



SOCKS

RKG

SEPT 2017

Guild Goals 2017 - 2018

Skill Building -

focused on socks (Fall) and lace (Winter) leading into the Spring Workshops with Kate Atherley

Meetings - presentations with Mini-workshops

All the slide presentations will be on the Guild website, with links to YouTube videos of the techniques from the meetings

We'll have links to free patterns on Ravelry and book lists for reference.

Members are working on producing demonstration videos of the techniques presented at Guild meetings.

We can't cover every facet of either sock or lace knitting in meetings - our goal is to hit the basics and offer information that can lead members to further exploration in their own knitting.

Why knit socks in the first place?

Small project

Portable

Modest to moderate yardage requirement

They're fun to knit

Hand knit socks are super cozy

SO many indie dyers producing beautiful sock yarns

Big yarn companies offering wide variety of affordable, attractive wool blend sock yarns

Superwash yarn means easy care

Our POLL

I have never knit a sock	1
I've knit ONE sock, but that's it	1
I knit a pair once upon a time	1
I'd like to try to knit socks but haven't tried yet	3
I've made a pair and want to make more	13
I'd like to enjoy making socks, sigh	6
I LOVE knitting socks and want to learn more	1
Seriously? I have two pair on the needles now	8

Two Basic Approaches to Sock Knitting

CUFF DOWN

Easiest way to knit simple heel turn - like *magic*

Many basic patterns are Cuff Down, as are most historical patterns

TOE UP

Easy way to manage how much yarn you have

Fit as you go

New innovations in Toe Up heels are very comfy and easy to knit

Color work patterns are right side up

Two Basic Approaches to Sock Knitting

CUFF DOWN

Cast on at the cuff,
Knit Ribbing
Knit leg
Turn heel
Knit foot
Knit & decrease for toe
Graft

Yes, that means
Kitchener Stitch
Which is actually quite
Simple to do



TOE UP

Cast on invisibly at toe
Magic Cast Ons are
great

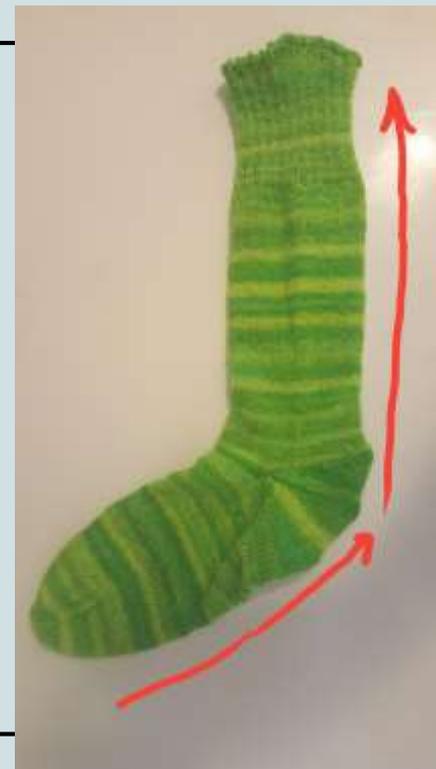
Knit foot

Turn heel

Knit Leg

Knit Ribbing

Cast off elastically



But how do you KNIT it???

You are knitting a tube that's closed at one end.

Knitting in the Round

- Double Pointed Needles in sets of 4 or 5
- Very short circular needles
- TWO circular needles
- MAGIC LOOP

DPNs

4DPN s, stitches on 3, knit with 4th



5DPN s, stitches on 4, knit with 5th



TWO Circular Needles

Half the stitches are on the needle with silver tips and half on the needle with red tips.

To knit with 2 circs -
In this example >>>>>

Knit stitches from one silver tip to the other, turn work and knit from red tip to red tip.



CASTING ON

Two Cast On methods

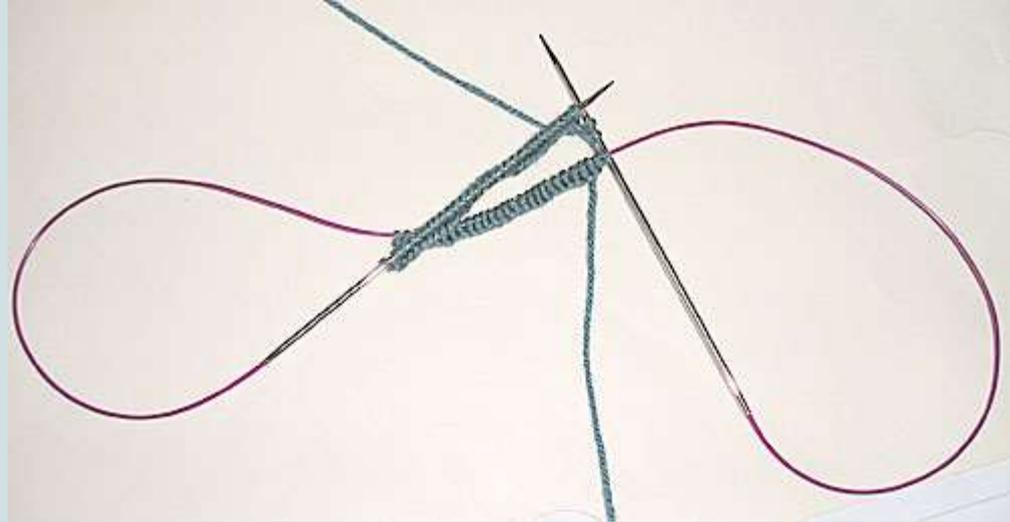
For Toe Up Socks – Judy’s Magic Cast On
An invisible, seamless circular cast on

