



Wanderoo

This sibling sock to Wanderly follows a similar route but sometimes breaks its own trail, with a new cable pattern, differing heel construction, and a longer color block on the cuff. Like its sibling, Wanderoo takes us on a little adventure. This time our cables meander back and forth as though they can't quite make up their mind where they want to be: a little to the left, back to the right, sometimes a little longer, sometimes a little less. And I think that's just fine. Sometimes I don't really know where I want to go either, and I reserve the right to change my mind along the way.

Wanderoo is worked toe-up, with contrast color toes, heels, and cuff. The heel construction uses short rows this time, because we can all use a little variety, even when we're walking a familiar path. I've also included instructions for a clever little mini gusset that delivers the perfect amount of extra room across the ankle for those who need it. The socks are worked in the same yarn and gauge as Wanderly – Morehouse Farm's 100% merino Gator yarn – which means that more experienced sock knitters will see that the design and construction elements of each of these two patterns can be swapped out, to customize something that really moves you.

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Difficulty Level: Adv Beginner/ Early Intermediate

Skills/Techniques: Judy's magic cast-on, knitting in the round, increasing, decreasing, cabling, short row heel, shadow wrap short rows, sewn bind-off

Construction: These socks are knit from the toe up with a short-row heel on two short circular needles. The pattern includes guidance for adapting to use magic loop or dpns.

Yarn: Morehouse Farm Gator sport weight 100% merino yarn (220 yards per skein), or another tightly-spun sport weight yarn in 100% wool or a wool-nylon blend. 1 (2, 2, 2) skeins MC, 1 skein CC or approximately 220 (250, 330, 410) yards MC and 30 (40, 50, 60) yards CC.

Needles: US #3 US (3.25 mm) needles, or size to obtain gauge; either two circular needles 16" to 24" in length, a set of double-pointed needles, or one long circular needle.

Notions: Stitch markers, cable needle, scissors, tapestry needle.

Gauge: 24 stitches and 32 rows to 4"/10 cm in stockinette stitch. 26 stitches and 32 rows to 4"/10 cm in cable stitch.

Sizes/Finished Measurements:

Adult S, M, L, XL

Choose your size based on the suggested foot circumference rather than the sock circumference. Measurements should be taken around the widest part of your foot, typically the ball of the foot.

S: 6" finished sock circumference to fit 7-7 3/4" foot circumference; 8 3/4" length; 9" height

M: 7" finished sock circumference to fit 8-8 3/4" foot circumference; 9 1/2" length; 10" height

L: 8" finished sock circumference to fit 9-9 3/4" foot circumference; 10 3/4" length; 11" height

XL: 9" finished sock circumference to fit 10-11" foot circumference; 11 1/2" length; 12" height

Abbreviations:

K: Knit

P: Purl

LN: Left needle

RN: Right needle

Ndl: Needle

Sts: Stitches

Tbl: Through the back loop

Kfb: Increase by knitting into the stitch first through the front loop, then without removing it from the needle, knit through the back loop.

1/1 LC: One over one left cross - Slip one stitch onto a cable needle and hold to front, k1, k1 from cable needle. (See page 3 for alternate method.)

1/1 RC: One over one right cross - Slip one stitch onto a cable needle and hold to back, k1, k1 from cable needle. (See page 3 for alternate method.)

M1R: Make one right - Insert left needle from back to front under the bar between the stitches, lifting it onto the left needle. Knit it through the front loop.

M1L: Make one left - Insert left needle from front to back under the bar between the stitches, lifting it onto the left needle. Knit it through the back loop.

K2tog: Knit two together

SSK: Slip, slip, knit - Improved method: Slip first stich, return to LN, k both sts together tbl.

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Techniques:

I have created video tutorials for many of the techniques used in these socks. Links are provided throughout the pattern, or visit my YouTube Channel at <https://bit.ly/3qNsQoh>

Judy's Magic Cast-On, Improved:

This version eliminates the twisted stitches in the second half of the first row that result from the original version of this cast-on.

