

# A Non-Traditional *Christmas Stocking*

By Kristi R Schueler

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## Fibers

- 3 hanks Berroco Softwist (shown #9445, Fern) (MC)
- 2 hanks Berroco Softwist (shown #9442, Fig) (AC)

## Needles and Notions

- US 8 (5 mm) Striaight
- US 7 (4.5 mm) 16-inch Circular
- US 5 (3.75 mm) DPNs
- US 2 (2.75 mm) DPNs
- 4 Stitch Markers
- Tapestry Needle
- Contrasting Scrap Yarn

## Gauge

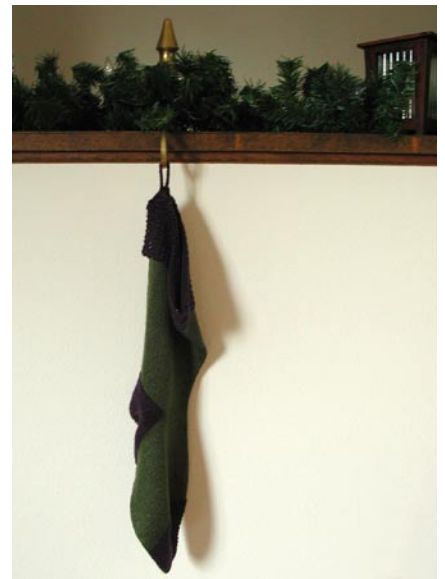
- 24 sts/4 in in st st on US 7 (4.5 mm) needles.

## Pattern

### Lace Top

On largest needles, using AC, CO 7 sts with the provisional CO.

Row 1: K2, (YO, K2tog) twice, YO, K1  
All Even Rows (except Row 32): Knit  
Row 3: K3, (YO, K2tog) twice, YO, K1  
Row 5: K4, (YO, K2tog) twice, YO, K1  
Row 7: K5, (YO, K2tog) twice, YO, K1  
Row 9, K6, (YO, K2tog) twice, YO, K1  
Row 11: K7, (YO, K2tog) twice, YO, K1  
Row 12: K8, (YO, K2tog) twice, YO, K1  
Row 13: K9, (YO, K2tog) twice, YO, K1  
Row 15: K10, (YO, K2tog) twice, YO, K1 (15 sts)  
Row 17: K9, (YO, K2tog) twice, YO, K3tog  
Row 19: K8, (YO, K2tog) twice, YO, K3tog  
Row 21: K7, (YO, K2tog) twice, YO, K3tog  
Row 23: K6, (YO, K2tog) twice, YO, K3tog  
Row 25: K5, (YO, K2tog) twice, YO, K3tog  
Row 27: K4, (YO, K2tog) twice, YO, K3tog



*Here is the completed stocking hung from a stocking holder on our half-wall near the basement stairs*



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Row 29: K3, (YO, K2tog) twice, YO, K3tog  
Row 31: K2, (YO, K2tog) twice, YO, K3tog  
Row 32: K2tog, K to end (7 sts)

Repeat the above pattern 3 times, for a total of 4 points. Knit one more round and BO with contrasting scrap yarn.



*Here is the lace cuff after blocking and being marked every 2 inches with contrasting yarn.*

Block to 16 inches in length and roughly 3.5 inches long from top to point bottom. Then using contrasting yarn, mark off every two inches to aid in evenly picking up stitches.

Remove provisional CO and the scrap yarn used in the BO, then use three-needle BO to connect the band of lace into a circle.

## Main Body of Stocking

Using AC, pick up 12 sts between each contrasting yarn marker for a total of 96 sts.

PM and purl 1 rnd.  
Knit 1 rnd.  
Purl 1 rnd.

Switch to MC and knit in st st for a total of 10 inches in MC.

## Garter Stitch Short Row Heel

Begin garter stitch wrapped short row heel in AC which will be worked over a total of 58 sts (roughly 60% of total sts). **DO NOT CUT MC YARN!**

With AC, knit 29 sts.  
Turn, knit 28, S11, bring yarn around to the front between the needles, return the slipped stitch to left needle.  
Turn, knit 56 sts, S11, bring yarn to front between needles, return slipped stitch to the left needle.  
Turn, knit 55 sts, slip, wrap, return.



*This is a close-up look at the garter stitch short row heel. Notice how the wraps do not stand out noticeably against the garter stitch texture.*

Repeat until 18 stitches remain unwrapped in the center, ending with a WS row.



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Begin heel increase on RS row, by knitting 18 sts, then knit the first wrapped stitch. Leave the wrap untouched, in garter stitch the wraps do not show, so there is no need to pick them up. SL1 (this would be the second wrapped stitch), wrap, return.

Turn, knit 20 sts, SL1, wrap, return.

Continue in this manner until you have knit all the wrapped stitches and have returned to 58 heel sts. Cut AC yarn, leaving a long tail.

## **Instep**

Pick up the MC strand, wrap around AC strand and continue knitting in st st in the round for 6 inches.

## **Garter Wedge Toe**

The toe will be worked in AC with a needle 2 sizes smaller than the main body because filled stockings put a lot of stress on the toe and this will help it keep its shape, even after years of use.

Cut MC, leaving a long tail and pick up AC. (K1, SSK, K21, PM, K21, K2tog, K1, PM) twice. *Decrease 4 sts, 92 sts remain.*  
P1 Rnd.

With Sz 5 (3.75 mm) DPNs, knit the sts between each marker onto a needle of their own.  
P1 Rnd.

Rnd 1: (K1, SSK, knit until three stitches remain on needle 2(4), K2tog, K1) twice. *Decrease 4 sts.*

Rnd 2: Purl

Rnd 3: Knit

Rnd 4: Purl

Repeat rnds 1 & 2 until a total of 48 sts remain, then repeat row 1 until 8 sts remain.





Here is a better view of the completed stocking.

## Finishing

Cut AC, leaving a long tail, thread onto tapestry needle and run yarn through the 8 remaining sts twice, then pass needle through to inside of stocking and pull tight.

Weave in all ends. Turn lace cuff over as desired, block with pins and set with steam.

Using US 2 (2.75 mm) DPNs, pick up three stitches in the main body of the stocking on the side with the heel and knit i-cord for desired length of loop for hanging the stocking from. BO and attach to main body of stocking.

Hang and enjoy for years to come!

The lace pattern used for the cuff is a larger version of #1 Granton Eding found at <http://www.knittingand.com/homework/granton.htm>. The heel and toe techniques were described in *Cool Socks Warm Feet: Six Exceptional Sock Patterns for Printed Yarns* by Lucy Neatby.



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