

Flutter-by socks

This pattern is written in a fair amount of detail so a novice knitter can knit it. A chart-only version is also available for the more experienced knitter.

The stitch pattern is taken from the Vogue® Knitting Stitchionary: volume one – knit & purl (page 154, pattern 230) and has been adapted to knitting in the round. These socks are knit from the top down, but are easily adapted for knitting from the toe-up. This pattern works well for highly variegated yarns.



Size / measurements:

As written will fit UK Women's 6 (US Women's 8)
Circumference – 21cm (8.25") at leg
Length / Height (from floor to cuff) – 21cm (8.25")
Foot – knit to fit foot

Materials:

335m sock weight yarn (I used two skeins of Pieces of Beauty merino superwash in Desert Bloom)

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Set of 5 – 2.5mm (US 1) DPNs or size needed to obtain gauge
1 stitch marker (optional)
1 stitch holder (optional)

Gauge / tension:

In pattern: 37sts x 37 rows = 10cm (4")
In stockinette (sole of foot): 34sts x 46 rows

Glossary:

CO = cast on

K = knit

P = purl

K2tog = knit two stitches together

P2tog = purl two stitches together

Yf = yarn forward, bring the yarn to the front of your work under the needle as though you were going to purl

Ktbl = knit through the back loop

Sl = slip stitch as if to *purl*

SSK = slip one stitch as if to *knit*, slip another stitch as if to *knit*, then knit these two stitches together (ktbl)

Yb = yarn back, bring the yarn to the back of your work under the needle as though you were going to knit

Notes:

The actual flutter-by is knit across 5 stitches and 10 rows. In my sock I placed the butterflies (from left wing to left wing) 10 stitches apart so that on each repeat of the pattern I could offset the butterflies evenly. Therefore, if you want your sock to look like mine, you'll need to adjust the pattern in multiples of 10 (decrease 10 for smaller socks, increase 10 for bigger socks). The pattern doesn't actually have a lot of give since it's basically stockinette so don't think that because it has a relatively high number of stitches it will come out baggy!

To make the wings, you will be slipping stitches with the yarn forward (yf) and then bringing it back to the back of the work (yb) before continuing knitting, be sure the unknit yarn hanging in the front of your work is relatively loose or you will find it difficult to work with when it comes to creating the butterfly.

Flutter-by pattern:

A chart is at the end of this document or available for download separately.

Rounds 1, 3, 5, 7, 9: *K5, yf, sl5, yb* repeat to end

Rounds 2, 4, 6, 8: K

Round 10: K7 *pick up 5 slipped sts with left needle, Ktbl with live stitch, K9* repeat to last 7 sts, K7

Rounds 11, 13, 15, 17, 19: *yf, sl5, yb, K5* repeat to end

Rounds 12, 14, 16, 18: K

Round 20: K2 *pick up 5 slipped sts with left needle, Ktbl with live stitch, K9* repeat to end

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1. Slipped stitches with “wings” after round 9 / 19 completed. 2. Pick up slipped stitches with left needle so that they are twisted on the needle. 3. Knit 5 slipped stitches with live stitch (yellow stitch in picture) through the back loop.

Cuff:

CO 70 sts and divide over your needles (Needles 1 & 3: 18 sts and Needles 2 & 4: 17 sts)
Join work being careful not to twist stitches and place marker
K1 P1 rib for 12 rounds or preferred length of ribbing (at least 2.5cm / 1”)

Leg:

Rounds 1 – 5: K

Begin knitting the flutter-by pattern.

Continue repeating Rounds 1-20 of the flutter-by pattern until leg 2” (5cm) shorter than total desired length (from floor) – finish on Round 10 OR 20.

Heel flap:

The heel flap is generally knit using half of your total stitches. I’ve indicated two types of heel flap below – a basic heel flap or the Eye of Partridge heel flap. On Row 1 you will work the number of stitches indicated by placing all stitches on a single needle.

This heel flap is knit across 35 sts. Start with Needle 1 and continue onto Needle 2. You can leave the stitches on needles 3 and 4 or move them to a stitch holder. I prefer to put them all on one needle.

Basic slip-stitch heel flap

Row 1 [RS]: *S11, K1* to last stitch, K1

Row 2 [WS]: S11, P34

Repeat rows 1 & 2 for a total of 34 rows. You will notice that the slipped stitch at the start of each row creates an elongated stitch at the edge – you should have 17 of these.

