

LONDON
LOOP



Fabulous mock-darned socks



Emma Brace for Loop London

Inspired by visible darning and mending techniques, I made these socks as a sort of self-therapy - to cope with the first lock down.

They were designed for the purpose of feeling in control of chaos.

These socks are knitted from the cuff down. You will be following some simple colourwork charts and using 6 contrast colours to create a pre-darned effect. Once you get the hang of the technique, you can decide where you'd like your next spot of colour to be.

SIZES

To fit: Small (Medium, Large)

S: UK women's 3-4 / EU 35-37 / US: 5.5 – 6.5 (Length of foot: 22.5-23.5cm / 9")

M: UK women's 5-6 / EU 37-39 / US: 7.5-8.5 (Length of foot: 24-25cm / 9½")

L: UK women's 7-8.5 / EU: 40-42 / US: 9.5-10.5 (Length of Foot: 25.5-27cm / 10-10½")

Finished circumference around foot: 20 (21.5, 24)cm / 7¾ (8½, 9½)"

YARN : Lilac version

MC: The Uncommon Thread Tough Sock (4ply / fingering weight, 80% Merino wool; 20% nylon; 366m / 400yds per 100g skein) x 1 skein in Into Dust

CC1-CC6: Small quantities of scrap sock yarn. No more than 10g of each colour needed.

Sample shown uses the following:

CC1: Vi(Laines) Boulette Chaussettes Sock in Harvesting Pecks

CC2: Vi(Laines) Boulette Chaussettes Sock in Strawberry Shortcake's Panties

CC3: Vi(Laines) Boulette Chaussettes Sock in Basking on Warm Bricks

CC4 - CC6: Bits of the sample knitter's stash used



YARN : Yellow verion

MC: Madelinetosh Twist Light Fine Sock (4ply / fingering weight, 75% Merino wool; 25% nylon; 384m / 420yds per 100g skein) x 1 skein in Jupiter's Moon lo

CC1-CC6: Small quantities of scrap sock yarn. No more than 10g of each colour needed.

Sample shown uses the following:

CC1: Madelinetosh Twist Light in Coffee Grounds

CC2: Eden Cottage Hayton in Clematis

CC3: Crazy Zauberball in 2100 Domino

CC4: Crazy Zauberball in 226 Meilenstein

CC5: Vi (Laines) Boulette Chaussettes Sock in Nasturtium Flowers in Hair

CC6: Crazy Zauberball in 2082 Charisma

YARN : Neutral version (shown on the back page)

MC: Life in the Long Grass Fine Sock (4ply / fingering weight, 75% Merino wool; 25% nylon; 425m / 465yds per 100g skein) x 1 skein in Wheat

CC1-CC6: Small quantities of scrap sock yarn. No more than 10g of each colour needed.

Sample shown uses the following:

CC1: The Uncommon Thread Tough Sock in Orion

CC2: Crazy Zauberball in 1564 Tropical Fish

CC3: Crazy Zauberball in 2250 Jacke Wie Hose

CC4: The Uncommon Thread Tough Sock in Zitouni

CC5: Crazy Zauberball in 2082 Charisma

CC6: Lang Jawoll in 98 Dark Olive

NEEDLES & NOTIONS

2.5mm (US 1-2) knitting needles suitable for working small circumferences in the round

3mm (US 2-3) knitting needles suitable for working small circumferences in the round or knitting needles half a size bigger than gauge needle

Stitch markers

Tapestry needle

Waste yarn

Smooth 4ply/fingering weight scrap yarn for forethought heel marker

GAUGE

30 sts and 44 rows to 10cm (4") over stocking stitch on 2.5mm needle after blocking.

Take time to check your gauge and adjust your needle as necessary to ensure an accurate finish.

TECHNIQUES

THE DARNED TECHNIQUE: The overly darned look of these socks is created mostly by picking up a 75cm / 30" length of contrast colour yarn and, following the charts, knitting the contrasting yarns into the sock at any time. There are just a few rules to follow...

- Work with lengths of Contrast Colour (CC) yarns measuring approximately 75cm / 30" joining in more if necessary – it's a great way to use up odds and ends. Example: For chart 1, take a length of yarn approximately 75cm / 30" long, find the centre point of the length and starting at that point, knit the first stitch of the chart leaving the long tails hanging. This means you can use both ends of the contrast colour to work your way down the chart and the yarn will always be in the right place. For chart 4 you do not need to do this; simply leave a 7.5cm / 3" tail when joining in CC1.

ABBREVIATIONS

CC	Contrast Colour
k	Knit
k1tbl	Knit 1 st through the back loop
k2tog	Knit 2 sts together
MC	Main Colour
p1tbl	Purl 1 st through the back loop
PM	Place Marker
rep	Repeat
SM	Slip Marker
ssk	Slip 1 stitch, slip next stitch, knit together through the back loops
St(s)	Stitch(es)

PATTERN BEGINS

SOCK 1

CUFF

Using smaller needles, MC and the long-tail method, cast on 60 (64, 72) sts.

