

Knit Picks®

# TWO AT ONCE, TOE UP, MAGIC LOOP SOCKS

by Knit Picks Design Team



50631

**FINISHED SIZE:**

Custom Fit

**YARN:**

Knit Picks Stroll Sock Yarn (75%  
Superwash Merino Wool, 25% Nylon ; 231  
yds/50g), Ash 23696, 2 skeins

**NEEDLES**

US 0 (2 mm) - 3 (3.25 mm): 40" Circular  
for Magic Loop. If necessary, adjust  
needle size to obtain correct gauge.

**GAUGE**

7-9 sts = 1 inch

For pattern support, contact [customerservice@knitpick.com](mailto:customerservice@knitpick.com)

# Two at once, Toe up, Magic Loop Socks

## Notes:

These socks are custom fit as you knit. The great thing about knitting socks toe-up is that you can try them on as you go and adjust your stitch count to make sure the circumference is comfortable. Remember that socks stretch out a bit as you wear them, so err on the snug side. Everyone's feet are shaped differently, so feel free to adjust any stitch counts in this pattern to your dimensions. You can make the toe section broader or narrower by adjusting your cast on stitch count. You can make the toes more rounded or pointed by how rapidly you increase the circumference of the toe section. You can make the heels broader or narrower by adjusting how many stitches are between the markers when you begin the short rows. Once you've made a custom fit pair of socks, you won't want to wear store-bought socks again!

Most pairs of socks take approximately 100 grams of yarn. If you have two 50 gram balls of yarn, you are all set. If your sock yarn comes in a 100 gram skein, you will want to wind it into two 50 grams balls before you begin. A scale is very handy for this!

## Judy's Magic Cast On

For information on Judy's Magic Cast On, please refer to the following tutorial.

<http://tutorials.knitpicks.com/judys-magic-cast-on>

## DIRECTIONS Cast On Toe

Using Judy's Magic Cast On and with first ball, cast on 24 stitches total (12 on each needle). Slide these stitches on to the cable and using second ball of yarn, cast on 24 sts using Judy's Magic Cast On.

## Toe Section

With the first 12 knit stitches sitting on the front needle tip, pull the back needle tip out toward the right so you are ready to begin knitting the 12 sts. Using the correct working yarn, knit across these 12 sts. Repeat with second set of 12 sts, using appropriate working yarn and leaving the first set on the cable. Turn work.

Continue this process of knitting across both sets of sts with the appropriate working yarn. The yarn tail hanging down from the starting slip knots will be your indicator of round completion. When the tail is hanging on the right side of the sock, you are about to begin a new round.

Now, begin increase rounds every other round until the toe sections are as wide as your toes and just barely touching the top of your pinkie toe. Making the sock a little smaller in circumference than your foot will ensure that it does not become slouchy and sloppy as you wear it.

To do an increase round, k1, m1 (right), k to last st, m1 (left), k1. Repeat with second set of sts. Turn work and repeat again for each set of sts to complete the round.



M1: The least visible type of make 1 (m1) is the lifted bar increase. To create lifted bar increases that slant, you change the direction from which you pick up the bar.

For a right leaning lifted bar increase, lift the bar between the stitches from the back with the left needle. Knit this new st through the front loop (it will be tight and a little difficult to do). This will twist the st, preventing the appearance of a hole below it. For a left leaning lifted bar increase, lift the bar between the stitches from the front with the left needle. Knit this new st through the back loop (it will be tight and a little difficult to do). This will twist the st, preventing the appearance of a hole below it.

Continue alternating one round of regular stockinette st with one increase round until the toe sections are as wide as your toes and just barely touching the top of your pinkie toe. It is best to have the sock be just a bit snug across your toes because it will stretch when worn; if it is too big on you to start, it will become sloppy and slouchy with wear. The great thing about toe-up socks is that you can try them on at any stage to check their size and progress.

**Note for incorporating a stitch pattern into your sock:** If you want to use a stitch pattern in your sock, make sure that you have enough stitches across the instep of your sock to accommodate the number of repeats of the stitch pattern you want to use. Later on, when the heel flap is made, these instructions are written so that the first pass across both socks is the sole of the foot, and the second pass across both socks, to complete the round, is the top/instep of the foot. So, you will want to make sure you have enough stitches available to you in the second pass across the socks to work in your stitch pattern. If you have to work more increases on the instep side of the sock to get the right number of stitches, just do that same number fewer increases on the sole side of the socks to compensate and keep the total number of stitches for your socks just right to fit snugly around your feet. You can tell which part of the sock you are working on at any time by the location of the cast on tail. If the cast on tails are hanging to the right of the socks, you are working on the sole. If the cast on tails are hanging to the left of the socks, you are working on the instep.

## Foot

Once the toe section is just barely wide enough to cover your toes, continue on in stockinette (or your chosen stitch pattern across the instep only) in the round until the sock is past your instep and the edge of the sock is parallel to your ankle bone (illustration). It is now time to set up for the heel.

