

Broken Cable Rib Socks

Design by Ann Budd



Chris Hartlove

Ingenious cables ensure a sock design you'll want to knit over and over again.

★ FINISHED SIZE:

About 7¼" (18.5 cm) foot circumference with ribbing unstretched, and 10" (25.5 cm) long from back of heel to tip of toe. To fit women's U.S. shoe size 9 or men's shoe size U.S. 8.

YARN:

Regia 4 Fadig (4 Ply) Color (75% wool, 25% nylon; 230 yd [210 m]/50 g): #5572 olive, 2 skeins.

NEEDLES:

Upper leg—Size 3 (3.25 mm): set of 4 double-pointed (dpn). Lower leg and foot—Size 2 (2.75 mm): set of 4 dpn. Adjust needle size if necessary to obtain the correct gauge.

★ NOTIONS:

Marker (m); cable needle (cn); tapestry needle.

★ GAUGE:

16½ sts and 24 rnds = 2" (5 cm) in St st worked in the rnd on smaller needles.

★ SKILL LEVEL:

Intermediate. 

☆ STITCH GUIDE:

5-Stitch Left Cable: Sl 3 sts onto cn and hold in front, k2, sl purl st from cn back onto left needle and purl it, k2 from cable needle.

5-Stitch Right Cable: Sl 3 sts onto cn and hold in back, k2, sl purl st from cn back onto left needle and purl it, k2 from cable needle.

Broken Cable Rib: (multiple of 6 sts)

Rnds 1, 2, and 3: *K2, p1; rep from *.

Rnd 4: *5-st cable (either left or right; see Note below), p1; rep from *.

Rnds 5–13: (9 rnds) *K2, p1; rep from *.

Rnd 14: K2, p1, *5-st cable, p1; rep from * to last 3 sts, sl 3 sts to right needle, temporarily remove end-of-rnd marker, return 3 slipped sts to left needle, work 5-st cable over next 5 sts, replace marker—end-of-rnd marker has moved 2 sts to the left.

Rnd 15: *P1, k2; rep from * to last 2 sts of rnd, sl 2 sts to right needle, remove marker, return 2 slipped sts to left needle, replace marker—end-of-rnd marker is now back in its original position.

Rnds 16–23: (8 rnds) *K2, p1; rep from *.

Repeat Rnds 4–23 for pattern (do not repeat Rnds 1–3).

Note

In the socks shown one leg was worked using all right cables, and the other using all left cables. If you prefer to make a perfectly matched pair, use the same 5-stitch cable for both socks.

☆ LEG:

With larger dpn, CO 72 sts. Place marker (pm) and join for working in the rnd, being careful not to twist sts. Using either a right or left 5-st cable throughout, and beg with Rnd 1, work Broken Cable Rib patt (see Stitch Guide) until piece measures 4" (10 cm) from beg. Change to smaller needles and cont in patt until piece measures about 7½" (19 cm) from beg, ending with Rnd 18 of patt.

☆ HEEL:

Heel flap: Work 18 sts in patt, turn work, sl 1 purlwise with yarn in front (pwise wyf), p35—36 heel sts. Hold rem 36 sts on 2 dpn to work later for instep. Work heel flap back and forth in rows as foll:

Row 1: (RS) *Sl l pwise with yarn in back (pwise wyb), k1; rep from *.

Row 2: Sl 1 pwise wyf, purl to end.

Rep Rows 1 and 2 until a total of 36 rows have been worked—18 chain selvedge sts along each edge of heel flap.

Turn heel: Work short rows as foll:

Row 1: (RS) K20, ssk, k1, turn.

Row 2: Sl 1 pwise wyf, p5, p2tog, p1, turn.

Row 3: Sl 1 pwise wyb, knit to 1 st before gap formed by previous row, ssk, k1, turn.

Row 4: Sl 1 pwise wyf, purl to 1 st before gap formed by previous row, p2tog, p1, turn.

Rep Rows 3 and 4 until all heel sts have been worked. End by working ssk on last 2 sts of final RS row, and p2tog on last 2 sts of final WS row—20 sts rem.

Gussets: Rejoin for working in the rnd as foll:

Rnd 1: Knit across heel sts, then with same needle holding heel sts (Needle 1), pick up and knit 18 sts along left edge of heel flap; with Needle 2, work 34 instep sts in established k2, p1 rib patt, k2tog (to eliminate single purl st at end of needle); with Needle 3, pick up and knit 18 sts along right edge of heel flap, then knit the first 10 sts from Needle 1 onto Needle 3—91 sts total; 28 sts each on needles 1 and 3; 35 instep sts on Needle 2; rnd ends at center back heel.

From this point onward, work instep sts in k2, p1 rib as established without working any more cable crosses.

Rnd 2: On Needle 1, knit to last 3 sts, k2tog, k1; on Needle 2, work instep sts in patt; on Needle 3, k1, ssk, knit to end—2 sts dec'd.

Rnd 3: On Needle 1, knit; on Needle 2, work instep sts in patt; on Needle 3, knit.

Rep Rnds 2 and 3 nine more times—71 sts rem. Next rnd: On Needle 1, knit to last 2 sts, k2tog; on Needle 2, work instep sts in patt; on Needle 3, knit all sts—70 sts rem: 17 sts on Needle 1, 35 instep sts on Needle 2, 18 sts on Needle 3.

☆ FOOT:

Cont even as established, working rib patt on Needle 2, until piece measures 8" (20.5 cm) from back of heel, or about 2" (5 cm) less than desired total length.

☆ TOE:

Dec as foll:

Rnd 1: On Needle 1, knit to last 3 sts, k2tog, k1; on Needle 2, k1, ssk, knit to last 3 sts, k2tog, k1; on Needle 3, k1, ssk, knit to end—4 sts dec'd.

Rnd 2: Knit.

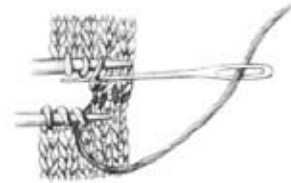
Rep Rnds 1 and 2 eight more times—34 sts rem. Rep Rnd 1 only (decreasing every rnd) 6 times—10 sts rem. At end of last rnd, knit across all sts on Needle 1 with Needle 3—5 sts each on 2 needles. Cut yarn, leaving a 12" (30.5-cm) tail.

FINISHING:

Using the Kitchener st (see box), graft live sts tog. Weave in loose ends. Block lightly if desired. ❄

Kitchener Stitch

Step 1: Bring threaded needle through front stitch as if to purl and leave stitch on needle.



Step 2: Bring threaded needle through back stitch as if to knit and leave stitch on needle.

Step 3: Bring threaded needle through same front stitch as if to knit and slip this stitch off needle. Bring threaded needle through next front stitch as if to purl and leave stitch on needle.

Step 4: Bring threaded needle through first back stitch as if to purl (as illustrated), slip this stitch off, bring needle through next back stitch as if to knit, leave this stitch on needle. Repeat Steps 3 and 4 until no stitches remain on needles.

Illustrations by Gayle Ford

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ANN BUDD is the author of *Getting Started Knitting Socks* (Interweave Press 2007)



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