Join to work in the round, taking care not to twist sts and PM for beginning of round.

Work Twisted 1x1 Rib as follows until cuff measures 2.5cm / 1" from cast-on edge.

Twisted Rib: [K1tbl, p1tbl] to end.

Tip from Emma: If purling through the back loop is hard on your hands you can purl in the usual way but wrap the yarn clockwise around your needle and this will twist the stitch.

Do not cut MC. Carry it up the inside and continue as follows:

Change to larger needles and leaving a 7.5cm / 3" tail for each new colour, work 2-Colour Twisted Rib using CC1 and CC2 as follows:

Next round: [K1tbl CC1, p1tbl CC2] to end.

Rep last round twice more.

Leaving a 7.5cm / 3" tail cut CC2 and continue as follows:

Next round: [K1 CC1, k1 MC] to end.

Rep last round again.

Leaving a 7.5cm / 3" tail cut CC1 and continue in MC only.

Change to smaller needles and knit in the round while at the same time incorporating darned technique charts 1-6 (see below) until leg measures 17.5cm / 7" from cast-on edge.

NOTES ON THE DARNED TECHNIQUE

- All charts can be knitted into the sock at any time.
- All charts that aren't repeated around sock stitches use a length of contrast colour yarn approximately 75cm / 30" in length.
- Always leave a 7.5cm / 3" tail when joining in a new colour or finishing a chart.

Chart notes

Start in the middle of a 75cm / 30" length of yarn for CC3, CC4 and CC5 on charts 1 and 2.

Chart notes

Change to larger needles for chart 3 then continue with smaller needles for chart 4.

For both charts, you do not need to start in the middle of a 75cm / 30" piece of CC, simply leave a 7.5cm / 3" tail when joining in a new colour.

Chart notes:

Charts 5 and 6 are worked at the same time on opposite sides of the sock.

For chart 5, leave a 7.5cm / 3" tail when starting.

For chart 6, start in the middle of a 75cm / 30" length of CC3.

When sock measures 17.5cm / 7" from cast-on edge, place forethought heel marker as follows:

Next round: K16 (16, 18), with scrap yarn k30 (32, 36) sts then slip these 30 (32, 36) sts back on to left-hand needle, and using MC knit across them and to end of round.

Continue to knit in the round while at the same time incorporating darned technique charts 7-9 (see below) until foot measures 10 (12, 14.5)cm / 4 (4³/₄, 5³/₄)" from forethought heel marker.

Chart notes

For chart 9 begin in the middle of a 75cm / 30" length of CC6.

TOE

When foot measures 10 (12, 14.5)cm / 4 (4³/₄, 5³/₄)" from forethought heel marker work toe as follows:

Set-up round: K12 (13, 15), ssk, k1, PM for side of toe, k1, k2tog, k24 (26, 30), ssk, k1, PM for side of toe, k1, k2tog, k12 (13, 15) to end. 56 (60, 68) sts

Round 1: Knit.

Round 2: * K to 3 sts before next marker, ssk, k1, SM, k1, k2tog; rep from * once more, k to end. 4 sts dec
Rep rounds 1 and 2 a further 8 (9, 11) times and at the same time place chart 10 (see below) on the toe starting in the middle of a 75cm / 30" length of yarn. 40 sts remain

Next round: Knit.

Next round: Change to larger needles and reading from Sock 1 Toe Chart (see below), joining contrast colours as indicated and decreasing as set, repeat chart twice across the round and work rows 1-10. 20 sts remain

Set-up for grafting as follows: Removing stitch markers as you pass them, k5, break yarn leaving a 30cm / 12" tail and graft remaining 10 upper and 10 sole sts together.

HEEL

Using smaller needles, pick up 30 (32, 36) sts above and 30 (32, 36) sts below forethought heel marker. Carefully remove scrap yarn. PM to indicate beginning of round. 60 (64, 72) sts

Working with larger needles and reading from Sock 1 Heel Chart for appropriate size (see below), join CC yarns and work chart. 28 sts

Break yarn leaving a 30cm / 12" tail and graft remaining heel sts together.

Chart notes

By chart row 8 the yarns will start to tangle so you can cut all contrast colours down to 152cm / 60" lengths. Alternatively, use pre-cut 75cm / 30" lengths for all contrast colours adding new ones when 7.5cm / 3" of yarn remains.

SOCK 2

CUFF

Using smaller needles, MC and the long-tail method, cast on 60 (64, 72) sts.

Join to work in the round, taking care not to twist sts and PM for beginning of round.

Work Twisted 1x1 Rib as follows until cuff measures 2.5cm / 1" from cast-on edge.

Twisted Rib: [k1tbl, p1tbl] to end.

Do not cut MC. Carry it up the inside and continue as follows:

Change to larger needles and leaving a 7.5cm / 3" tail for each new colour, work 2-Colour Twisted Rib using CC4 and CC5 as follows:

Next round: [K1tbl CC4, p1tbl CC5] to end.