## Heel Set Up

You need an ODD number of stitches on the sole side of the sock to set up for the slip stitch padded heel. Count your stitches on the sole side of each sock. If there is an even number (and there will be if you've followed these directions), you will need to decrease one stitch in each sock.

Begin the heel set up with the cast on tail yarn hanging on the right side - so you know that you are working across the sole. For the first sock, k3, k2tog (if you need to reduce by one st to get an odd number of sts), knit to end of first sock sole. Repeat for the second sock. Now, complete the round across the instep of both socks.

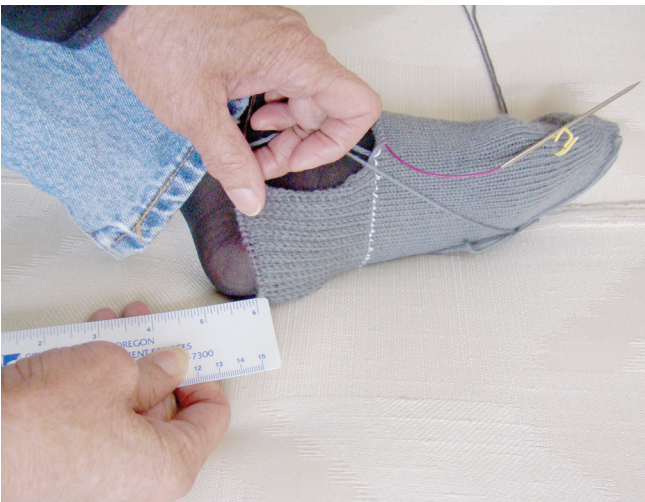
## Heel Bottom

**Round 1:** For the first sock sole, sl 1 st knitwise, \*k, sl 1 st purlwise, repeat from \* to last 2 sts, k2. Repeat for second sock sole.

Now, turn your work. You will be working back and forth in rows, just across the heel, while the instep stitches wait on the needle cable.

**Round 2:** Sl 1 st purlwise, p to end. Repeat for second sock sole. Repeats rows 1 and 2 until heel measures approximately 2.5".

When you get to 2", start checking the sock on your foot - actually try it on and see if the heel flap is long enough. You should stop the heel flap about .5" short of your actual foot length. End with a purl row (R2).



## Heel Turn Set Up

Now you need to mark where to start the heel turn short rows. Find the center stitch of the heel stitches. Count over 5 sts on either side of the center st and place a split ring marker there. So, there should be a total of 11 sts between the markers, and these sts are centered among the total number of sts per heel. (This number of sts is my personal preference for heel width; adjust for your comfort. Generally the number of heel sts is close to the number you cast on at the toe.) To make the short rows work out

evenly, you need an even number of sts on either side of your center marked section. If you need to, either increase or decrease the center section by two sts (one at each side) to make sure the number of sts on either side of the center group is even.

## Heel Turn & Picking Up the Gusset

Now, you are going to work only one sock at a time. The other sock can wait on the needle cable.

**Rnd 1:** sl 1 st knitwise, \*k, sl 1 st purlwise, repeat from \* to SECOND marker, remove marker, ssk, k1. Turn work.

**Rnd 2:** Sl 1 st purlwise, p to REMAINING MARKER, remove marker, p2tog, p1. Turn work.

**Rnd 3:** sl 1 st knitwise, work in slip stitch pattern to the st before the gap created by the ssk in the row below, ssk the st before and the st after the gap together, k1. Turn work.

**Rnd 4:** Sl 1 st purlwise, purl to the st before the gap created by the p2tog in the row below, p2tog the st before the gap and the st after the gap, p1. Turn work.

Repeat rows 3 and 4 until you have worked across all the sts.

Work one more right side row, in slip stitch pattern. You are now finished with the first heel turn.

Place marker to mark the left (as you wear it) corner of back heel of this same sock. Using the working yarn, knit up sts along the left side (as worn) of the heel bottom flap - one st for each selvedge st. Since the first st of each row of the heel bottom flap was slipped, there is a nice selvedge edge to knit up stitches through. To prevent a hole at the corner of the gusset, knit up one extra st next to the instep, through the center of a st right in the corner.

Now, let the first heel bottom flap and left gusset rest on the needle cable while you repeat the heel turn and knit up the left side of the gusset on the second sock.

Turn your work and knit across the instep sts for BOTH socks.



Turn your work so you can knit up sts along the right side of the heel bottom flap of the sock you just knit the instep sts of. Starting in the corner by the instep, knit up one extra st through the center of a st right in the corner. Then, knit up sts along the selvedge edge of the heel bottom flap - one st for every selvedge st.

When you reach the back heel sts that are resting on the cable, place marker to mark right (as worn) corner of back heel, work across the back heel sts, maintaining slip st pattern. Slip previously placed marker and knit the left gusset sts.

Now, move to the other sock. The working yarn will be hanging at the right corner of the instep (as worn). Starting in the corner by the instep, knit up one extra st through the center of a st right in the corner. Then, knit up sts along the selvedge edge of the heel bottom flap – one st for every selvedge st. Place marker to mark right (as worn) corner of back heel. You will now have all the heel, gusset and instep sts around both socks on your needles. To complete this round, work across the back of the heel, maintaining slip st pattern, slip previously placed marker and knit the left gusset sts. (When working the slip st pattern, since you are now working in the round, you need to remember to alternate one round in slip st pattern and one round is knit.)