1. Hold two needles together and parallel in your right hand. In your other hand, hold the yarn with tail over your index finger and working yarn over your thumb.
 2. Twist a loop around farther needle.
 3. Pivot the needles away from you, pointing toward your index finger.
 4. Bring the tip of the near needle over the yarn on your index finger, around and under the yarn and back up, making a snug loop.
 5. Pivot the needles toward your thumb.
 6. Bring the tip of the "away" needle under the yarn on your thumb with the yarn passing between the needles, then around and over the yarn and back up.
- Repeat steps 4 -6 to cast on the necessary number of stitches, always wrapping the near needle around the away yarn, then the away needle around the near yarn. Be sure to end with the same number of stitches on each needle.
7. Drop the yarn. Turn the needles clockwise. If you are using two circular needles or magic loop, pull other needle out of the way.
 8. Pick up the working yarn and cross it under the tail to begin knitting across the row of stitches.

9. At the end of the row, turn your work and knit across the stitches. You have completed your first round of knitting.

You can see me demonstrate this technique in [this video](#).

RC & LC Without a Cable Needle:

There are a number of ways to perform a 1/1 cross without a cable needle. These are the methods I find easiest to work. I've demonstrated the techniques for you in [this video](#).

1/1 LC: Moving RN behind the first stitch on LN, insert RN into the second stitch on LN and work through the back loop (tbl). Draw the yarn through but before removing that stitch from the needle, knit the first stitch through the front leg, as normal. As you finish knitting the first stitch you will draw both new stitches onto the RN.

1/1 RC:

Slip the first two stitches together by inserting RN as if to k2tog. Return the two stitches to LN in the new orientation. Ktbl twice.

Sewn Bind Off:

Cut yarn tail at least 4x the length of your edge. Thread a tapestry needle.

1. Insert the needle into the first two stitches purlwise and pull through.
2. Insert the needle into the first stitch knitwise, and pull through.
3. Pull the first stitch off the needle.
4. Repeat steps 1 – 3 until you have cast off all your stitches. The final stitch will only be worked once. You can see this demonstrated in [this video](#).

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Cinching the Gusset Hole:

When you are weaving in the ends of your yarn, cinch any gusset holes closed with your yarn ends before weaving them in. Take your needle under the purl bump of each of the stitches closest to the hole, going all the way around in a circle. Then draw the yarn up tight, closing the hole. You can see this demonstrated in [this video](#).

Pattern Notes:

Four sizes are given but notes are also included for customizing any size foot. It is more important to choose the correct size for your foot circumference, as it is easy to change the length of the foot or height of the leg to suit you.

The pattern is written for two circular needles, with the start of the round at the side of the foot. Those of you who prefer to knit using the magic loop method will be able to do so by reinterpreting my references to needle 1 and needle 2 as the two sides of your long circular needle. If you use double-pointed needles, needle 1 becomes needles 1 and 2 and needle 2 becomes needle 3 (for sets of four needles) or 3 and 4 (for sets of five needles).

I use the kfb method of increasing in the sock toes because it leaves a bump at the increased stitch that allows me to see if I have made an increase on the previous row and therefore, whether I need to increase on this row. I like the look of a sock toe with those little bumps, but if you do not, feel free to substitute your own preferred increase.

The increases in the sock toe are worked one stitch in from the right edge, but two stitches in from the left edge because the kfb puts the bump to the left of the stitch in which the increase was worked, and this placement gives a uniform appearance. If you use a different increase, place your left increase just one stitch in from the left edge.

The toe increases begin on the first round, to give a smooth angle to the toe and avoid “ears.”

In the pattern I describe in detail how to work a short-row heel using shadow wrap short rows. If you prefer to work a different short-row method, feel free to substitute that, bearing in mind any placement and construction differences. For example, German short rows require a plain row to be knit in between narrowing the heel and widening it out again.

To block your socks, wash them by soaking for a few minutes in room-temperature water with a few drops of gentle wool wash such as Soak or Eucalan. Roll them in a towel and press to remove most of the water, then lay them out on a flat surface to dry. Smooth to the desired shape but do not stretch or use blocking wires or sock blockers (doing so would stretch your socks out of shape and cause them not to fit).