Rep last round twice more.

Leaving a 7.5cm / 3" tail cut CC5 and continue as follows:

Next round: [K1 CC4, k1 MC] to end.

Rep last round again.

Leaving a 7.5cm / 3" tail cut CC4 and continue in MC only.

Change to smaller needles and knit in the round until leg measures 5cm / 2" from cast-on edge.



Chart notes

Chart 1, start in the middle of a 75cm / 30" length of CC2.

Continue to knit in the round until leg measures 10cm / 4" from cast-on edge.

Using duplicate stitch embroidery on the stitches just knitted, place chart 2 opposite chart 1, always leaving a 7.5cm / 3" tail for each new contrast colour.

Note: The remaining charts for this sock are knitted in and not embroidered.

When sock measures 17.5cm / 7" from cast-on edge, place forethought heel marker as follows:

Next round: K16 (16, 18), with scrap yarn k30 (32, 36) sts then slip these 30 (32, 36) sts back on to left-hand needle, and using MC knit across them and to end of round.

Continue to knit in the round while at the same time incorporating darned technique charts Sock 2 Chart 5 and Sock 2 Chart 6 (see below) until foot measures 10 (12, 14.5)cm / 4 (4¾, 5¾)" forethought heel marker.

When foot measures 10 (12, 14.5)cm / 4 (4¾, 5¾)" from forethought heel marker commence toe chart as follows.

TOE

Next round: K45 (48, 54) sts, place marker for new beginning of round.

Follow toe chart for appropriate size.

Break yarn leaving a 30cm / 12" tail and graft remaining upper and sole sts together.

HEEL

Using smaller needles, pick up 30 (32, 36) sts above and 30 (32, 36) sts below forethought heel marker. Carefully remove scrap yarn. PM to indicate beginning of round. 60 (64, 72) sts

Working with larger needles and reading from Sock 2 Heel Chart for appropriate size (see below), join CC yarns and work chart. 28 sts

Break yarn leaving a 30cm / 12" tail and graft remaining heel sts together.

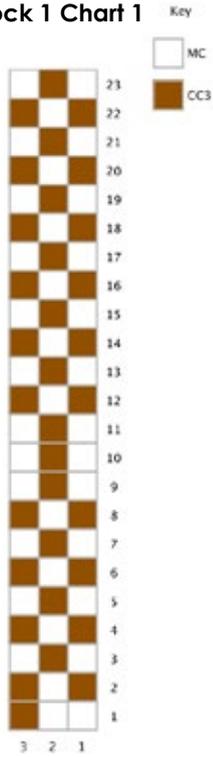
FINISHING

Turn both socks inside out with all tails on the outside, give all threads a little pull and cut them down to 7.5cm / 3". If any tails are shorter than 7.5cm / 3", feel free to weave them in, otherwise, don't bother.

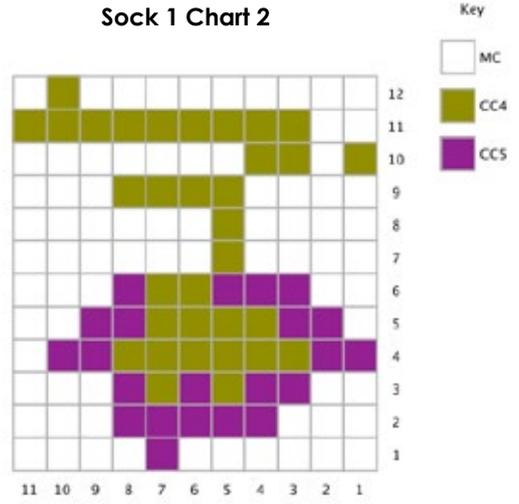
Now wash your socks and you are done!



