

Proud to Be



The Proud to Be socks were created to be a celebration of *you* — whatever and whoever you are.

Proud to Be honors my love of color, my love of socks, my love of rainbows and all that rainbows represent. They speak to my love for the LGBTQ+ people in my life and my support of the worldwide LGBTQ+ community. In creating them, I wanted to honor all that's exciting, true, and vibrant in me and all that's exciting, true and vibrant in you.

The design for these socks evolved from my desire to add a little extra fun to the colorful rainbow stripes of Vesper Sock Yarn's Rainbow Love colorway without obscuring the self-stripping nature of the yarn. The slipped-stitch colorwork patterning does that with a pattern that is simple and intuitive to knit once you understand how it works. While it was designed to be worked over four-row stripes, the patterning will work on any self-stripping sock yarn that creates stripes at least three rows tall.

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Difficulty Level: Adv Beginner/ Early Intermediate

Skills/Techniques: Judy's magic cast-on, afterthought heel, sewn bind-off, Kitchener stitch; video tutorials for these techniques are available on my website at <https://deviousknitter.com/tutorials/>.

Construction: These socks are knit from the toe up with an afterthought heel.

Yarn: Knitterly Things Vesper Sock Yarn 80/20 Superwash Merino & Nylon 2ply, (400yds per 100g skein), one skein Rainbow Love plus one 20g mini skein Chartreuse, or one skein of any self-stripping sock yarn that knits to a three-or-more-stripe repeat, plus a coordinating color for the heel.

Needles: US #2 (2.75 mm) needles suitable for working in the round (dpn, magic loop, or two circular needles), or size to obtain gauge.
US #1.5 (2.5 mm) needles suitable for working in the round (dpn, magic loop, or two circular needles), or one size smaller than needles that obtain gauge, for working the ribbing.

Notions: Stitch marker, scissors, tapestry needle, 18" of smooth scrap yarn that does not contrast strongly with your MC.

Gauge: 33 stitches and 48 rows to 4"/10 cm in stockinette stitch.

Sizes/Finished Measurements:

Adult S, M, L, XL

Choose the circumference that is slightly smaller than the wearer's foot, to provide approximately

10% negative ease. Instructions are provided within the pattern for customizing between sizes.

S: 7" circumference, 8.5" length; 6.5" height
(Youth L/Women S)

M: 8" circumference, 9.5" length; 7.25" height
(Women M/Men S)

L: 9" circumference, 10.5" length; 8.75" height
(Women L/Men M)

XL: 10" circumference, 11.5" length; 10.5" height
(Men L)

Abbreviations:

MC: Main color

CC: Contrast color

K: Knit

P: Purl

LN: Left needle

RN: Right needle

Ndl: Needle

Sl: Slip stitch (always slip as if to purl unless directed otherwise)

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.

Ssk: Slip, slip, knit. Improved: Slip one stitch as if to knit. Slip that stitch back onto LN. Knit the first two stitches together through the back loop.

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- <https://www.youtube.com/deviousknitter>

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Pattern Notes:

This pattern is designed to work on any self-striping yarn that makes stripes of at least three rows; the recommended yarn creates four-row stripes. The textural and colorwork pattern is formed using slipped stitches that occur in the first round of each new stripe, and which must be placed at the color change, so you'll watch your yarn for guidance, rather than making your patterning on a specific numbered row.

For sizes L and XL only, the toes as well as the heels are worked in the CC to allow the stripes to go all the way to the top of the sock. If you have more than 400 yards of your MC or don't mind making the cuff in the CC, you may instead choose to cast on with the MC, as is done for sizes S and M.

Four sizes are given but notes are also included for customizing width and length to any size foot. It is most important to choose the correct size for your foot circumference; instructions are provided in the pattern for customizing the length or height.

The kfb method of increasing in the sock toes leaves a bump to the left of the increased stitch; the toe increases are worked one stitch in from the right edge, but two stitches in from the left edge to balance the position of that bump. If you substitute 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."

Similarly, to prevent ears in your heels, before beginning the Kitchener stitch, slip the first and last

stitch of each side of the sock over the stitch next to it as though binding off. (See photo.)



