

Knitting Two Socks On Two 24 Inch Circular Needles Sock Along
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Section III

Longer Guernsey Sock Top – Off-White: As a slight variation from a plain ribbed sport sock, I chose to do a knit two, purl two ribbing with a two over two stitch cable at the center back. To work a plain knit two, purl two ribbing your total number of stitches should be divisible by four. Or, if you prefer a knit one, purl one ribbing, your total number of stitches should be divisible by two. If you wish to do the two over two cable at the center back, your total number of stitches should be divisible by four plus two stitches. Decrease or increase if necessary in the last row before starting the ribbing to obtain the desired number of stitches.

If you wish to work the two over two stitch cable at the center back, count from the start of needle #1 to the space between the two center back stitches. Mark this space with a coilless pin. To determine where in the ribbing to start the round, count the stitches to the right of the coilless pin by knit two, purl two, knit two, purl two until you reach the beginning of the round. It will depend upon the number of stitches you have for your sock where in the ribbing you will start the round. Whatever it is, begin the round with the necessary knit or purl stitches. The last two stitches before the coilless pin marker will be knit two. After the marker knit two, purl two to end of sole stitches. At the start of needle #2, use the appropriate stitches to continue on with the established ribbing. On the third round, cross two of the center back knit stitches over the other two center back knit stitches.

Cables without using a cable needle: For cross overs knit to the 4 center back knit stitches, remove the 4 knit stitches from the left needle. To make a right front cross over, with the last 2 knit stitches in front, replace the first 2 stitches onto the left needle. Pick up the last 2 stitches onto the right needle tip, and then replace them onto the left needle.
(Photo1)



(see caption next page)

Photo1: Right cross over without cable needle: The 2 right stitches have been replaced onto left needle, and 2 left stitches are ready to be replaced onto left needle. Then knit all 4 stitches onto right needle.

Knit the 4 stitches and continue on in ribbing. To make a left front cross over, remove the 4 knit stitches from the needle. With the last 2 stitches in back, replace the first 2 stitches onto the left needle. With right needle pick up the last 2 stitches in back and replace them onto the left needle. (Photo 2)



Photo 2: Left cross over without cable needle. The 2 right stitches have been replaced onto left needle, and the 2 left stitches are ready to be replaced onto left needle. Then knit all 4 stitches onto right needle.

Knit the 4 stitches and continue on in ribbing.

Work cables using a cable needle: To make a right front cross over, place first 2 stitches on a cable needle and hold in back, knit next 2 stitches, replace stitches on cable needle onto left needle (Photo 3) and knit.



Photo : Right cross over with cable needle: Two left stitches were knit while 2 right stitches were held in back on cable needle. The 2 right stitches are now ready to be replaced onto left needle and knit.

Continue on in ribbing. To make a left front cross over, place the first 2 stitches on a cable needle and hold in front, knit next 2 stitches, replace stitches on cable needle to left needle (Photo 4) and knit.



Photo 4: Left cross over with cable needle: Two left stitches were knit while 2 right stitches were held in front on cable needle. The 2 right stitches are now ready to be replaced onto left needle and knit.

Continue on in ribbing. (You may notice I do not own a cable needle so used a sewing needle instead.)

Continue to work in pattern, crossing the cable stitches over each other every fifth row, until you have reached your desired length ending with a cross over round. I mirrored my cross overs on each sock by crossing over to the right on one sock and crossing over to the left on the second sock. Bind off loosely in either a knit or purl bind off.

A very good way to mark rows I learned from Lizzie Uptis. Take a piece of yarn, fold it in half, and tie knots amounting to the number of rows between needed decreases, increases, or in this case a cross over. The cross overs will occur every five rounds, so tie five knots. When you prepare to knit the first cross over, place the top loop onto the right needle between the purl stitches just prior to the knit 4 stitches. Purl 1, work the cross over and continue around. Each time you come to the knotted yarn, drop the needle down one loop. After you have worked the round with the needle in the fifth loop, the following round you will move the needle back up to the top loop, purl 1 and work the cross over and continue to move the marker as before dropping down a loop with each round.

(Photo 5)



Photo 5: Yarn Row Marker moved down to next loop with each round. Photo indicates that you are working on the third round.

Short Guernsey Sock Tops: After knitting one inch above the short row heel turn, purl three rounds, knit three rounds, purl three rounds. Bind off loosely in purl (same as knit bind off, except you purl the stitches).

Satakieli Socks - Green: After working two inches of stocking stitch after heel turn, purl five rounds, knit four rounds, three times. End with purl five rounds. Bind off loosely in purl (same as knit bind off, except you purl the stitches).

I deviated from the above solid color by changing the colors for the knitted rows. I have fond memories of seeing Elizabeth Zimmermann do this two color technique in 1986, the first year I attended Knitting Camp. Someone during their show and tell had shown something using the horizontal purl and knit ridges in one color. I then noticed Elizabeth reach into her yarn basket and pull out two colors, a gold and off-white. She started purling rounds with the gold, then knitting off-white rounds, purling gold rounds, knitting off-white rounds, etc. The knit off-white stitches tucked in between the gold purl rows

and were just enticingly visible. I recalled that incident as I approached the top of these socks, and decided to use the technique with colors I have used in a sweater knit with Satakieli yarn.

I worked as follows:

Purl five rows of green.

Knit 4 rows of burgundy

Knit one row of green, purl five rows of green

Knit 4 rows of blue

Knit one row of green, purl five rows of green

Knit 4 rows of gold

Knit one row of green, purl five rows of green.

Bind off loosely in purl.

When I started the colors my intention was to carry the green at the beginning of the rounds behind the second colors. After the second round I figured it would be faster to weave in ends than trying to work carrying four colors, so broke the green when changing colors. This does mean you have a lot of ends to weave in.

If you wish to use the color variation technique and do not have more Satakieli colors, other yarns of the same gauge could be used.

That is it for the Sock Along. I will be back on March 30 explaining some of the things I have experimented with while knitting socks through the years which you may (or may not) find helpful.

Certainly hope you have all enjoyed the Sock Along. Isn't it nice to have two socks?