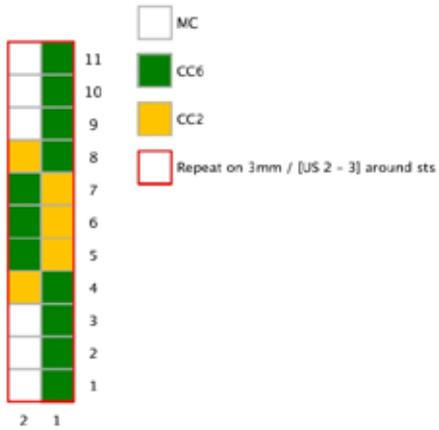
Sock 1 Chart 1



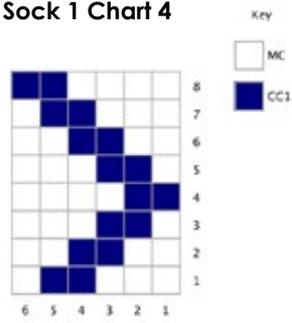
Sock 1 Chart 2



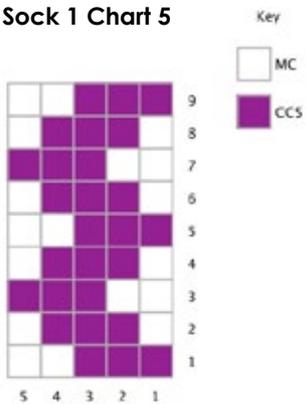
Sock 1 Chart 3



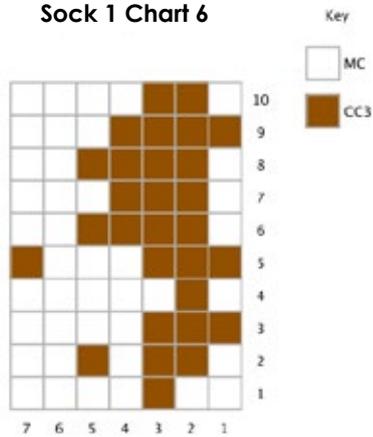
Sock 1 Chart 4



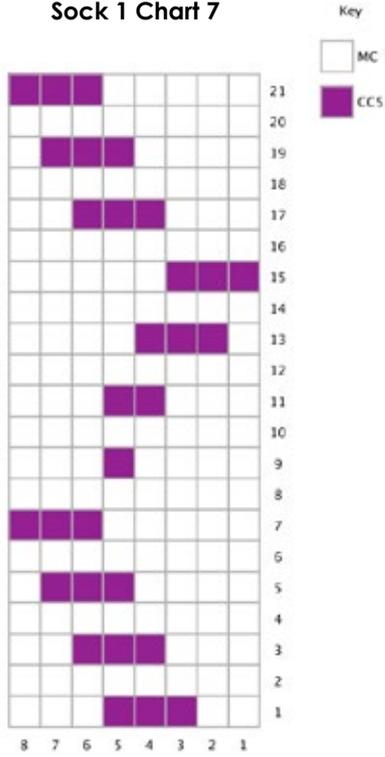
