

The zigzagging motif of these socks reminds me of jaywalking in Boston - right, left, then right again! The Jaywalker pattern is both visually interesting and simple enough for a beginner. It is suitable for solid, self-striping or variegated yarns - large portions of straight knitting allow color segments to remain intact. The stitches are placed on a bias, which creates a snug, droop-less fit. Jaywalking while wearing these socks is entirely optional! (Special thanks to my Sockapal-2-za Sock Pal, who inspired this design)

NOTES

- Since the Jaywalker stitch pattern doesn't have a lot of give, gauge is critical for proper fit of this project.
- Choose a size which is the same (or slightly smaller) as the circumference of your foot at its widest.
- If worked at the specified gauge, the most narrow size (76 sts) should fit an average woman's foot (about 8-9" around the ball of the foot).

LEG

Cast on 76 (84, 92, 100) sts. Divide sts onto 4 needles, 19 (21, 23, 25) sts on each. Join in the rnd, being careful not to twist sts.

Note: this join is the beginning of all future rounds; it is at the back of the leg. Needles are numbered relative to this join - the first one worked is #1, etc.

Begin ribbing: *k2, p2; repeat from *. Work ribbing as est for 1" (2.5 cm).

Begin zigzag pattern:

Rnd 1: k every st.

Rnd 2: *k-f/b, k7 (8, 9, 10), dd, k7 (8, 9, 10), k-f/b; repeat from * a total of 4 times.

Work zigzag pattern until leg measures 7" (18 cm) or desired length to top of heel, ending with rnd 1.

FINISHED SIZES

Width around foot: 8" (20 cm) [9" (23 cm), 9.75" (25 cm), 10.5" (27 cm)]. The lengths of foot and leg portions are customizable.

YARN

Opal Handpainted [75% superwash wool, 25% polyamid; 465 yds (425 m)/100 g]: #11, 1 (1, 1, 1) skein.

NEEDLES

Set of five US 1 (2.25 mm) double-pointed needles (dpns), or size needed to obtain correct gauge.

NOTIONS

Tapestry needle.

GAUGE

38 sts = 4" (10 cm) in zigzag stitch pattern; 31 sts = 4" (10 cm) in st st knit circularly.

STITCHES

k-f/b: inc 1 st by knitting the front and back loops of the same st.

dd: double decrease - slip 2 sts together as if to knit, knit the next st, pass the slipped sts over the knitted st.





HEEL

Heel flap: k19 (21, 23, 25) sts on ndl #1, turn. Sl1, p37 (41, 45, 49), turn. These 38 (42, 46, 50) sts form the heel flap. The remaining 38 (42, 46, 50) sts form the instep and are unused for the moment. Work heel back and forth, turning after every row.

Row 1: *sl1, k1; repeat from *.

Row 2: sl1, p37 (41, 45, 49).

Repeat the last 2 rows 15 (17, 18, 20) more times.

Turn heel:

Row 1: sl1, k20 (22, 24, 26), ssk, k1, turn.

Row 2: sl1, p5, p2tog, p1, turn.

Row 3: sl1, k within 1 st of the gap, ssk, k1, turn.

Row 4: sl1, p to within one st of the gap, p2tog, p1, turn.

Repeat rows 3 and 4 until all heel sts are worked. There are 22 (24, 26, 28) heel sts.

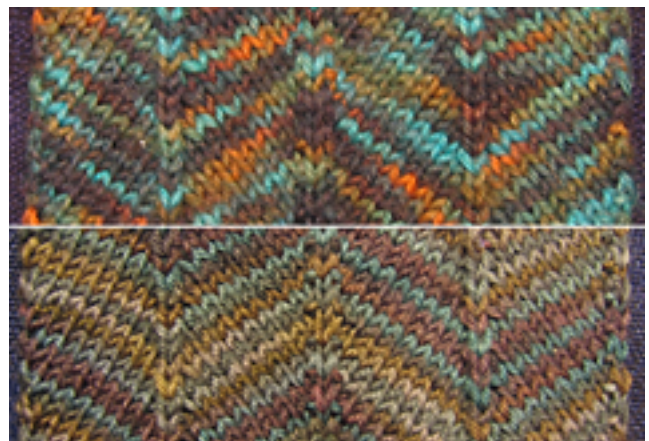
Heel gussets: sl1, k21 (23, 25, 27) heel sts, pick up and k16 (18, 19, 21) sts along the side of the heel flap. Work 38 (42, 46, 50) instep sts in established pattern (rnd 2 of zigzag pattern, but repeat from * a total of 2 times). With an empty ndl, pick up and k16 (18, 19, 21) sts along the other side of the heel flap, k11 (12, 13, 14) sts from the heel ndl. There are 19 (21, 23, 25) sts on ndls #2 and #3, 27 (30, 32, 35) sts on ndls #1 and #4.

Rnd 1: work to 3 sts from end of ndl #1, k2tog, k1. Work instep sts in est pattern. K1, ssk at beg of ndl #4, work to end.

Rnd 2: work to 1 st from end of ndl #1, sl1. Work instep sts in est pattern. Sl1 at beg of ndl #4, work to end.

Note: in the heel and foot portions, the instep stitches on ndls #2 and #3 are demarcated by slipped sts at each side to resemble the patterning of the leg portion. The slipped sts are made every other round on those edges of ndls #1 and #4 which border the instep.

Repeat the last 2 rnds until there are 16 (18, 19, 21) sts on ndls #1 and #4. There are 38 (42, 46, 50) instep sts and 32 (36, 38, 42) sole sts, 70 (78, 84, 92) sts total. The difference in the number of instep and sole sts accounts for the varying tensions of zigzag and stockinette stitch patterns.





FOOT

Cont even in est pattern (including the slipped sts mentioned above) until foot measures 2" (5 cm) less than desired finished length. End with rnd 1 of zigzag pattern.

Shape toe:

Rnd 1 for all sizes: work ndl #1 even. *K1, ssk at the beg of ndl #2, work to 3 sts from end of ndl, k2tog, k1. Rep from * for ndl #3. Work ndl #4 even. 66 (74) sts remain.

Rnd 2 for 76- and 84-st sizes: work ndl #1 even. K1, ssk at the beg of ndl #2. Work to 3 sts from end of ndl #3, k2tog, k1. Work ndl #4 even. 64 (72) sts remain.

Rnd 2 for 92- and 100-st sizes: work as rnd 1 above. 76 (84) sts remain.

Rnd 3 for all sizes: work even.

Rnd 4 for all sizes: work to 3 sts from end of ndl #1, k2tog, k1. K1, ssk at beg of ndl #2. Work to 3 sts from end of ndl #3, k2tog, k1. K1, ssk at beg of ndl #4, work to end of ndl.

Rnd 5 for all sizes: work even.

For all sizes, rep the last 2 rnds until there are 7 sts on each ndl, 28 sts total. Work to the end of ndl #1. Move the sts on ndls #1 and #4 onto one ndl, and the other sts on another ndl. Kitchener stitch these sts together.

FINISHING

Weave in all ends. Wash according to yarn care instructions.