**Haystack**

For the uncooperative colorway.

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**Materials**

About 440 yards of sock yarn (example shown in Sunshine Yarns, "Harvest")

1 set of 4 double-pointed needles US size 0 (or size to obtain gauge)

**Size**

Women’s Medium

**Gauge**

8.5 stitches to 1 inch for an 8.5 inch leg (relaxed)

9 stitches to an inch for an 8 inch leg (relaxed)

**Leg**

Cast on 72 sts, divide evenly onto three needles (24-24-24). Join without twisting.

**Cuff**

Work in *k2, p2* ribbing for 1.5".

**Haystack Pattern**

**Round 1**: *k2, (p1, wrapping yarn around needle three times) twice, k2 rep from * to end of round

**Round 2**: *k2, (s1 dropping 2 of the wrapped loops off of the needle) twice, k2 rep form * to end

**Rounds 3, 4, 5, 6**: *k2, s2, k2 rep form * to end of round
Rounds 7, 8: Knit all stitches
Round 9: *(p1, wrapping yarn around needle three times), k4, (p1, wrapping yarn around needle three times) rep from * to end of round
Round 10: *s1 dropping 2 of the wrapped loops off of the needle, k4, s1 dropping 2 of the wrapped loops off of the needle, repeat from * to end of round
Round 11, 12, 13, 14: *s1, k4, s1 repeat from * to end of round
Rounds 15, 16: knit all stitches

Heel
Rearrange your stitches so that there are 36 stitches on Needle One and 18 stitches each on Needles two and Three.

Heel Flap
Working back and forth on the 36 stitches of needle one:
Row 1 (RS): *s1, k1 repeat from * across row
Row 2: s1, p across row
Repeat these two rows until the heel flap reaches 2.5 inches (about 20 repetitions). End with a wrong side row.

Heel Turn
Continuing to work back and forth on the 36 stitches of Needle One:
Row 1: *s1, k1 repeat from * across 24 sts, ssk, TURN
Row 2: s1, p12, p2tog, TURN
Row 3: *s1, k1 repeat from * across 12 sts, s1, ssk, TURN
Repeat rows 2 and 3 until all heel flap stitches have been worked (14 sts remain).

Gusset
Divide the 14 stitches of the heel onto two needles. Combine the 36 stitches from Needles Two and Three onto one needle (instep). K7. The
round now begins and ends in the center of the heel (Needle One holds 7sts, Needle Two has 36sts and Needle Three has 7sts).

**Pick up Gusset Stitches**

K across the 7 sts on Needle One. Pick up and knit 21 sts along the heel flap. Work across the instep sts on needle two. Pick up and knit 21 sts along the heel flap and knit the 7 sts on Needle Three. (28-36-28 sts on the needles)

*Note:* If you want to continue the pattern on the instep, work Round 9 as: k5, *(p1 wrapping needle three times) twice, k4 rep from star to last 5 sts, k5

Then slip the purl sts as usual for rounds 10-14.

**Shape the Gusset**

*Round 1*

Needle 1: k all sts
Needle 2: Work across needle
Needle 3: k all sts

*Round 2*

Needle 1: k to the last 3 sts, k2tog, k1
Needle 2: Work across needle
Needle 3: k1, ssk, k to the end of needle

Repeat these two rows until a total of 72 sts remains on the needles (18-36-18). This should be 12 repetitions.

**Foot**

Continue working as established until the foot, measured from the back of the heel, is 1.5 inches shorter than the total desired foot length. If you have continued the leg pattern down the top of the foot, keep an eye on your progress so that you can end on round 6 or round 14.

*Note:* It is possible to taper the pattern down the toe by dropping one set of hay-stacks from each end on each successive repeat (by repeat, I mean
rounds 1-8 and rounds 1-16; by haystacks, I mean the big, loopy stitches). For instance, if you have ended the foot on round 14 (with 5 haystacks across the top of the foot), work rounds 1-6 with only the 4 middle haystacks. At the same time, work the toe decreases as indicated. If you want to plan ahead and create a more noticeable taper, begin dropping haystacks on the repeat before the end of the foot. There is enough length in the toe for one more repeat. This is not as hard to do as it is to explain!

**Toe**

*Round 1*

Needle 1: k to the last three sts, k2tog, k1
Needle 2: k1, ssk, k to the last three sts, k2tog, k1
Needle 3: k1, ssk, k to end of needle

*Round 2*

Work all stitches evenly (no decreases)
Repeat these two rounds six times (48 stitches remain).
Repeat Round 1 six more times. (24 stitches remain)

**Abbreviations**

K - knit
P - Purl
S - slip
K2tog - knit 2 stitches together
P2tog - Purl 2 stitches together
SSK - (slip, slip, knit) Slip two stitches as if to knit, stick the point of the left needle through the two slipped stitches in front of the right needle) and knit them together.

WS - Wrong Side (or the work)
RS - Right Side (of the work)