Turn your work to work across the insteps of both socks. This will bring your working yarns back to the side the original cast on tail is hanging on – the beginning and end of rounds.

### Gusset Decrease

Note: as you picked up gusset sts, you placed markers for the back heel. These are for ease in identifying the back heel section that needs to be working in the slip st pattern – to bring that double thick cushioned section up the back of your heel. When the gusset decreases are complete, you can switch from the slip st pattern to stockinette or your stitch pattern of choice for the leg back.

Decrease rounds: Beginning at corner of right (as worn) gusset, k1, ssk, k to marker, work across back heel sts in slip st pattern to second marker, k to last 3 gusset sts, k2tog, k1. Repeat for second

sock. Knit across instep (now front leg) sts of both socks.

Work the decrease round 3 times. This will help prevent your sock from bunching on the front of your ankle – it rapidly reduces the extra circumference created by picking up the gusset.

After working 3 decrease rounds, alternate even rounds with decrease rounds until the number of sts on the back of the leg matches (or is within 1 st of) the number of sts on the front of the leg.

Even rounds: Beginning at corner of right (as worn) gusset, k to marker, work across back heel sts in slip st pattern to second marker, k to front leg. Repeat for second sock. Knit across front leg sts of both socks.

### Leg

Now, it is clear sailing until the ribbing. Continue knitting around and around the back legs and then the front legs for 5" or 6". If you have been working a stitch pattern across the instep (front leg) sts, you can now work that stitch pattern on the back leg as well. You may need to adjust by increasing or decreasing to get the right st count for an even number of repeats of your pattern across the back leg.

### Ribbing

When you get tired of stockinette, or your stitch pattern, after about 5" or 6", switch to P2, K2 ribbing. You may need to adjust your st count for each sock to an increment of 4. I like starting ribbing with the purls instead of the knits because I think I can pull the purl st tighter between the back cable and the front needle, so there is less chance of laddering at the spots where the cable is doubled back and looped through the sock for the Magic Loop technique.

Continue in P2, K2 ribbing until the socks are the desired length, or until you have only about 4 to 5 yards of yarn left from each ball (whichever comes first!). Another great thing about toe-up socks is that you can truly use up all of the yarn.

### Bind Off

Next round: To ensure an ample bind off, increase each purl st by purling into the front and the back of it. This will increase your total st count by 50%. The edge will ruffle a bit, but that will all stretch out when you put the socks on.

Bind off loosely in pattern.

### Finishing

Weave in ends. Put your new socks on and prance around in them.



<b>Abbreviations</b>	<b>M</b>	marker		stitch	<b>TBL</b>	through back loop	
<b>BO</b>	bind off	<b>M1</b>	make one stitch	<b>RH</b>	right hand	<b>TFL</b>	through front loop
<b>cn</b>	cable needle	<b>M1L</b>	make one left-leaning	<b>rnd(s)</b>	round(s)	<b>tog</b>	together
<b>CC</b>	contrast color		stitch	<b>RS</b>	right side	<b>W&amp;T</b>	wrap & turn (see
<b>CDD</b>	Centered double dec	<b>M1R</b>	make one right-leaning	<b>Sk</b>	skip		specific instructions
<b>CO</b>	cast on		ing stitch	<b>Sk2p</b>	sl 1, k2tog, pass		in pattern)
<b>cont</b>	continue	<b>MC</b>	main color		slipped stitch over	<b>WE</b>	work even
<b>dec</b>	decrease(es)	<b>P</b>	purl		k2tog: 2 sts dec	<b>WS</b>	wrong side
<b>DPN(s)</b>	double pointed	<b>P2tog</b>	purl 2 sts together	<b>SKP</b>	sl, k, pssso: 1 st dec	<b>WYIB</b>	with yarn in back
	needle(s)	<b>PM</b>	place marker	<b>SL</b>	slip	<b>WYIF</b>	with yarn in front
<b>EOR</b>	every other row	<b>PFB</b>	purl into the front and	<b>SM</b>	slip marker	<b>YO</b>	yarn over
<b>inc</b>	increase		back of stitch	<b>SSK</b>	sl, sl, k these 2 sts tog		
<b>K</b>	knit	<b>PSSO</b>	pass slipped stitch	<b>SSP</b>	sl, sl, p these 2 sts tog		
<b>K2tog</b>	knit two sts together		over		tbl		
<b>KFB</b>	knit into the front and	<b>PU</b>	pick up	<b>SSSK</b>	sl, sl, sl, k these 3 sts		
	back of stitch	<b>P-wise</b>	purlwise		tog		
<b>K-wise</b>	knitwise	<b>rep</b>	repeat	<b>St st</b>	stockinette stitch		
<b>LH</b>	left hand	<b>Rev St st</b>	reverse stockinette	<b>sts</b>	stitch(es)		