
To: GoldToeMoretz, I.L.C (martha.barber@alston.com)
Subject: U.S. TRADEMARK APPLICATION NO. 77310576 - GOLDTOE MORETZ - 34349/332492
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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

SERIAL NO: 77/310576

MARK: GOLDTOE MORETZ

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GENERAL TRADEMARK INFORMATION:
<http://www.uspto.gov/main/trademarks.htm>

APPLICANT: GoldToeMoretz, LLC

CORRESPONDENT'S REFERENCE/DOCKET

NO:

34349/332492

CORRESPONDENT E-MAIL ADDRESS:

martha.barber@alston.com

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION DENIED

ISSUE/MAILING DATE: 2/19/2010

Applicant is requesting reconsideration of a final refusal issued/mailed September 17, 2009.

After careful consideration of the law and facts of the case, the examining attorney must deny the request for reconsideration and adhere to the final action as written since no new facts or reasons have been presented that are significant and compelling with regard to the point at issue.

The wording "GOLDTOE" has been found to be descriptive of the goods that are "apparel, namely sockwear," that feature a sock with a gold color toe. See attached evidence from online websites evidencing the "toe" portion of socks. See also the applicant's Exhibit C in incoming correspondence of record dated January 19, 2010 showing the toe of its socks in a golden color. See also attached additional information regarding the socks with the gold toe from the applicant's website and the second page where the applicant references its "distinctive gold toe." A requirement for a disclaimer of the term "GOLDTOE" was made final.

Registration was initially refused based on Section 2(d) of the Trademark Act, citing a group of "GOLD TOE" marks owned by GAKM Resources LLC. The owner of those registrations gave consent for applicant to register the mark under discussion. The applicant asserted a claim of Acquired Distinctiveness, Section 2(f) of the Trademark Act, as to "GOLD TOE" based on a registration owned by the cited registrant, GAKM Resources LLC, who is said to be a sister corporation, that had given consent to this applicant to register. There is no unity of control established with respect to the parties. The claim was refused because the applicant was not, and is not now, owner of the mark on which it based its claim. It is noted that the wording "GOLDTOE" has been regarded as descriptive in the Registrant's marks, and the marks are registered on the Principal register with claims of acquired distinctiveness.

In the request for reconsideration, the applicant asserts that the registrant GAKM changed its name in 2002 and has since merged with the applicant. This new piece of information, not supported by any documentation, and not consistent with the USPTO Assignments data, is also in contradiction to the previously established record in which the registrant, GAKM Resources LLC, gave consent to register as of August 6, 2009. This is inconsistent with a change of name in 2002.

That the GOLDTOE mark has been in use for many years is not in question. There is ambiguity as to whether the *applicant* has had exclusive and continuous use of the mark in a manner consistent with having acquired distinctiveness.

If a proposed mark is not inherently distinctive, it may be registered on the Principal Register only upon proof of acquired distinctiveness, or "secondary meaning," that is, proof that it has become distinctive as applied to the applicant's goods or services in commerce. If the applicant establishes, to the satisfaction of the examining attorney, that the matter in question has acquired distinctiveness as a mark in relation to the named goods or services,

then the mark is registrable on the Principal Register under §2(f) of the Trademark Act, 15 U.S.C. §1052(f).

...

The purpose and significance of secondary meaning may be described as follows:

A term which is descriptive ... may, through usage by one producer with reference to his product, acquire a special significance so that to the consuming public the word has come to mean that the product is produced by that particular manufacturer. 1 Nims, *Unfair Competition and Trademarks* at §37 (1947). This is what is known as secondary meaning.

The crux of the secondary meaning doctrine is that the mark comes to identify not only the goods but the source of those goods. To establish secondary meaning, it must be shown that the *primary* significance of the term in the minds of the consuming public is not the product but the producer (citations omitted). This may be an anonymous producer, since consumers often buy goods without knowing the personal identity or actual name of the manufacturer.

Ralston Purina Co. v. Thomas J. Lipton, Inc., 341 F. Supp. 129, 133, 173 USPQ 820, 823 (S.D.N.Y. 1972).