Sock 1 Chart 5



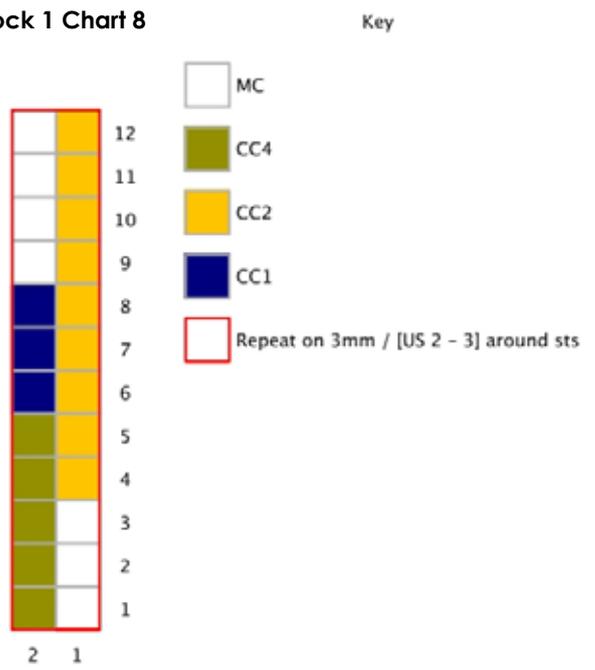
Sock 1 Chart 6



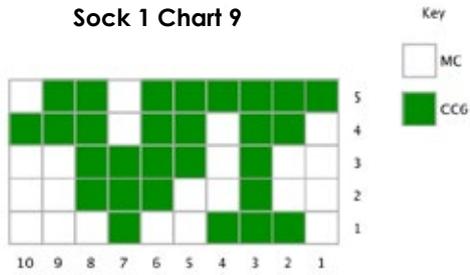
Sock 1 Chart 7



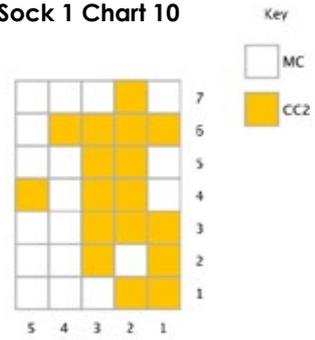
Sock 1 Chart 8



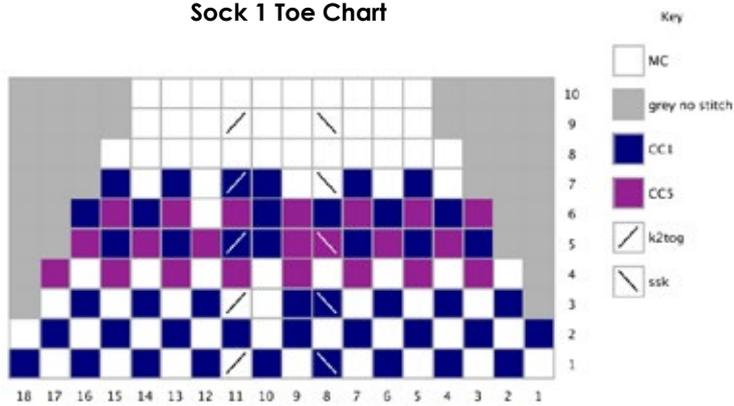
Sock 1 Chart 9



