

# Rib Tips Socks

## Materials:

2 balls Cascade Fixation (186 yds/50g skein)

3.5mm (US4) double-point (or circular) needles, or size needed to obtain gauge

**Gauge:** 6sts/inch over stockinette stitch.

**Size:** To fit an "average" woman's foot (approx size 8 shoe)

## Cuff/Leg:

Cast on 48 stitches and distribute on three needles (16 on each). Work 2x2 rib for the desired length of the leg of your sock, or between six and eight inches.

## Divide for Heel:

Rearrange your stitches so that you have half (24) of your stitches on one needle and the other half (24 stitches) on a second needle. These last 24 will be "on hold" while you knit the heel flap and turn the heel.

## Heel Flap:

The heel flap can be knitted using any stitch pattern you care to employ (such as the one provided here, or eye of partridge, etc.). Work the heel flap over 24 stitches following these two rows:

Row 1: \*slip 1, k1, rep from \* to end. Turn.

Row 2: slip 1, purl to end.

Repeat these two rows until you have a heel flap of "sufficient depth" (at least 2 1/2"). My handy rule of thumb is to fold the heel flap over such that it makes a triangle, and when the flap is as long as it is wide (when you have a perfect right triangle), you're finished. End with a purl row.

## Turning the Heel:

Row 1: Knit 13, SSK, knit 1, turn.

Row 2: Slip 1, purl 4, p2tog, purl 1, turn.

Row 3: Slip 1, knit 5, SSK, knit 1, turn.

Row 4: Slip 1, purl 6, p2tog, purl 1, turn.

Continue shaping the heel, working one more stitch in the middle (K7, P8, K9, etc.) and decreasing one stitch (SSK or p2tog) each row until all stitches are worked. Remember, your decrease is made with one stitch before **and** after the small "gap" on each row. End with a purl row.



## Gussets:

Needle 1: Knit across the heel and make a mental note of how many stitches you have remaining. Half of these stitches will be moved to your needle 3 and the beginning of the round will be in the middle of the heel you just turned. With the right side of the heel flap facing you, pick up and knit one stitch in each edge stitch along the side of the heel flap, making sure to pick up one between the heel flap and the instep stitches (those stitches "on hold" from before the heel flap). Make a note of how many stitches you just picked up, so you pick up the same number on the other side of the heel flap.

Needle 2: Knit across the instep stitches, resuming the rib pattern across these 24 stitches.

Needle 3: Using another (empty) needle, pick up and knit one stitch in the gap between the instep and the heel flap and then one in each edge stitch along the other side of the heel flap. Knit half of the stitches (from your count at the beginning of this section). The beginning of your round is the midpoint of the heel, or between the two needles that hold the heel and gusset stitches. You will now have your sock stitches on three needles.

Round 1: Knit around.

Round 2:

Needle 1—knit to last 3 stitches, k2tog, k1

Needle 2—continue in rib pattern across instep

Needle 3—k1, SSK, k to end.

Repeat rounds 1 and 2, continuing to decrease every other round until needles 1 and 3 have 12 stitches each (48 stitches total).

## Foot:

Work even, keeping the instep stitches **only** in the rib pattern, until the foot measures approximately 2" less than the desired foot length (or approximately 7 1/2").

## Shape Toe:

Round 1:

Needle 1—knit to last 3 stitches, k2tog, k1

Needle 2—knit 1, SSK, knit to last 3 stitches, k2tog, k1

Needle 3—k1, SSK, k to end.

2nd round: knit

Repeat last two rows until the toe measures 1 1/2"-2", or the entire foot measures desired length (approximately 9" - 9 1/2" for a medium women's foot, or 8 shoe).

Place stitches from needles 1 and 3 on the same needle. You should now have the same number of stitches on each of two needles. Finish off the toe using the kitchener stitch. Alternatively, you could use a three-needle bind off as well.