

Christmas Scallops Stocking

I love Christmas. I love the family, I love the gifts, I love the food, and I love the decorations. But, I'm not super-traditional when it comes to decking my halls. Red and green are a little passé, and Rudolph (and his red nose) are old hat. I'm a fan of sparkly tinsel and multicolor blinking lights.

This stocking is just what I look for in a Christmas decoration. It's festive, but not boring. Traditional...ish. I've picked a deep winey red and a pale seafoam green to my delightfully chubby stocking. Experiment with the colors to make one perfect for every member of your family!

The Christmas Scallops Stocking is a simple, fast knit that you can work up in a weekend. It is knit from the top down, in the round, at a largish gauge. A few easy rows of Fair Isle creates the decorative colorwork at cuff and toe. The heel is formed by a simple series of short rows in an easily memorized pattern. You'll have plenty of time to finish these stockings before Santa arrives on Christmas Eve.



Size: 12" diameter, 15" from cuff to toe.

Gauge: 19 sts/in, 24 rows/in, stockinet stitch, blocked.

Materials:

- Patons Classic Wool Worsted, less than 1 skein of each:
 - Grey Mix (MC)
 - Plum Heather (CC1)
 - Seafoam (CC2)
- (Optional) Size 8 12" circular needle, or size to obtain gauge
- Set of 5 size 8 double-pointed needles, or size to obtain gauge
- Scissors
- Tapestry needle (for weaving in ends)

Instructions:

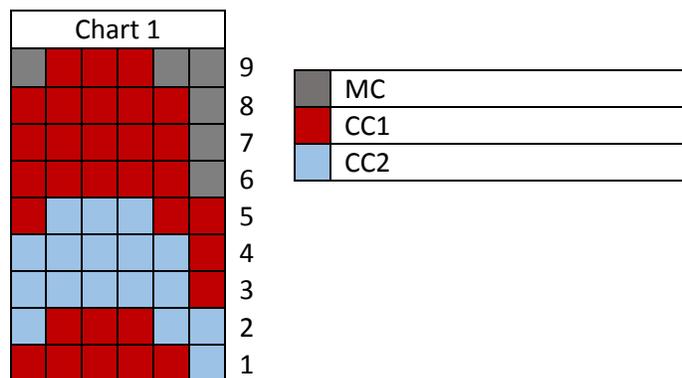
Cast on 60 stitches with CC1 and work in the round. Mark the beginning of your round.

(K2, p2) around for 6 rows.

Knit even for 5 rows.

Join CC2 and work rounds 1-5 of Chart 1.

Break CC2, join MC, and work rounds 6-9.



Break CC1, and continue with MC. Knit even until the stocking measure 8 inches from cast-on edge.

Work short-row heel as follows:

Round 1: K 14, w&t.

Round 2: P 28, w&t.

Round 3: K to 2 stitches before the w&t gap. W&t.

Round 4: P to 2 stitches before the w&t gap. W&t.

Repeat rounds 3 and 4 until 10 stitches remain between the two w&t's. Then:

Round 1: Knit to w&t gap. Turn.

Round 2: Slp 1 purlwise, p to w&t gap. Turn.

Round 3: Slp 1 knitwise, k to w&t gap. Turn.

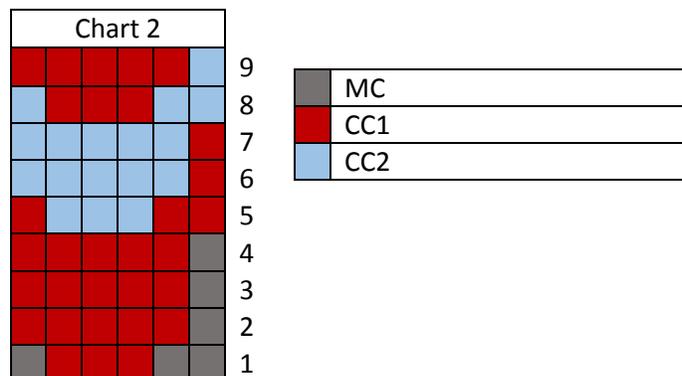
Round 4: Slp 1 purlwise, p to w&t gap. Turn.

Repeat rounds 3 and 4 until all w&t's have been knit.

Resume knitting in the round, and work even until the stocking measures 9.5" along the top of the foot.

Join CC1 and work rounds 1-4 of Chart 2.

Break MC, join CC2, and work rounds 5-9.



Break CC2, and continue with CC1.

Knit 2 rounds even.

(If using circular needle, transfer to four double-pointed needles, arranging the stitches evenly across all four needles-15 stitches on each.)

Work toe as follows:

Round 1: On the first needle, knit to 2 stitches before the end, k2tog. On the second needle, ssk, then knit to end. On the third needle, knit to two stitches before the end, k2tog. On the fourth needle, ssk, then knit to end.

Round 2: Knit 1 round even.

Repeat the rounds 1 and 2 until 20 stitches remain, ending with a decrease row.

Knit 5 stitches. Cut yarn, leaving a two-foot tail. Use the darning needle to close up the toe using the Kitchener stitch.

Optional: Work loop as follows:

Using double-pointed needles, cast on 3 stitches. Knit an I-cord that measures 6 inches long. Bind off.

Finishing: Fold I-cord loop in half, and attach at the back of the cuff. Weave in ends, block lightly, and fill with presents!



Abbreviations			
CC1	Contrast Color 1	P	Purl
CC2	Contrast Color 2	Ssk	Slip, slip, knit
K	Knit	Slp	Slip
K2tog	Knit two together	W&t	Wrap and turn
MC	Main Color		

Questions? Comments? Mistakes? Contact me through my blog: www.ontheneedles.com, or via email: knittingontheneedles@gmail.com

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