

Laguna Seca



A sock pattern by Valerie Polichar
Version 1.0, 2 July 2007
for Karen

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Yarn: Cascade Fixation (98.3% cotton, 1.7% elastic) 50 gm (100 yards relaxed, 186 yards expanded), two balls. In the size specified here (about a women's 7-8), you will have about 26 gm left (less if you make a gauge swatch), enough to make a pair of toddler socks, so you can make the cuffs higher if desired. Color #9054 is used here. This pattern works well with variegated yarns — the more colors, the better!

Gauge (tension): 7 stitches per inch/12 rows per inch. I used US #2 needles to achieve this gauge. I use a set of 5 dpns; you can work this pattern with 4, but having a spare needle or two, even in a smaller size, helps with transferring stitches.

This sock is knit cuff down, has an eye-of-partridge flap heel and a slightly modified French toe. It does not require grafting.

Abbreviations:

S = slip (as if to purl)

K = knit

P = purl

SSK = slip (as if to knit), slip (as if to purl), return to left needle, knit two together

K2tog = knit 2 together

P2tog = purl 2 together

Ribbing:

Cast on 60 stitches. Join into a round (do not twist); work 1x1 ribbing for 15 rows.

Purl 1 row.

Laguna Seca pattern:

The Laguna Seca pattern alternates broken-rib rows that showcase the natural striping of variegated yarns with a slip-stitch pattern that creates more of a mosaic effect. It's a good way to take advantage of wildly colored yarns like this Cascade Fixation color # 9054.



Begin working Laguna Seca chart.

Work two full repeats of the chart (work rows 1-17 twice), then work rows 1-8.

(Alternately, work the chart as many times as you like to make the leg the length you like. You need not end on row 8, but ending on row 8 or 16 means the following row can be a purl row as indicated in the instructions.)

Chart key:

Blank = knit

• = purl

S = slip stitch (as if to purl)

Row							Row
17	•	•	•	•	•	•	17
16				•	•		16
15				•	•		15
14				•	•		14
13				•	•		13
12				•	•		12
11				•	•		11
10				•	•		10
9	•	•	•	•	•	•	9
8				•	•	S	8
7	S			•	•		7
6		S		•	•		6
5			S	•	•		5
4				•	•	S	4
3	S			•	•		3
2		S		•	•		2
1			S	•	•		1

Heel Flap:



Purl 28 for instep (you're essentially working row 9 of chart; if you ended the leg on some other row than 8, work the next row for 28 stitches).

Divide remaining 32 stitches over two needles (you can leave instep stitches on one or two needles, whichever you prefer) for flexibility (if you prefer to knit heel flaps on one needle, you can do so, of course).

Work Eye of Partridge heel flap as follows:

Work the following 4 rows 9 times (36 rows):

- Row 1) (S1, K) across
- 2) S1, (P) across
- 3) S2, (K1, S1) to 2 from end, K2
- 4) S1, (P) across

Work row 1 again.

Turn heel as follows:



S1, P18, P2tog, P1, turn
(S1 K1) 4 times, SSK, K1, turn
S1, P8, P2tog, P1, turn
(S1 K1) 5 times, SSK, K1, turn

S1, P10, P2tog, P1, turn
(S1 K1) 6 times, SSK, K1, turn
S1, P12, P2tog, P1, turn
(S1 K1) 7 times, SSK, K1, turn
S1, P14, P2tog, P1, turn
(S1 K1) 8 times, SSK, K1, turn
S1, P16, P2tog, P1, turn
(S1 K1) 9 times, SSK, K1, *do not turn*

Gussets:



Pick up and knit 20 stitches (I use Grumperina's "the pretty way," which can be found at http://www.grumperina.com/knitblog/archives/2005/10/theres_the_easy.htm).

Work row 10 (or appropriate next row) of chart across 28 instep stitches.

Pick up and knit 20 stitches.

Knit 10. Now your rows will start in the center back of heel. Arrange your stitches across 3 needles, as so:

Needle 1: 30 stitches
Needle 2: 28 instep stitches
Needle 3: 30 stitches

If you prefer to use 4 needles at this juncture, so that you have two instep needles, remember that when I refer to Needle 2 you must consider Needles 2 and 3, and when I refer to Needle 3, it will be your Needle 4.

Starting row:

Needle 1) K28, SSK
Needle 2) work row 11 (or appropriate next row) of chart
Needle 3) K2tog, K28

Proceed as follows:

Row A

Needle 1) Knit
Needle 2) Work chart across instep stitches
Needle 3) Knit

Row B

Needle 1) Knit to last 3 stitches, K2tog, K1
Needle 2) Work chart across instep stitches
Needle 3) K1, SSK, K to end

Knit rows A and B 15 times (30 rows) until you have 16 stitches left on each of Needle 1 and Needle 3. For narrower feet you may want to do a few more more rows — it will make little difference to the rest of the instructions. (The socks pictured here were knit down to 13 per needle.) If you knit down to 16 and made the leg just as described, your last chart row will be 5.

Foot:



Continue to knit across needle 1, work chart across instep needle 2, and knit across needle 3 until sock is about 1.5" less than desired total length of sock (remember, an unstretched sock should be about 10% shorter than the foot length). In this case (a shoe size about a woman's US 7-8), I knit 30 rows.

Toe:



I used a modified French toe (similar to Nancy Bush's French toe). This is a very round, blunt-nosed toe that looks funny off a foot, but which fits fairly square-toed, short-toed or wide forefeet nicely. If you have long toes that end in a more sharply triangular shape, you may wish to substitute a wedge toe or toe of your choice. However, note that the French toe is a short toe. You may wish to stop the foot a few rows previous if you select an alternate toe.

Arrange the stitches as evenly as possible over three needles. Assuming you have 60 stitches at this point, that would be 20 stitches per needle.

Row 1) On *each* needle, K1, SSK, K to 3 stitches from end, K2tog, K1.

Row 2) K across

Continue until you have only two or three stitches on each needle (if you get down to 5 stitches on a needle, work SSK, K1, K2tog; if you get down to 4, work SSK, K2tog). Break yarn with a long enough tail to weave in. Run yarn through all stitches; draw tight. Weave in ends.

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