffected by the gauge you selected when determining circumference size.

Length

WOMENS

MENS

Shoe Size	Sock Length	Shoe Size	Sock Length
4	6"	7	6 3/4"
4 1/2	6 1/8"	7 1/2	6 3/4"
5	6 1/8"	8	7
5 1/2	6 1/4"	8 1/2	7 1/4"
6	6 1/4"	9	7 1/4"
6 1/2	6 1/2"	9 1/2	7 1/2"
7	6 5/8"	10	7 5/8"
7 1/2	6 3/4"	10 1/2	7 3/4"
8	7"	11	7 7/8"
8 1/2	7"	11 1/2	7 7/8"
9	7"	12	7 7/8"
9 1/2	7 1/4"	12 1/2	8 1/8"
10	7 1/4"	13	8 1/4"
10 1/2	7 1/2"	13 1/2	8 5/8"
11	7 3/4"	14	8 5/8"
11 1/2	7 3/4"	14 1/2	8 3/4"
12	8"	15	8 7/8"

BASECAMP SOCKS

CASTING ON

Using Judy's Magic Cast On, cast on 8 (8, 12, 16, 20, 24) sts and get ready to work stitches using the magic loop technique.

TOE

Setup Round: (k1, yo, knit to last st on the needle, yo, k1)
* Repeat for second needle

FIRST INCREASE

Round 1: (k1, yo, k1 tbl, knit to the last 2 sts on the needle, k1 tbl, yo, k1) * Repeat for second needle

Repeat First Increase 2 (3, 4, 5, 5, 6) times.
20 (24, 32, 40, 44, 52) sts total,
10 (12, 16, 20, 22, 26) sts per needle

SECOND INCREASE

Round 1: (k1, k1 tbl, knit to last 2 sts on the needle, k1 tbl, k1) * Repeat for second needle

Round 2: (k1, yo, knit to last st on the needle, yo, k1) *
Repeat for second needle

Repeat Round 1 - Round 2 of Second Increase 8 (9, 9, 9, 10, 9) times more. Repeat Round 1 once more, resolving yarn overs. 52 (60, 68, 76, 84, 88) sts total, 26 (30, 34, 38, 42, 44) sts per side

SOLE/INSTEP

Round 1: (k2, p2) * Repeat to last 2 sts of first needle, k2.
Knit all stitches to end of second needle

Repeat Round 1 until you have reached desired sock length based on shoe size (see sock length chart on page 2)

HEEL TURN

For the Basecamp socks you will be knitting a short row heel. The short row heel is knit in two sections, the lower heel that sits on the ground when it is on the foot and the upper heel that rests on the rounded portion of the heel just below the calf. The lower heel will utilize a wrap and turn technique to decrease the width of the heel to the edge of your foot, while the upper heel will be accomplished with a second wrap and turn over the existing w&t from the lower heel portion to increase the heel width back to its original size.

Setup Round: Work stitches on the first needle in pattern as established.

LOWER HEEL

Row 1: Knit to 1 stitch before the end of the heel, wrap and turn.

Row 2: Purl to 1 stitch before the end of the heel, wrap and turn.

Row 3: Knit to 2 stitches before the end of the heel, w&t.



Row 4: Purl to 2 stitches before the end of the heel, w&t.
 Row 5: Knit to 3 stitches before the end of the heel, w&t.
 Row 6: Purl to 3 stitches before the end of the heel, w&t.

Continue in pattern until there are 9 (10,11, 13, 14, 15) w&t's on each side and 8 (10, 12, 12, 14, 14) unworked stitches in the middle.

UPPER HEEL

Row 1: k to first w&t, pick up wrap, knit wrapped stitch together with the picked-up wrap. Pull the working yarn to the front & slip next stitch, w&t this stitch (you are wrapping the stitch after the one you just worked, so now this stitch has two wraps on it)
 Row 2: p to first w&t, pick up wrap, purl wrapped stitch together with the picked-up wrap. Pull the working yarn to the back & slip next stitch, w&t this stitch
 Row 3: k to next double w&t. Pick up both wraps and ktog with the wrapped stitch. Pull the working yarn to the front & slip next stitch, w&t this stitch.
 Row 4: p to next double w&t. Pick up both wraps and ptog with the wrapped stitch. Pull the working yarn to the back & slip next stitch, w&t this stitch.

Repeat Row 3 and Row 4 until you have 1 remaining double wrapped stitch on each side of the heel.

Knit to the last stitch on the needle. Pick up both wraps and ktog with the wrapped stitch.

LEG

You will now be moving on to the front of the sock and starting a new row and the leg of the sock. There should still be one set of unworked double wrap and turns on the right side of the heel. You will resolve this final w&t as you come to it on the next round.

Pick up the leg between last stitch of the heel needle and first stitch of the front leg needle. ktog with the first stitch of the round.

Knit in pattern across the front 26 (30, 34, 38, 42, 44) sts.



Pick up both wraps from the remaining unworked w&t on the back needle. ALSO, pick up the leg between last stitch of the front leg needle and first stitch of the heel needle. Knit together the 2 wraps AND the newly picked up stitch with the wrapped stitch on the heel needle. Knit to end of the round.

NOTE: It is not absolutely necessary to pick up an extra stitch when rejoining the front leg with the heel and vice versa, but by taking this extra step you can be sure to avoid unsightly holes in the area of the join.

Round 1: (k2, p2) to the end of the round.

Repeat Round 1 until sock measures 5 1/2" (5 3/4", 6", 6 1/4", 6 1/2", 6 3/4") from the top of the heel turn or 1 1/2" less than desired height.

CUFF

Round 1: (k1, p1) to the end of the round. Repeat Cuff Round 1 for 1 1/2."

BINDING OFF

Bind off the stitches using Elizabeth Zimmerman's Sewn Bind Off or your favorite stretchy bind-off.