TMEP Sec 1212. [Emphasis Added]

The record, which appears to have ambiguities and inconsistencies, does not establish a basis of acquired distinctiveness based on the *applicant's* use of the mark in commerce such that acquired distinctiveness is attributed to *this* applicant. While the applicant has not established a case of acquired distinctiveness, in view of the consent agreement giving consent to register the mark, a requirement to disclaim the descriptive wording "GOLDTOE" is maintained. The claim of acquired distinctiveness is not supported by the record, and the applicant has declined to disclaim the wording "GOLDTOE."

Accordingly, applicant's request for reconsideration is *denied*. The time for appeal runs from the date the final action was issued/mailed. 37 C.F.R. Section 2.64(b); TMEP Section 715.03(c). If applicant has already filed a timely notice of appeal, the application will be forwarded to the Trademark Trial and Appeal Board (TTAB).

/Linda A. Powell/
Trademark Examining Attorney
Law Office 117
(571) 272-9327

STATUS CHECK: Check the status of the application at least once every six months from the initial filing date using the USPTO Trademark Applications and Registrations Retrieval (TARR) online system at <http://tarr.uspto.gov>. When conducting an online status check, print and maintain a copy of the complete TARR screen. If the status of your application has not changed for more than six months, please contact the assigned examining attorney.

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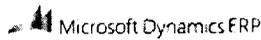
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Despite what many people believe, socks are not that difficult to knit. If you can knit, purl, increase, decrease, pick up stitches, knit in the round and follow a pattern then you can knit socks.

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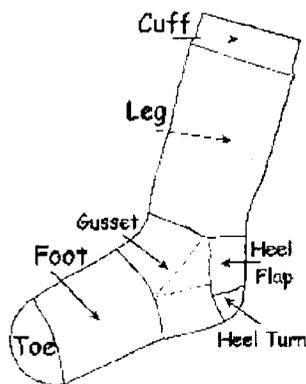
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Different sock constructions

[\[edit\]](#)

There are four main ways to knit socks:

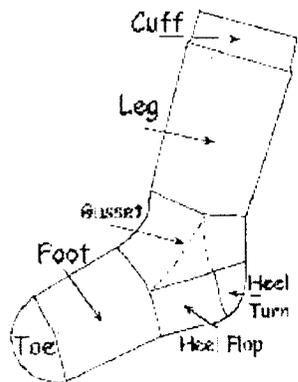
- 1 Top down with a heel flap and gusset



The construction of a top down, heel flap and gusset sock.

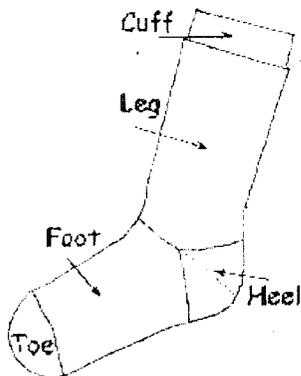
2 Top down with a heel flap and gusset

2 Toe up with a heel flap and gusset.



The construction of a toe up, heel flap and gusset sock.

3 Top down with a short row or afterthought heel and



The construction of a short row or afterthought heel sock.

4 Toe up with a short row or afterthought heel

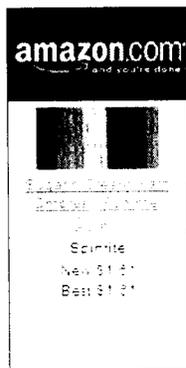
For top down socks you cast on for the cuff then knit the leg, heel, foot and toe

Whilst for toe up socks you start at the toe then knit the foot, heel, leg and cast off at the top of the cuff

There are numerous different heels within these three categories:

- » Heels with a flap and gusset knitted top down
- » Heels with a flap and gusset knitted toe up
- » Short row or afterthought heels

Also there are numerous different toes and these may be interchanged at will.