The cables on the left and right socks behave differently, because I find that charming. There is a note at the end of the pattern that gives the instruction to reverse the shaping for the other sock. You are of course welcome to disregard that suggestion and make two identical socks, if it pleases you.

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Left Sock:

Toe

Using CC, CO 6 (7, 10, 11) stitches on each of two needles using Judy's Magic Cast On, Improved (explained in the technique section on page 3) – 12 (14, 20, 22) stitches total. Place a marker between the first two stitches to mark the beginning of round.

(Note: If you are using the traditional version of Judy's Magic Cast On, you'll need to knit the stitches on the second needle through the back loop on the first round.)

Round 1: Needle 1: k1, kfb, k to last 3 sts, kfb, k2
(2 sts increased)
Needle 2: k1, kfb, k to last 3 sts, kfb, k2
(2 sts increased)

Round 2: k

Repeat Rounds 1 and 2 until you have 18 (21, 24, 27) stitches on each needle; 36 (42, 48, 54) stitches total, *or* until the sock is as wide as the recipient's foot to the top of the little toe; the total number of stitches should be a multiple of 6.

Note: If you need an in-between size and can't get to a multiple of 6, you will have extra stitches in your round that will not fit the cable pattern. I suggest hiding these extra stitches by distributing them evenly into the purl sections of the cable pattern, and marking them with a stitch marker so you know where you placed them.

Foot

Break yarn, leaving a 6" tail. Change to MC. Work in stockinette stitch (k all stitches) for ½" (½", ¾", 1").

Begin working in pattern as follows, working cable pattern on top of foot and working stockinette across all but the first stitch of bottom of foot.

Left Sock Cable Pattern

Note: Rounds 1-2 and 4-8 are the same

Round 1: Needle 1: *p1, k2,* repeat to end of ndl

Needle 2: p1, k to end of round

Round 2: Needle 1: *p1, k2,* repeat to end of ndl

Needle 2: p1, k to end of round

Round 3: Needle 1: *p1, 1/1 LC,* rep to end of ndl

Needle 2: p1, k to end of round

Round 4: Needle 1: *p1, k2,* repeat to end of ndl

Needle 2: p1, k to end of round

Round 5: Needle 1: *p1, k2,* repeat to end of ndl

Needle 2: p1, k to end of round

Round 6: Needle 1: *p1, k2,* repeat to end of ndl

Needle 2: p1, k to end of round

Round 7: Needle 1: *p1, k2,* repeat to end of ndl

Needle 2: p1, k to end of round

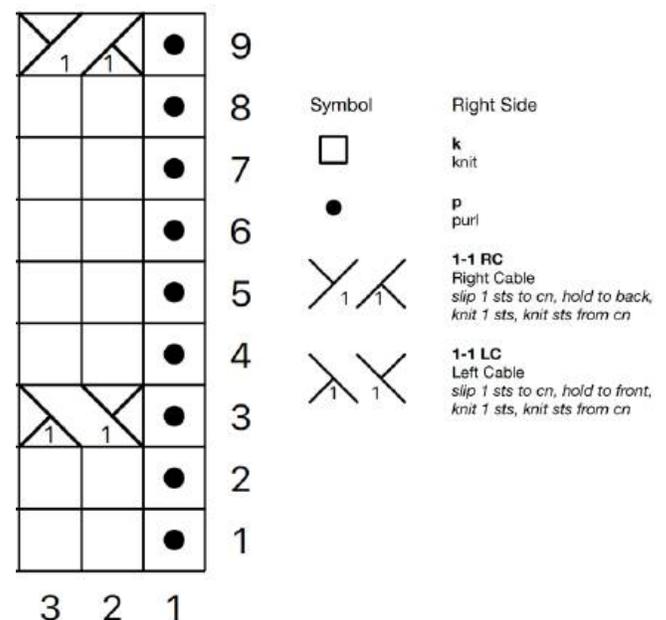
Round 8: Needle 1: *p1, k2,* repeat to end of ndl

Needle 2: p1, k to end of round

Round 9: Needle 1: * p1, 1/1 RC,* rep to end of ndl

Needle 2: p1, k to end of round

Left Sock Cable Chart



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Work in pattern until foot of sock measures 6 ¼" (6 ½", 7 ¼", 7 ½").

