

Spring Pools by Linda Fisher



"These pools that, though in forests, still reflect
The total sky almost without defect,
And like the flowers beside them, chill and shiver,
Will like the flowers beside them soon be gone,
And yet not out by any brook or river,
But up by roots to bring dark foliage on.
The trees that have it in their pent-up buds
To darken nature and be summer woods--
Let them think twice before they use their powers
To blot out and drink up and sweep away
These flowery waters and these watery flowers
From snow that melted only yesterday."

By Robert Frost

I love this swirling pattern! Some say they give the serene feeling of pools of spring water. These are so much fun to knit, you won't want to put them down as the 20st repeat develops the pattern. Each row has something to do so you will never get bored.



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Size: Circumference = 8"

Gauge: 26sts = 4" in stockinet stitch.

Materials: US#2 (2.75mm) needles, or size to obtain correct gauge.

1 tapestry needle to weave in ends.

Yarn: Sport or DK weight sock yarn. Enough for a pair of socks of the length you desire.

Pattern Notes :

- Pattern is written using the magic loop method and refers to sole sts, instep sts, front sts and back sts. It is easily converted to knitting on DPN's.
- Toe increases are usually a personal preference. I have written the pattern using the knit-front-back (kfb) technique, but you can use the increase technique you like best.
- I have incorporated a technique for producing smaller lace "holes" that works quite well in this pattern. If you like the larger lacey holes, feel free to use the traditional yarn over (yo) method.
- This pattern (like most cable type patterns) is not very stretchy. So to make the sock larger or to add stretch, put in some p2 x k2 ribbing along the sides (as pictured in the pink socks). The neat thing about this is you can sneak in a few purl stitches along the sides where ever you may need a wider sock. And then decrease when you no longer need them. Look for more information within the pattern instructions.
- This pattern is not recommended to be worked 2 at once. Although it can be done. See note below for more information.

2 at once magic loop note : There is a traveling stitch twice (at each end) throughout each 20 row repeat. If you want to knit 2 at once you have (as I see it) 2 options.

1. Carry the traveling stitches using a stitch holder from front to back (and visa versa). OR
2. Use the instep instructions for front and back of the leg (using 58sts around rather than 56).

Abbreviations:

CO – Cast on

BO – Bind Off

RS – right side

WS – wrong side

sts – stitches

K – Knit

P – Purl

kfb – knit in the front and back of the next stitch

M1 – make one

sl1 – slip one st as if to purl

ssk – slip, slip, knit (slip as if to knit)

K2tog – knit 2 stitches together

K3tog – slip 2 sts together (as if to knit), knit 3rd stitch, pass 2 slipped stitches over knit stitch.

P2tog – purl 2 together

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L – lift the bar in between 2 stitches (back to front with right needle) and place it on the left needle then knit this stitch. Do not twist the stitch, this would be like knitting a yo (yarn over) placed in the previous row.

w&t – wrap and turn. Bring yarn to front of work, slip next stitch to right-hand needle, bring yarn to back of work, slip stitch back to left-hand needle. Turn work to begin working in the other direction.

Directions:

Toe:

CO 24sts (12 sole, 12 instep) using your preferred method. I use Judy's Magic CO (<http://www.knitty.com/ISSUESpring06/FEATmagiccaston.html>). When I start to knit rounds I leave the tail hanging out of one end, this way I always know where the start of the round is. Alternatively you can place a stitch marker.

- Knit one Round
- Round 1:
 - Instep: k1, kfb, knit to last two sts, kfb, k1
 - Sole: k1, kfb, knit to last two sts, kfb, k1
- Round 2: k
- Repeat these 2 rounds until you have a total of 56sts around (28 instep, 28 sole)
- For a wider foot increase one more time for a total of 60sts around. But on the next round move two sts (one stitch at each end) from the sole to the instep (32 instep, 28 sole). These extra 4 sts will always be purled to create a bit more stretch to the sock.
- Knit one more round increasing a single stitch on the instep (center is fine).

Foot:

Start Spring Pools Pattern. Refer the Instep Chart. Work instep in Spring Pools pattern and sole in stockinet stitch until sock measures approximately 3 inches less than desired length of foot.

Gusset:

Work in pattern on instep stitches.

On sole stitches:

- Round 1: k1, M1, k to last st, M1, k1 (2 sts increased)
- Round 2: k
- Repeat these 2 rounds until you have 48 sole sts.
- Work to the sole sts, taking note of what pattern row number you are on.

Turn Heel:

Heel turn will be worked back and forth over sole sts only.

- Round 1 (RS): k31, M1, k1, w&t
- Round 2 (WS): p17, M1, p1 w&t
- Round 3 (RS): k15, M1, k1, w&t
- Round 4 (WS): p13, M1, p1 w&t
- Round 5 (RS): k11, M1, k1, w&t
- Round 6 (WS): p9, M1, p1 w&t
- Round 7 (RS): k7, M1, k1, w&t
- Round 8 (WS): p5, M1, p1 w&t (56 sole sts)

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- Round 9 (RS): work 1 round over all the sts picking up the wrapped sts as you go, and knitting in pattern on instep sts.

Heel Flap:

Knit across the sole sts until 14 sts remain.

Turn work, not wrapping a st

- Round 1 (WS): sl1, p25, p2tog, Turn
- Round 2 (RS): (sl1, k1) 13 times, ssk, turn
- Rep these 2 rounds until you have used up all sts on each end.

Leg:

You now have 29sts (33) on instep and 27 sts on the sole, move sts around so you have 28sts (30) on instep and 28sts (30) on sole.

Begin knitting Spring Pools Pattern from the Leg Pattern Repeat Chart over the entire leg, starting on the row you last left off at.

For the wider sock option: At this point you will want to decide to either continue the purl rows up the center sides, or to remove those sts (decrease) over the next few rows.

Knit 2 or 3 repeats, or until approximately 2 inches less than desired length. If you like a longer sock, you may wish to add ribbing stitches along the sides of the sock to accommodate the leg.

Cuff:

The pattern draws the sts in a bit, so when you are starting the ribbed cuff, you may wish to use less sts. This is my recommendation:

Knit to pattern row 19, do not knit row 20 (you now have 8sts less around – 48sts). Start your ribbed cuff with a purl st and alternate p1 x k1 all around. The purl sts will line up with the purls in the pattern.

Bind off using the alternate stitch (or tubular) bind off. For a useful tutorial on the Tubular BO see: http://www.savannahchik.com/2006/11/tubular_bindoff.htm.

Legend:

	knit
	purl
	No Stitch (yo if you prefer)
/	K2tog
\	ssk
^	K3tog
L	Lift (like a yo) and knit
*	Slip Last st to front
	rows 6 & 14 (st 56)to the front
**	Slip last sts of 1st repeat to back
	Rows 7&15 (st 28)
	Pattern Repeat