Different sock knitting techniques

[edit]

Additionally socks which are really just knitted tubes are often knitted in four different ways

- 1 Four double pointed needles The tube on 3 dpns with the fourth dpn used to knit with In this method the sock is divided into three parts Beginners to circular knitting often find four dpns easier to control than five
- 2 Five double pointed needles The tube on 4 dpns with the fifth dpn used to knit with In this method the sock is divided into four parts The advantage of this method is that you have two needles for the top of the foot / front of the ankle and two needles for the foot bottom and back of the ankle
- 3 Two circular needles
- 4 One circular needle using the magic loop method

Using either of the two techniques using circular needles it is possible to knit both socks from the pair at once This avoids the dreaded Second Sock Syndrome and allows you to knit an identical pair without having to count rows or write down your pattern if you are following a recipe rather than a pattern

Once you understand these different techniques you can take a sock pattern written using any of these four techniques and use your favourite technique

Basic sock recipe

[edit]

It is easy to knit a sock without a pattern but following a recipe A Gauge Swatch will tell you how many stitches to cast on For the cuff you want a stretchy stitch to hold the sock up Good choices are 1x1 Ribbing 2x2 Ribbing or 3x1 Ribbing You can choose any stitch pattern for the leg from basic Stockinette Stitch to Lace Stitches Colourwork Textured Stitches or Cables If your gauge is different in the pattern stitch you can either change needle sizes to achieve the gauge you want or you can Increase or Decrease stitches

Follow the leg with your choice of heel Then you can continue the pattern on the top of the foot but it is best to have plain Stockinette Stitch underneath the foot for comfort To finish off work your choice of toe But if you prefer to knit toe up you would of course reverse this recipe

Offsite Links

[edit]

- [Cecilia](#) has compiled a page with many links to different cast ons bind offs toes and heels
- [Sockknit](#) is a yahoo group dedicated to discussing sock knitting and is friendly to beginners

Category: Techniques

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Nalbinding Socks: Methods of Construction

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Introduction

In addition to there being many nalbinding stitches, there are also several ways in which you can construct socks. This article assumes that you know at least one nalbinding stitch already, and can increase and decrease. Several of the methods only require you to work in the round, but two of them require you to be able to work rows backward and forward, and to cast on to create a row sticking out from the main work.

Starting Tips

Managing Longer Pieces of Wool

This method allows you to carry more thread on the needle, so you don't have to join new lengths of wool on so often. Fold the wool two or three times, leaving a long end which you will attach to the old piece. Then pull about half of the folded section through the needle. When you need more thread, you can pull one of the folded loops back through the eye of the needle.

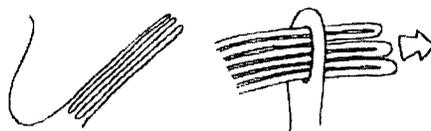


Figure 1: holding a long piece of wool on the needle

Starting Loops

When starting the **toe** of a sock, or any other spiral-structured piece, make a large starting loop onto which to sew your first circle of stitches, and then pull it tight by pulling on the free end, and start working in a spiral. Figure 2 shows a slip-knot used as a starting loop, with mesh stitch worked into it. Figure 3 shows a simple loop, with nalbinding type 1 (Hald's notation) worked into it. Use whichever combination works best for you.

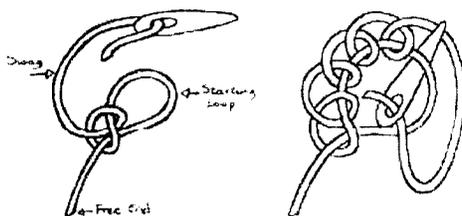


Figure 2: working mesh stitch (Hald's notation) around a slip-knot starting loop

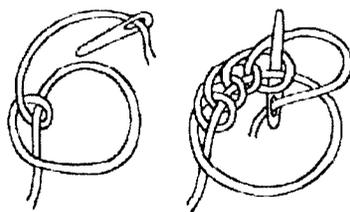


Figure 3: working stitch type I (Hald's notation) around a simple starting loop

Toes

All of the **sock construction** methods in this article start with a **toe**. Make a starting loop, and work outwards in a spiral, increasing in length and width until it covers your foot to the arch, as shown in Figure 4. Then you make the heel according to your chosen method.