For Cuff Down Socks – Norwegian Twisted Cast On *aka* Old German Cast On
It’s a very elastic variation of the Long Tail Cast On

The Magic Loop

Magic Loop requires a *long* circular needle, 32" or longer.

Half the stitches will be on one of the needle tips and half on part of the cable.



Mini Workshops

Double Pointed Needles	Pam Knapp & Leslie Shroyer
Two Circulars	Cindy Proano, Sue Sayre & Wendy Caffee
Magic Loop	Amelia Templar & Meg Weglarz
Judy's Magic Cast On	Nancy Vandivert & Tina Turner
Old Norwegian Cast On	Cheri Switzer & Sarah Shepard

LINKS -

Judy's Magic Cast On: <https://youtu.be/1pmxRDZ-cwo>

Knitting with DPNs <https://youtu.be/rrfSQNgROpM>

Old Norwegian Cast On: <https://youtu.be/9e054oYuXko>

Magic Loop: <https://youtu.be/IdSpcoEZpnk>

Two Circulars: <https://youtu.be/NgVoVlU8Hgw>

Two at a time on Two Circs: <https://youtu.be/k5dQejYqoPc>

PATTERN LINKS

There are thousands of free sock patterns on Ravelry, I did a search for free sock patterns that were rated “easy” or “piece of cake” for difficulty and came up with 1,057. Here is the link <http://rav.to/pi1d>. The link is only valid for Ravelry members who are signed in to their account but hey, over a thousand easy peasy freebie sock patterns???

You can sort the list even more by using the Attributes tab -

More sorting

The screenshot shows the Ravelry website interface. At the top, the browser address bar displays the URL: `www.ravelry.com/patterns/search#photo=yes&ipc=socks&craft=knitting&view=captioned_thumbs&availability=free%2B%2B&ravelry%colors=1&sort=popularity&diff...`. The website header includes the Ravelry logo and navigation links for patterns, yarns, people, groups, help, forums, and my notebook.

On the left side, there are several filter menus:

- Construction:** A list of categories with counts: Construction (1,660), Crochet Techniques, Design Elements (45), Fabric Characteristics (989), Mature Content (1), Pattern Instructions (1,035), Regional/Ethnic Styles (20), Shapes (6), and Sock Techniques (2,228).
- Craft:** A list of craft types with checkboxes: Crochet, Knitting (checked, 1,155), Machine Knitting, and Loom Knitting. Below this is a search filter: "OR: match any of these".
- Needle size:** A list of needle sizes with checkboxes: Small needles (5), US 00 - 1.75 mm (1), US 0 - 2.0 mm (72), US 1 - 2.25 mm (298), US 1½ - 2.5 mm (423), US 2 - 2.75 mm (184), US 2½ - 3.0 mm (82), US 3 - 3.25 mm (65), and US 4 - 3.5 mm (72).

The main content area displays a grid of sock patterns. A search filter menu is open over the grid, showing the following options:

- Heel: 844
- Toe: 328
- no shaping: 42
- seamed sock: 2
- shaped arches: 7
- starting in middle: 1
- toe up: 215
- top/cuff down: 757
- two at a time: 32

The grid of patterns includes:

- Jeck** (Image of orange and blue socks)
- A Nice Ribbed Sock** by Anna C. (Image of pink socks)
- Baby Socks** by Kate Atherley (Image of green and blue socks)
- Time Traveler Socks** by Liz Sedmak (Image of rainbow striped socks)
- Knitmore Vanilla Sock** by Jasmin Canty (Image of red socks)
- Favorite Socks** by Voolevine (Image of purple and blue socks)
- MineCraft Socks** by Heather Cox (Image of blue and green socks)
- Zora** by Regina Satta (Image of purple and pink socks)
- Syncspation Socks** by Mary Henninger (Image of grey socks)
- Show-off Strands...** by Anne Campbell (Image of multi-colored socks)

At the bottom right, there is a "clear" button and a notification icon showing "22".