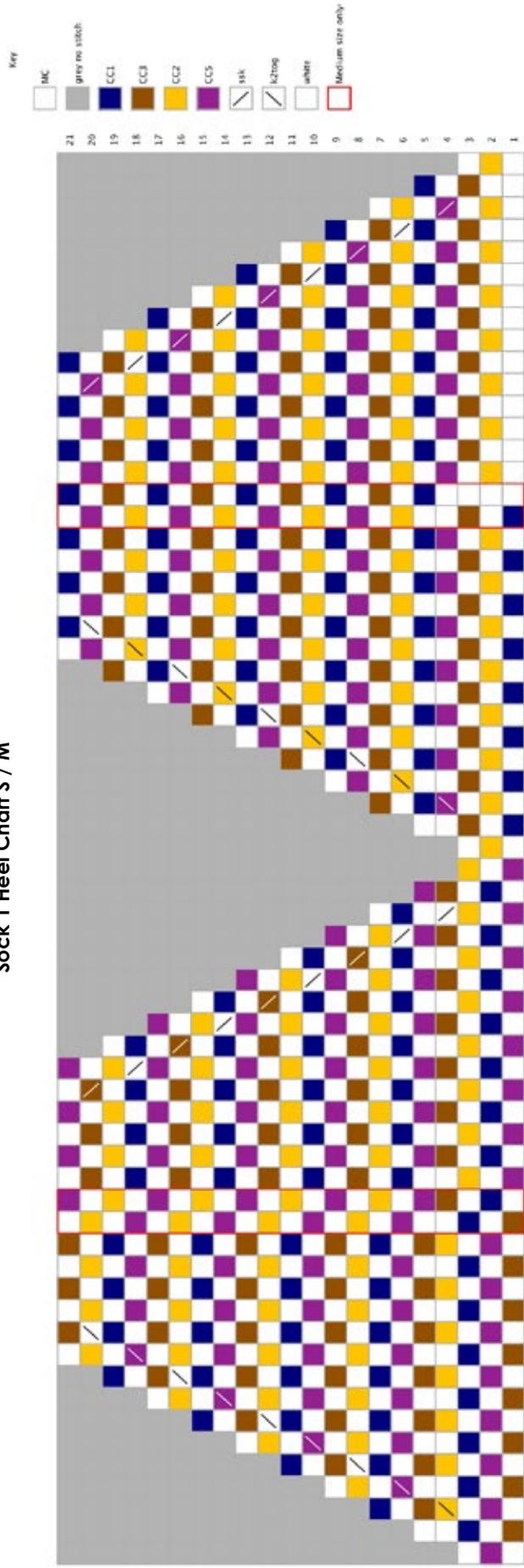
Sock 1 Chart 10



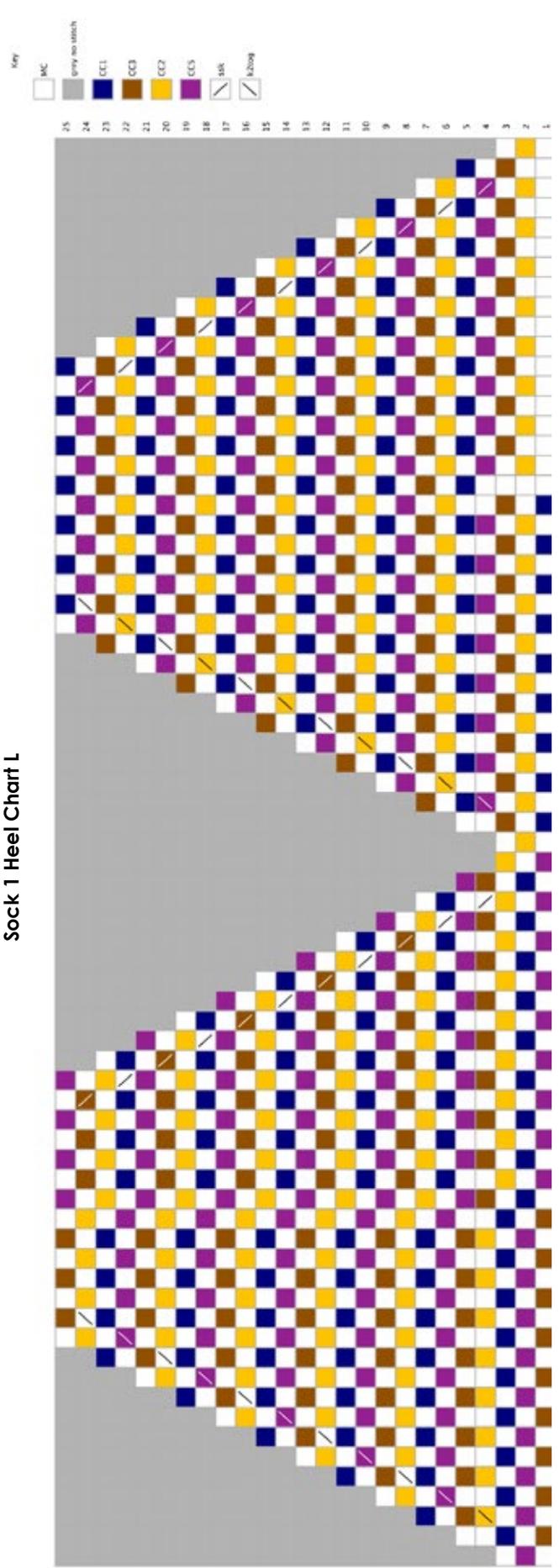
Sock 1 Toe Chart



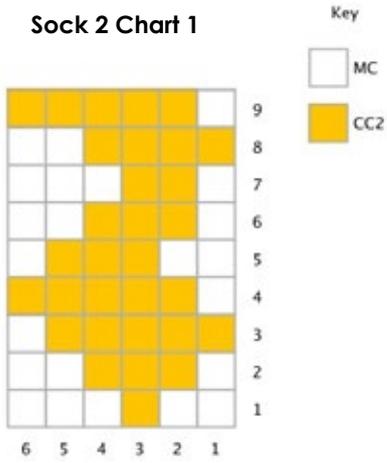
Sock 1 Heel Chart S / M



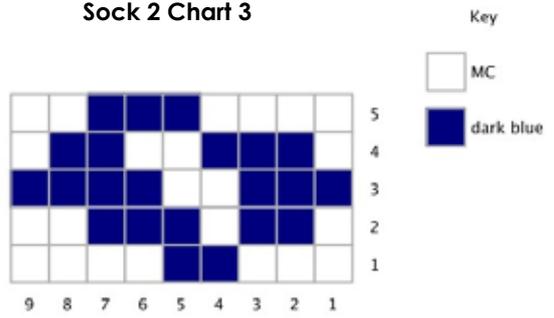
Sock 1 Heel Chart L