Note: For a more custom fit, this should be until the sock is ¾" (1", 1 ¼", 1 ½") shorter than the recipient's foot measurement between the tip of the longest toe and the pointiest part of the ankle bone.

Mini Gusset

Over the next 6 (8, 10, 12) rounds, you will be adding stitches on each side of the foot, every other round, to create a mini gusset.

Round 1 Needle 1: Continue in cable pattern.

Needle 2: p1, k1, m1r, k until one stitch remains, m1l

Round 2 Needle 1: Continue in cable pattern.

Needle 2: p1, k to end of round

Repeat these two rounds 1 (2, 3, 4) more times.

You will have 24 (29, 34, 39) stitches on the heel needle; 42 (50, 58, 66) stitches total.

Repeat Round 1.

Repeat Round 2 Needle 1.

Shadow Wrap Short Row Heel

You will now begin turning the heel on Needle 2 (or if you are using dpns, Needle 3 or 3 and 4) working back and forth in rows, across just the stitches between your gussets.

Row 1: p1, k 3 (4, 5, 6), place marker, drop the MC but do not break the yarn. With CC, k to 3 (4, 5, 6) before the end, place marker, turn.

Row 2: p to marker, turn.

Row 3: k to one stitch before marker. With RN, pick up right leg of stitch below the next stitch on LN and place it on LN. Knit into it, creating a doubled stitch. Return stitch to LN. Turn.



Row 4: Purl to 1 st before marker. Turn.

Row 5: With LN, pick up the left leg of the stitch below next stitch on RN and place it on LN.

Knit into the back of the stitch (tbl), creating a doubled stitch. Knit across remaining stitches of row until 1 stitch remains before the doubled stitch. With RN, pick up the right leg of the stitch below the remaining stitch on LN and place it on LN. Knit into it, creating a doubled stitch. Return st to LN. Turn.



Row 6: Purl until 1 stitch remains before the doubled stitch. Turn.

Work Rows 5 and 6 3 (4, 5, 6) more times.

Next section:

Row 1: with LN, pick up the left leg of the stitch below the remaining stitch on the RN and place it on LN. Ktbl, creating a doubled stitch.

You should now have 5 (6, 7, 8) stitches unworked in the center, with 6 (7, 8, 9) doubled stitches on each side.

Continuing the same row: Knit across to the first doubled stitch. Knit both strands of the doubled stitch together. With RN, lift the right leg of the stitch below the next doubled stitch onto the LN needle and knit into that, creating a tripled stitch. Return stitch to LN. Turn.

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Row 2: Purl across to first doubled stitch. Purl doubled stitch together. Turn.

Row 3: With LN, pick up the left leg of the stitch below the doubled stitch on the RN and place it on LN. Ktbl, creating a tripled stitch. Knit across remaining stitches of row to tripled stitch. Knit all strands of tripled stitch together. With RN, lift the right leg of the stitch below the next doubled stitch onto the LN needle and knit into that, creating a tripled stitch. Return stitch to LN. Turn.

Row 4: Purl across to tripled stitch. Purl all strands of tripled stitch together. Turn work.

Work Rows 3 and 4 until only one doubled stitch remains on each side of the heel.

Row 5: With LN, pick up the left leg of the stitch below the doubled stitch on the RN and place it on LN. Knit TBL, creating a tripled stitch. Knit across remaining stitches of row to tripled stitch. Knit all strands of tripled stitch together. Remove marker. Break CC yarn, leaving a 6" tail. Do not turn work. Slip the last row of stitches that you worked onto LN one at a time (slipping as if to purl) until you come to the marker. (The last stitches you slip will be the final tripled stitch.) Remove marker. Do not turn.

Row 6: Pick up MC, knit tripled stitch together, k to end. *(Note: A small hole may show on each side of this row just where your markers were placed. To avoid that, pick up an extra stitch in the bar between the two different color stitches, twist it, and knit it together with its neighbor. You can also cinch them closed when you weave in your ends, as described on page 4.)*

Leg

Here you will resume knitting in the round, resuming the cable pattern on Needle 1 (or 1 and 2

for dpns). You will work the stitches above the heel on Needle 2 (3 or 3 and 4 for dpns) in stockinette until you have decreased away the 3 (4, 5, 6) gusset stitches on each side, as follows:

Round 1 Needle 1: Continue in cable pattern.