Eye of Partridge heel flap

Row 1 [RS]: *S11, K1* to last stitch, K1

Row 2 [WS]: S11, P34

Row 3: S12 *K1, S11* to last stitch, K1

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Row 4: S11, P34

Repeat rows 1-4 seven (7) more times for a total of 32 rows and then do Rows 1 & 2 once more. Your heel flap will have a total of 34 rows. You will notice that the slipped stitch at the start of each row creates an elongated stitch at the edge – you should have 17 of these.

Turn heel:

Row 1 [RS]: K19, ssk, k1, turn

Row 2 [WS]: S11, p3, p2tog, p1, turn

Row 3: S11, k4, ssk, k1, turn

Row 4: S11, p5, p2tog, p1, turn

Row 5: S11, k6, ssk, k1, turn

Row 6: S11, p7, p2tog, p1, turn

Continue in this fashion (adding one stitch to the K or P) until all stitches have been worked, finishing with a purl row. Your last two rows will not have the final stitch.

Gusset:

The gusset stitches are the 17 slipped stitches along each side of the heel flap. You will pick up the stitches on the right side of the sock first (as if you were wearing the sock!). Note it's handy to have a spare needle to use to pick up the stitches, but it is not necessary. You may also want to pick up one or two more stitches to close any gaps – especially where the heel flap and instep join. I pick up one stitch at a time and knit it through the back loop (ktbl).

Round 1:

Needle 1 (heel): K

Needle 2: Pick up gusset stitches and ktbl

Needle 3 (instep): Begin flutter-by pattern (either Round 1 or 11 depending on where you stopped the leg)

Needle 4: Pick up gusset stitches and ktbl

Round 2:

Needle 1: K

Needle 2: K

Needle 3: Continue in flutter-by pattern

Needle 4: K

Round 3:

Needle 1: K

Needle 2: K to last 3 sts, k2tog, K1

Needle 3: Continue in flutter-by pattern

Needle 4: K1, ssk, K to end

Repeat rounds 2 and 3 until you have as many stitches as you started with – if you are following this pattern exactly, you have a total of 70 stitches.

Foot (sole & instep):

Continue in pattern as set – meaning Knit all stitches on Needles 1, 2 & 4 and flutter-by pattern on Needle 3 – until you are 5cm (2” from desired foot length) being sure to end on Round 10 or 20 of the flutter-by pattern.

Toe:

Round 1: K all

Round 2:

Needle 1: K

Needle 2: K to last 3 stitches, k2tog, k1

Needle 3: K1, ssk, K to last 3 stitches, k2tog, k1

Needle 4: K1, ssk, K to end

Repeat these two rounds until you have a total of 13 stitches.

Knit one more round.

With Needle 4, Knit across needles 1 & 2 (this will put all the sole stitches onto a single needle). If needed, also slip all instep stitches (flutter-by pattern) onto a single needle.

Cut yarn leaving 25cm (10”).

Graft stitches using Kitchener stitch.

Finishing:

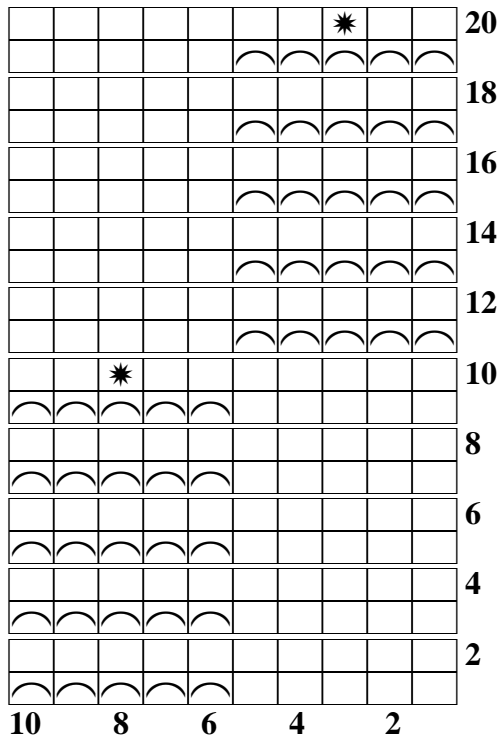
Weave in ends. Put on foot.



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<http://librarygirl.co.uk/knits/>

Chart



☐ = Knit

⌒ = With yf, slip stitch purl wise (after last slip stitch, move yb)

* = Pick up 5 slipped stitches with left needle, and ktbl with live stitch