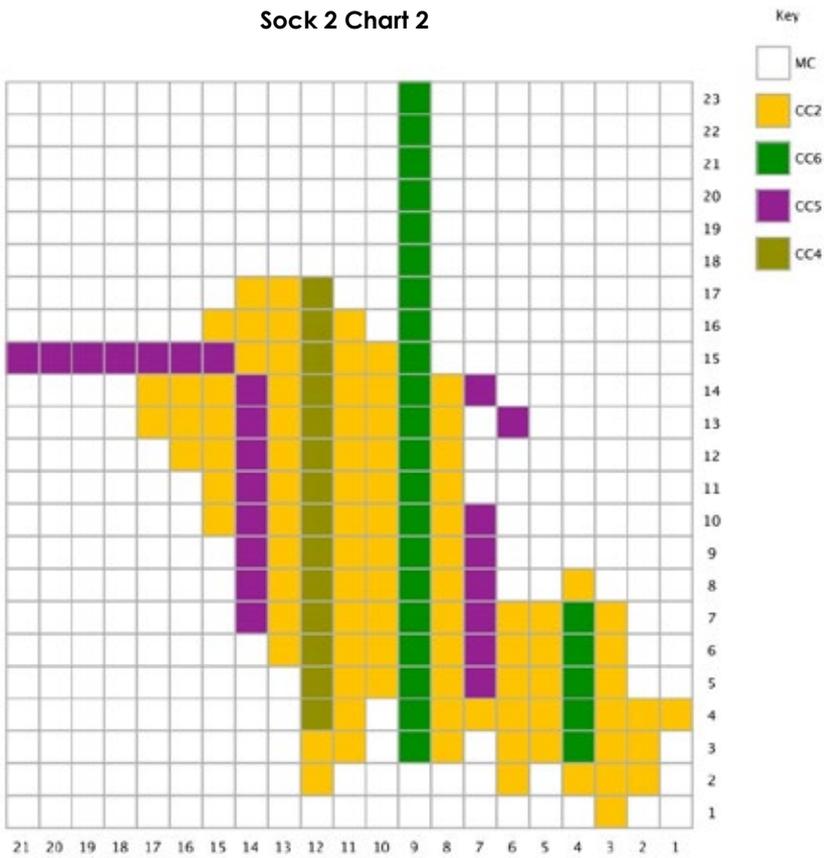
Sock 2 Chart 1



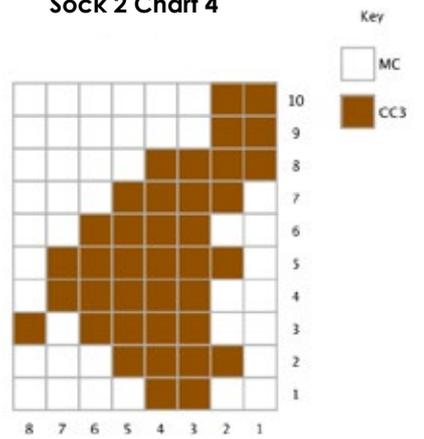
Sock 2 Chart 3



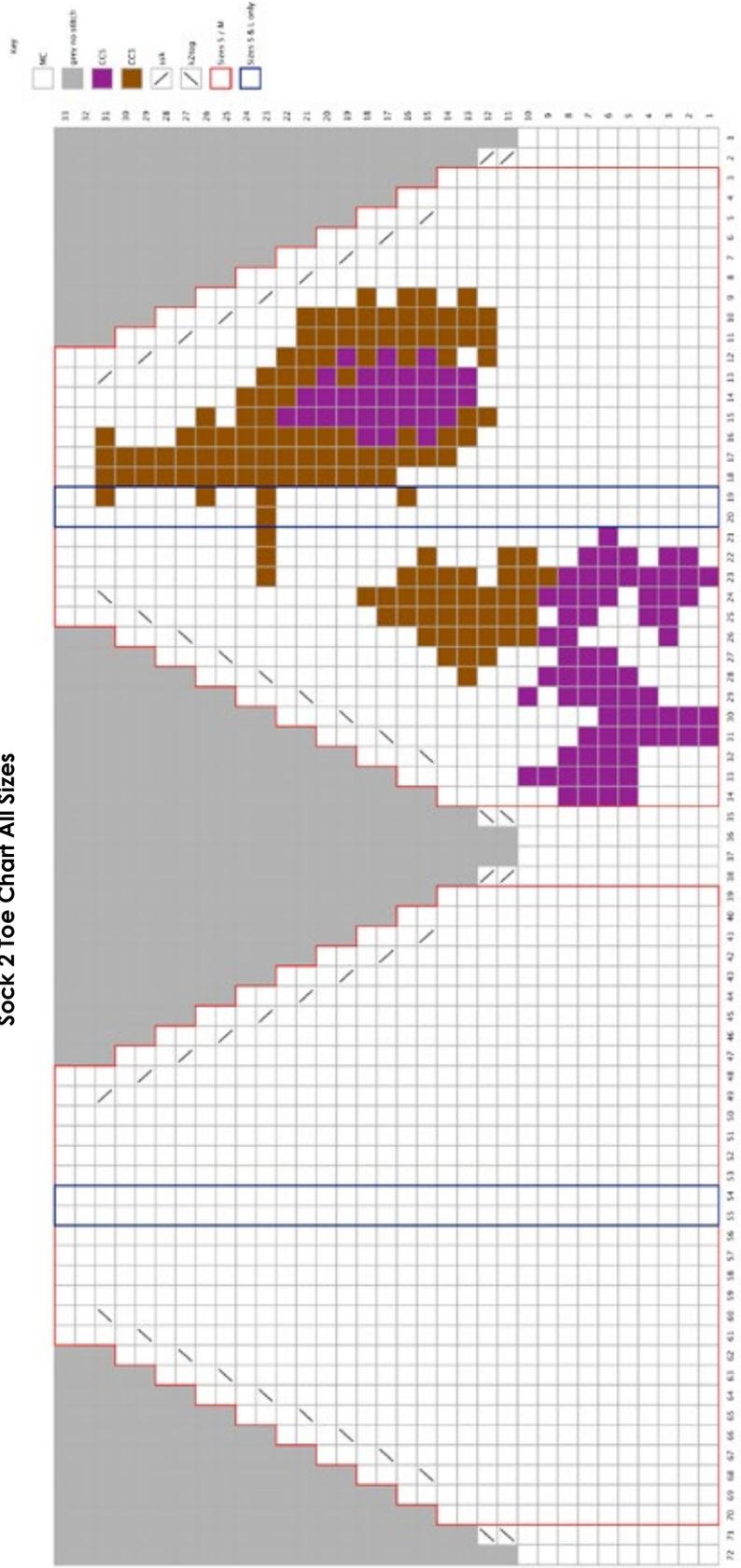
Sock 2 Chart 2



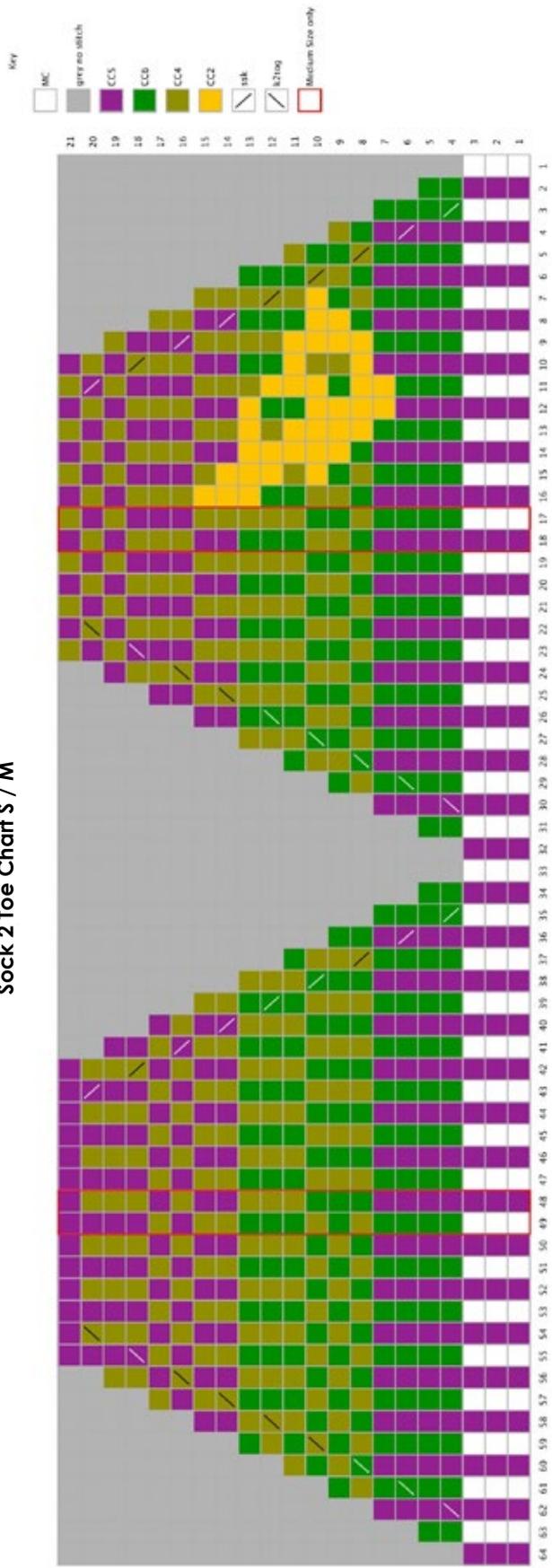
Sock 2 Chart 4



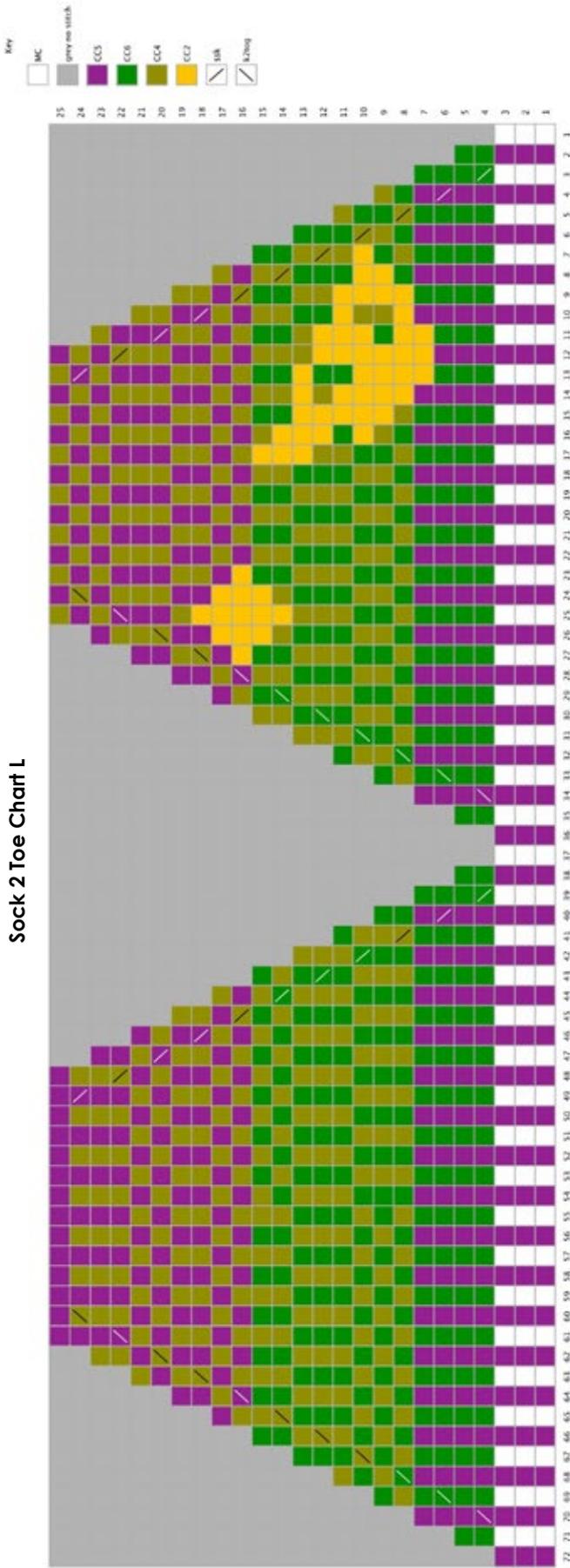
Sock 2 Toe Chart All Sizes



Sock 2 Toe Chart S / M



Sock 2 Toe Chart L





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15 Camden Passage, Islington, London N1 8EA, England

Loopknitting.com loopknitlounge.com Instagram: LoopLondonLoves