

Santa's Striped Stocking

Create your own Christmas stocking with our colourful pattern.

Size

Approximate finished measurements

Leg: 35.5 cm in length (excluding cuff).

Foot: 28 cm in length.

What you need:

Yarns: Hayfield Bonus DK 100% Acrylic 100g/280 m. Alternatively, use 1 x 50g/140m each shade of any DK yarn.

1 ball/100g Shade 277 Signal Red (Yarn A)

1 ball/100g Shade 961 White (Yarn B)

1 ball/100g Shade 916 Emerald Green (Yarn C)

Needles: 1 set of 5 double-ended needles size 4mm (or circular needles if preferred)

Gauge

22sts x 28 rows = 10 cm (4 inches)

Pattern notes

* Striped pattern repeat:

K 6 rnds Yarn C, K 6 rnds Yarn B, K 6 rnds Yarn A

* Wrap and turn (W&T): K to st that needs wrapping. Bring yarn forward between the needles, slip next st to be wrapped purl-wise from left to right needle. Take yarn back between needles then slip previously slipped stitch purl-wise back to left needle. Turn and continue to purl from this point.

* Pick up wraps: K to first st wrapped, put needle under and up through wrap(s) and up through st as if to knit, then Ktog wrap(s) and st. W&T on next st. P to first st unwrapped, take needle under and up through front wrap(s) then up through front of st and Ptog wrap(s) and st through front loops.

Cuff

Using 4 mm double-ended needles and Yarn A, cast on 60 sts and join into a rnd taking care not to twist sts.

K 8 rnds allowing the cuff to roll back on itself.

Leg

Knit in 3 colour striped sequence as set out in Pattern Notes above for a total of 5 repeats (ie, a total of 90 rows). K 6 rnds Yarn C, K 2 rnds Yarn B. Go to Heel.

Heel

Using Yarn A, work on first 15 sts and last 15 sts of the rnd knitting back and forth in rows to make a short row heel as follows (leave the rem 30 sts on a holder to be picked up later as the front of foot):

Row 1: K14, W&T on 15th st.

Row 2: P28, W&T on next st.

Row 3: K to last unwrapped st, W&T.

Row 4: P to last unwrapped st, W&T.

Rep Rows 3 & 4 above until 10 sts have been wrapped either side of heel, leaving 10 sts in the centre unwrapped.

Now pick up and knit wraps as set out in Pattern Notes as follows:

Row 1: K to first st wrapped. Pick up wrap and Ktog with st, W&T (this st will now be wrapped twice).

Row 2: P to first st wrapped. Pick up wrap and ptog with st, W&T (this st will now be wrapped twice).

Row 3: K to first st wrapped twice. Pick up both wraps and Ktog with st, W&T.

Row 4: K to first st wrapped twice, pick up both wraps and Ptog with st, W&T.

Rep rows 3 & 4 above until all wraps have been picked up and knitted.

Foot

On last purl row, turn and K15 sts then pick up/rejoin Yarn B (this is the new beg of rnd) and K15 sts to end of heel. Still using Yarn B, cont past heel and knit across 30 sts put aside for front of foot as follows:

K 2 rnds Yarn B. [K 6 rnds Yarn A, K 6 rnds Yarn C, K 6 rnds Yarn B] twice then go to Toe.

Toe

Using Yarn A throughout, knit toe as follows:

K 2 rnds straight. Divide sts in half between top and bottom; first 15 sts and last 15sts of the rnd are the bottom of the foot. Remaining 30 sts (centre of rnd) are the top of the foot.

K around to end of bottom of foot, and beg of top of foot and dec for toe as follows:

Top of foot: SSK, K to last 2 sts of top of foot, K2tog (2 sts decreased).

Bottom of foot: SSK, K to last 2 sts of bottom of foot, K2tog (2 sts decreased).

Repeat above rnd until 10 sts are left for top of foot and 10 sts for bottom (ie, a total of 20 sts remain).

Graft top and bottom sts together using Kitchener Stitch as follows.

Set up

Put 10 sts from top of foot onto one double-ended needle.

Put 10 sts from bottom of foot onto another double-ended needle.

Hold stitches/needles parallel to each other with needles side to side and the wrong sides of the knitting together (right side facing outward) and the tail of yarn hanging from the 1st stitch of the back needle.

You will need to carry out these first two set-up steps on the 1st stitch on each needle only.

Set up 1: Thread yarn tail through wool/darning needle and pull needle/yarn through 1st stitch on needle at front purl-wise and leave stitch on needle.

Set up 2: Now take needle and yarn through 1st stitch on back needle knit-wise and leave stitch on needle.

You are now ready to start working Kitchener Stitch and grafting all other stitches.

Front needle:

Step 1: Thread yarn/needle through 1st st knit-wise. Pull stitch off needle.

Step 2: Thread yarn/needle through next st purl-wise. Leave st on the needle.

Back needle:

Step 3: Thread yarn/needle through 1st st purl-wise. Pull stitch off needle.

Step 4: Thread yarn/needle through next st knit-wise. Leave st on needle.

Rep steps 1-4 until all sts are off both needles and the toe is grafted.

Re-adjust stitches/tension by pulling yarn slowly to tighten to the same tension as the other knitted stitches. On the last stitch of the toe, take yarn to wrong side of work and secure and weave in. Weave in all ends. Press as per instructions on the yarn ball band.