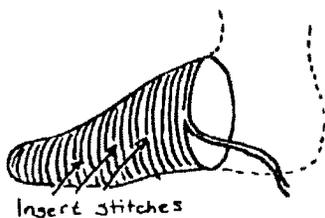


Figure 4: the standard toe

Work in Pairs

I find it really helpful to make two socks at once, by working a few rows on each alternately. That way, I don't end up with one completed sock, trying to remember how I made it so I can make the other to match. My socks may not fit me, but they are pairs and hence will fit somebody!

Casting On

Coppergate stitch twists, so you may want to use a different stitch when making a "ladder" or row of stitches going away from the work (for example if making Heel Type C). Oslo stitch, classified by Hald as IIA, is fairly simple to make and works well. You can also use this to make a starting row for any item when you don't want to begin at the centre of a cup. For example, cast on a few inches to make the base of a square pouch, or cast on a row which will go around your leg to make a stocking. Of course you can use it for a whole item if you like, though I don't know whether it has been authenticated for the Viking period. Note that modern Norwegians make this stitch on the thumb so that it is very loose, which is great for socks, but for pouches I would make the stitch fairly tight to give a firm fabric. There are other websites which give more detailed instructions for the thumb method, so rather than reproducing their work, I suggest you search for "Oslo stitch".

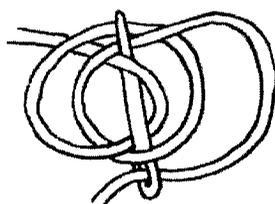


Figure 5: casting on in Oslo stitch

Joining a New Length of Thread

Joining new pieces in works best with pure wool. Leave an inch or two of the old piece of yarn hanging out, and tease it apart with your needle into separate fibres. Do the same with the first inch or so of your new piece. I give the new piece a bit of a twist so that it's more tightly twisted than it is naturally, in order to help keep everything together later. Then lay the two frayed ends together, interleaving the fibres as much as possible. Now wet the area of the join, and rub it firmly to and fro on the palm of your hand with the fingers of the opposite hand - the idea is to felt the fibres together slightly. After that, give the thread at the join a few twists to help it hold together, and carefully start sewing again, making sure you don't pull hard on the join. It should only take 1 or 2 stitches for the join to disappear into the work, and then you can carry on as usual. If it goes wrong i.e. the new piece comes off, just try the whole thing again, undoing a stitch or two if necessary.

Heel Type A

The labels I've given the heel types are completely arbitrary, by the way. This one is a good beginner's heel, as you only need to be able to work spirals, and join two pieces together. I have found it tricky to get the length right though. Make a standard toe. Then make another cup-shaped piece which fits over your heel, and sew the two together, along about half the circumference of the heel piece.

The method is known from Medieval Uppsala [1].

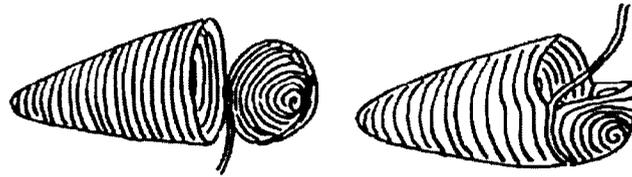


Figure 5: make a foot and attach a cup-shaped heel

Interjection - Short Rows versus To and Fro

In the following methods, instead of working backwards and forwards, you can work short rows. Break the wool off at the end of the row and sew the end in. This is easier to do but sewing in all the ends is a bit fiddly.

Heel Type B

I'm not sure I can describe this in words, that's what the pictures are for. It's a slightly finicky technique since you have to be able to work decreasing rows to and fro, but it makes a good, comfy heel. Make a standard **toe** and then start working partial rows to and fro, the first one being about half the distance around the opening of the work. Work decreasing rows until the total length of the work equals the length of your foot. Then work increasing rows at right angles, linking to the ends of the previous short rows.

As far as I can tell from the published material, this is possibly the method of construction of the Coppergate Sock [1]. Hald would have categorised the stitch as Type II [2].