When working the ribbing, you'll knit the first row of each new stripe in stockinette, to avoid unattractive "blips" showing through from the old color. As long as most of the rows are ribbed, the stockinette rows will disappear into the patterning.



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Pattern:

Slip Stitch Pattern:

Begin the slip stitch pattern where the color changes for each new stripe, no matter where in the round the color change occurs.

K3, sl1, repeat .

Work one complete round of the slip stitch pattern; when you return to the place where you slipped a stitch on the previous row, resume knitting all sts.

Cast On

For sizes S, M only, cast on with the beginning of a new color stripe in MC yarn; for sizes L, XL only, cast on with CC yarn.

Cast on 22 (26, 30, 34) stitches across two needles using Judy's Magic Cast On, Improved – 11 (13, 15, 17) stitches on each needle. Place a marker between the first two stitches to mark the beginning of the round.

Rounds begin at the side of the foot. Each round is first worked across the bottom of foot needle(s), then the top of foot needle(s). If you are working on dpns, arrange your stitches so that one or two needles hold all the bottom-of-foot stitches, and one or two needles hold all the top-of-foot stitches. If you are working on two circular needles or magic loop, your stitches are already arranged correctly.

Toe

Round 1 bottom: k1, SM, kfb, k to last 3 sts, kfb, k2

Round 1 top: k1, kfb, k to last 3 sts, kfb, k2
(4 sts increased).

Round 2: knit.

Work rounds one and two 8 (9, 10, 11) more times* (32 [36, 40, 44] sts increased), until you have a total of 58 (66, 74, 82) stitches on the needles, *or* until the sock is as wide as the recipient's foot to the top of the little toe.

*Sizes S, M only: Work one Slip Stitch Pattern round at the beginning of each new color, always beginning at the change of color, no matter where in the round the color change occurs.

Foot

Sizes L, XL only: Break yarn, leaving at least a 6" tail. Change to MC.

(All sizes) Knit all rounds, working one Slip Stitch Pattern round at the beginning of each new color, always beginning at the change of color, no matter where in the round the color change occurs.

Continue working in pattern until foot of sock measures approximately 6.25" (6.75", 8", 9") or until the foot of the sock is the same length as the recipient's foot to the pointiest part of the ankle bone, ending mid-stripe. If you must stop at a color change row for size reasons, do not work the Slip Stitch Pattern on the bottom of foot on the round where you will place the scrap yarn marker.

Place Scrap Yarn Marker

Change to scrap yarn. Do not break MC.

Knit across bottom of the foot sts.

Return to beginning of round and pick up MC.

Knit across bottom of foot sts a second time in MC.

Complete the round across the top of foot, resuming slip stitch patterning.

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Leg

Work in pattern until the leg measures 3.5" (4", 5", 6.75") from the scrap yarn, or $\frac{3}{4}$ " (1", 1.25", 1.25") less than the height desired, ending at a color change. Change your beginning of round to coincide with the color change.

Ribbing

Change to smaller needles.

Round 1: Knit.

Round 2: *K1, p1,* repeat to end of round.

Repeat round 2 until the next color change. At each color change, knit one round plain to avoid opposite-color purl "blips."

Work in established pattern until ribbing measures $\frac{3}{4}$ " (1", 1.25", 1.25").

Bind Off

Measure a tail at least 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.

Heel

Remove the scrap yarn, picking up held stitches. Join CC yarn.

Round 1: K, picking up 2 extra stitches in the gap between the top and bottom needles on each side (4 sts increased).

Note: If you have a high instep, knit 1-2 additional rounds plain here before beginning the decreases.

Round 2 bottom: K1, ssk, knit to last 3 sts, k2tog, k1

Round 2 top: K1, ssk, knit to last 3 sts, k2tog, k1 (4 sts decreased).

Round 3: Knit.

Work rounds two and three 8 (9, 10, 11) more times. You will have 22 (26, 30, 34) stitches on the needles (32 [36, 40, 44] sts decreased).

Cut yarn, leaving a tail approximately 4 times the width of the heel. Close the heel in Kitchener stitch.

Finishing:

Weave in ends. If you have holes at the sides of the heels, use your ends or a length of matching color yarn to cinch them closed, as demonstrated in [this video](#). Wash and block your socks gently, without stretching.



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