Needle 2: p1, ssk, k until two stitches remain, k2tog

Round 2 Needle 1: Continue in cable pattern.

Needle 2: p1, k to end of round

Repeat these two rounds 2 (3, 4, 5) more times.

You will once again have 18 (21, 24, 27) stitches on each needle; 36 (42, 48, 54) stitches total.

Next section:

Extend the cable pattern onto all needles all the way around the leg.

Continue to work in pattern until leg measures 8" (8 ¾", 9 ½", 10 ½") from the bottom of heel, or 1 (1 ¼", 1 ½", 1 ½") less than desired height.

Ribbing

Break yarn, leaving a 6" tail. Change to CC.

Round 1: k

Round 2 and all remaining rounds: *p1, k2* to end of round.

Repeat until CC ribbing measures 1" (1 ¼", 1 ½", 1 ½")

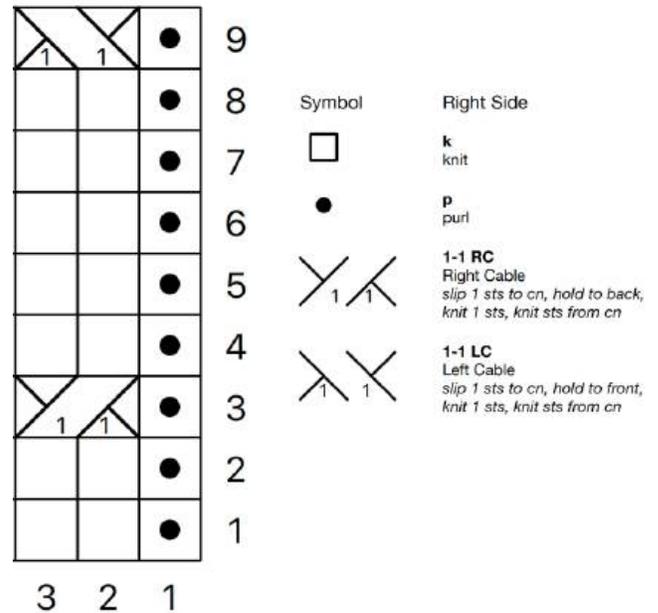
Measure a tail long enough to go around the top of the sock 4 times, then cut and thread onto tapestry needle. Bind off loosely using the Sewn Bind Off or another stretchy bind-off of your choice. (If you choose to use a different stretchy bind off, skip cutting the yarn until after you have bound off.)

Right sock: Repeat instructions for left sock, replacing the Left Sock Cable Pattern with Right Sock Cable Pattern:

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Right Sock Cable Chart



Right Sock Cable Pattern

Note: Rounds 1-2 and 4-8 are the same

Round 1: Needle 1: *p1, k2,* repeat to end of ndl

Needle 2: p1, k to end of round

Round 2: Needle 1: *p1, k2,* repeat to end of ndl

Needle 2: p1, k to end of round

Round 3: Needle 1: *p1, 1/1 RC,* rep to end of ndl

Needle 2: p1, k to end of round

Round 4: Needle 1: *p1, k2,* repeat to end of ndl

Needle 2: p1, k to end of round

Round 5: Needle 1: *p1, k2,* repeat to end of ndl

Needle 2: p1, k to end of round

Round 6: Needle 1: *p1, k2,* repeat to end of ndl

Needle 2: p1, k to end of round

Round 7: Needle 1: *p1, k2,* repeat to end of ndl

Needle 2: p1, k to end of round

Round 8: Needle 1: *p1, k2,* repeat to end of ndl

Needle 2: p1, k to end of round

Round 9: Needle 1: * p1, 1/1 LC,* rep to end of ndl

Needle 2: p1, k to end of round

Finishing:

Weave in ends. If you have holes at the sides of the heels, use your ends to cinch them closed. Wash and lay flat to dry.



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February 2021, v1