

1860'S KNITTED STOCKING

Materials required: approx. 200g 2ply light weight wool
Set of four needles size 0 (American) 14 (2mm) or size to get required gauge.

Gauge: 9 stitches = 1 inch (14sts = 4cm)

Cast on 89 stitches, divide onto three needles 27-35-27. The odd stitch is the first stitch on needle 3 and is pearlled every alternate row. The pearl stitch makes a seam at the back of the stocking.

Rib: P1 (on alternate rows) K4, P4 until work measures 4 inches (10cms)

Leg of stocking: Knit until work measures 4ins. (10 cms)

Shape calf: * P1, K2tog through back of stitch continue to last 2 stitches on needle 3, K2 tog. Work 5 rows *. Repeat from *to* 9 more times, 68 stitches on needles.

Continue until work measures 16 inches (40cms.) or desired length to the heel flap.

Finish with a knit row.

Divide for heel

Row 1: P17 from needle 3, P18 from needle 1, (put remaining 34 stitches on a stitch holder). All stitches from needles 1 and 3 are now on 1 needle.

Row 2: K17, P1, K17.

Repeat rows 1 and 2 for 3ins. (8cms)

Next k. row, K15, K2 tog., P1, K2 tog., K15 ,continue the decreasing every knit row 5 more times.

Finish with a knit row.

2 needle cast off

Put 16 sts. plus pearl stitch onto another needle.

Fold work with needles parallel to each other (wrong side facing).

Knit next stitch together with first stitch from needle 1, knit together next 2 stitches in the same way, pass first stitch over, continue casting off to the end of the row.

Gusset

Row 1: pick up 23 stitches from right side of heel, 34 from holder and 23 from left side of heel.

Row 2: needle 1 K20, K2tog., K 1, needle 2 K34, needle 3, K1, K2 tog., knit remaining stitches.

Row 3: Knit.

Repeat rounds 2 and 3 10 times (13-34-13).

Knit until foot measures 2 ½ ins. (6cms) less than desired length.

Toe decrease

Row 1: K2 tog., K25, slip1, K1 pss., P1, K2tog., K25, slip1, K1 pss., P1.

Row 2: Knit.

Repeat two previous rows 12 times knitting 2 stitches less between each decrease.

Cast off using same method as heel cast off.

Adapted from patterns in:

“Godey’s Lady’s Magazine ” (1857,1860,1863), “Peterson’s Magazine ” (1858).

“Gift Book of Useful and Ornamental Knitting, Netting and Crochet Work” by Miss Ronaldson, Edinburgh (1855).

“Treasures in Needlework” by Mrs. Warren and Mrs.Pullan (1870).

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