

Octopus' Garden

by Jenna Swanson



*“I'd like to be under the sea
In an octopus' garden in the shade
He'd let us in, knows where we've been
In his octopus' garden in the shade” Ringo Starr*

Even though real octopi don't collect shiny objects, the imagery in this song has stayed with me. The lyrics (and various Muppet versions) combined with the happy, Caribbean colors in the yarn inspired me to create these socks. The stitch pattern reminds me of the movements of the octopus as he crawls along the sea floor.

SIZE

S, [M, L, XL]

FINISHED MEASUREMENTS

Calf: 7.5 [8, 8.5, 9] inches, slightly stretched

Foot circumference: 7, [8, 9, 10]

Foot length: variable

MATERIALS

ShiBui Knits Sock [100% superwash merino; 191 yd/175m per 1.75 oz/50g skein];
color: Anime; 2, [2, 3, 3] skeins (shown in M)

1 set US #1/ 2.25mm double-point needles

[always use a needle size that gives you the gauge listed below -- every knitter's gauge is unique]

stitch marker
tapestry needle

GAUGE

8 stitches/12.5 rows = 1" in stockinette stitch

PATTERN NOTES

Twisted Rib:

Rnd 1: p1, ktb

Lace Pattern:

Rnd 1: knit

Even Rnds 2-16: *p1, k7*

Rnd 3: *k2, yo, k2, ssk, k2*

Rnd 5: *k3, yo, k2, ssk, k1*

Rnd 7: *k4, yo, k2, ssk*

Rnd 9: knit

Rnd 11: *k3, k2tog, k2, yo, k1*

Rnd 13: *k2, k2tog, k2, yo, k2*

Rnd 15: *k1, k2tog, k2, yo, k3*

Chart:

							•	16
			o			/		15
							•	14
		o			/			13
							•	12
	o			/				11
							•	10
								9
							•	8
\			o					7
							•	6
	\		o					5
							•	4
		\		o				3
							•	2
								1

	knit
•	purl
o	yarn oer
/	k2tog
\	ssk

PATTERN

Cuff

Cast on 56 [64, 72, 80], stitches using the long tail method. Divide evenly between needles.

Join carefully into the round, making sure not to twist. If you'd like, mark the beginning of the round.

Work twisted rib for 1.5”.

Leg

Begin chart. Continue until you have completed 8”.

Heel

Knit 27 [33,34,41] stitches in pattern. (Note the row on which you stop.) Keep these stitches on one needle.

The heel is worked back and forth using short rows along the next 27 [31, 36, 38] stitches and using a new needle. The remaining stitches will be held while you work the heel. (Slip the extra 2 [o, 2, o] sole stitches onto instep needle. This will balance the pattern on the instep.)

Row 1: k26 [30,35,37] wrap and turn

Row 2: p25 [29,34,36] wrap and turn

Repeat rows 1 and 2 until 11 stitches remain between wraps.

Now you will start picking up the wraps.

Row 1: k11, pick up and knit wrap, wrap and turn

Row 2: p12, pick up and purl wrap, wrap and turn

Row 3: k13, pick up two wraps and knit, wrap and turn

Row 4: p14, pick up two wraps and purl, wrap and turn

Repeat rows 3-4 until you have worked all the wraps.

Size Small and Large:

Instep: k2, resume chart pattern where you left off, garter stitch 1, k2 (the garter stitch may be knit or purl depending on which row of the pattern you are on)

Sole: knit

Size Medium and Extra Large:

Instep: resume chart pattern where you left off keeping the last stitch in garter stitch.

Foot

Continue in pattern as set until the foot is 1.5 inches less than desired length.

Toe

Arrange stitches as follows: place half the sole stitches on needle one, half the instep stitches on needle 2, the other half of the instep stitches on needle 3, and the other half of the sole stitches on needle 4.

Rnd 1: Needle 1: knit, needle 2: k1, ssk, knit to end, needle 3: knit to three stitches before end, k2tog, k1, needle 4: knit.

Rnd 2: knit

Rnd 3: K to last 3 stitches on needle 1, k2tog, k1; k1, ssk, k to end of needle 2; k to last 3 stitches on needle 3, k2tog, k1; k1, ssk, k to end of needle 4.

Repeat rounds 2 and 3 until 26 stitches remain (note that there will not be an even number of stitches on each needle).

Using needle 4, k to end of needle 1. Slip stitches from needle 2 to needle 3. Graft stitches on needle 3 to stitches on needle 4.

FINISHING

Weave in ends. Block if desired.

ABOUT THE DESIGNER

Jenna lives in Waco, TX and really misses snow and cold weather. She became addicted to knitting after watching her mother-in-law knit a pair of socks. In her spare time she enjoys baking and spinning.

Jenna can be found on Ravelry.com as gidgettm.

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