

MINI-CABLE SANDAL SOCKS

Dez Crawford



Look, do your Dad a favor. Inevitably, he's going to wear socks with sandals. It happens. Now you could be an insensitive brat, and just look the other way and pretend you don't know your Dad while he wears white tube socks from Wal-Mart with his Birkenstocks.

Or, you could take some pride in your Dad's feet and knit him a cushy, comfy pair of sandal socks. Lack of wear and tear on the heel of socks worn with sandals allows the cable design to continue all the way down the back of the sock.

Either way, these socks make a statement: "Hey, my kid knits socks!"

Sized for men's medium (9-11).

Materials:

- One skein of Knitvity Sock Yarn from www.knitvity.com ("*Poolside*" colorway used for original)
- Needles to achieve gauge of 7 st./inch. I used US size 2 dpns, but this pattern can adapt to either the socks on two circulars method or the one-long-circular method.
- Stitch markers
- Darning needle

Cast on 72 st.

Join into round and mark beginning of round.

Begin working in K2, P2 rib as follows: P1, *(K2,P2) repeat from* until 3 st. remain, K2, P1.

Note: You're starting and ending the round with a purl stitch so that when you divide for the heel, you'll have one purl stitch on either side of a cabled section, as it continues down the heel and instep.

Work 12 rows in K2, P2 rib.

Work one Mini-Cable Row: K1, *(knit into second stitch, leave both st. on left hand needle; knit into first st., pull both st. off left needle at once, P2) repeat from* until 3 st remain; knit into second stitch, leave both st. on left hand needle; knit into first st., pull both st. off left needle at once, P1

Begin Mini-Cable pattern as follows:

Rows 1-3: Knit three rows in K2, P2 rib as above.

Row 4: Mini-Cable Row: K1, *(knit into second stitch, leave both st. on left hand needle; knit into first st., pull both st. off left needle at once, P2) repeat from* until 3 st remain; knit into second stitch, leave both st. on left hand needle; knit into first st., pull both st. off left needle at once, P1

Knit mini-cable row every fourth row until you have completed 19 mini-cable rows.

HEEL FLAP:

At end of 19th mini-cable row (this will be a purl st.), turn your work, and work stitches as they present themselves in K2,p2 rib across the back of the work for 36 st.

You will knit the first st. and purl the last st. of **each** heel-flap row.

Work back and forth across 36 st, working mini-cable row every fourth row.



Heel Flap Detail

TURN HEEL:

When you have completed seven mini-cable repeats (28 rows), turn your work to the wrong side and purl across 23 st. P2tog,

**Turn, K 11, K2 tog.

Turn, P11, P2 tog

Repeat from ** until 12 st. remain. You should end on a right side row. If not, don't panic. Just purl across wrong side.

HEEL GUSSET:

With right side facing, K 12.

Pick up 16 st. down left side of heel, continue mini-cable in pattern across instep (36 st.), pick up 16 st.. up right side of heel.

At this point you may wish to rearrange your stitches on the needles. Place the 36 instep stitches on one needle if you are using dpns, and divide the remaining stitches on your other needles. If you are using circular needles, place a stitch marker on either side of 36 instep st.

Begin gusset decreases:

Beginning at center-back of heel, work around in stocking st. until 3 st. before the first stitch marker. Slip marker, SSK, K1, continue in mini-cable pattern across instep, slip marker, K2 tog, knit to center back of heel.

Next row: knit instep in mini-cable pattern and knit all other st. in stockinette.

Repeat these two rounds until you once again have a total of 72 st.

Keeping stitch markers in place, (one on either side of instep), continue in pattern (mini- cable instep, stocking stitch sole) until you have completed twelve cable crossings after the heel divide (total 31 cable repeats).

Knit one round in plain stocking st.

Begin toe decreases:

Make sure the stitch markers are still where they belong so you have 36 instep st. and 36 sole st.

Decrease Round: knit in stocking st. to within 3 st. of marker, SSK, K1, slip marker, K1, K2tog. Repeat at marker on other side.

Next round: Knit.

Repeat these two rows until 24 st. remain (12 instep, 12 sole) break yarn, leaving about 18 inches. Graft toe together (kitchener st.)

Tuck in loose ends, make another one.

For sizes 11-13: add two more rounds of cable pattern to length of foot before beginning toe.

Wrap and give to dad. Happy Father's Day!



Toe detail

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