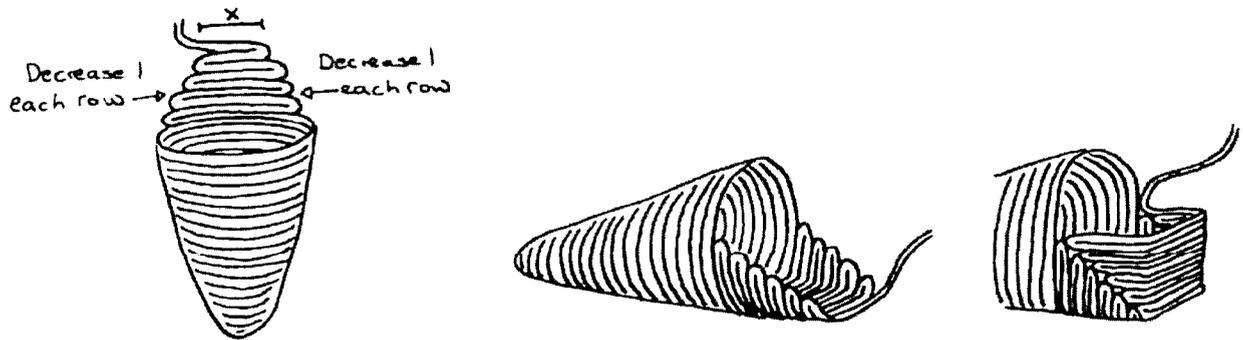


Figure 6: work decreasing rows, then increasing rows which link to them

Heel Type C

Sandra Geurts described this construction method to me. It's based on her observations of the Jorvik sock. I haven't tried it yet, but it's very clever and she claims it's very easy to get the sock to fit. You need to be able to cast on, and to work increasing rows to and fro.

Make a standard toe, and then cast on a row or "ladder" going straight out from the work. Make this long enough to go around your heel and meet the toe section on the other side, attaching it to the opposite side as shown in Figure 7. Then start working in the corner, working left and right rather than in a circle, and increasing a stitch at each end of each row. Once you reach the middle of the "ladder", stop. Start again in the other corner, and work out to the middle of the "ladder" again. Then start working in a circle to fill in the cup of the heel. After the first round, decrease, initially fairly slowly and then rapidly as you reach the middle of the cup. Keep trying the sock on as you make it and you should be able to work it to fit.

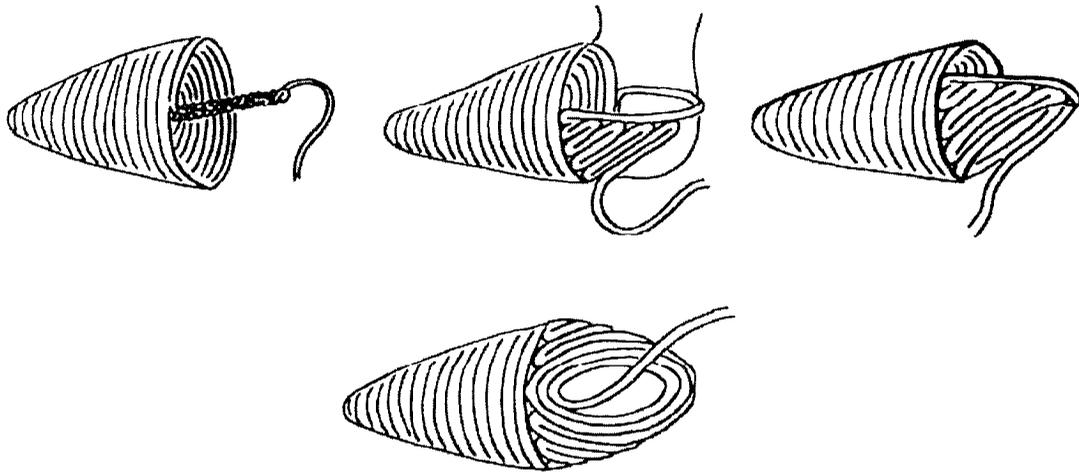


Figure 7: Construct a ladder running around the heel, and fill in the heel

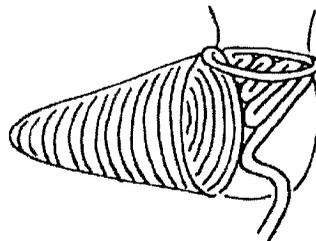


Figure 8: the ladder may alternatively be attached at the top of the foot

You may alternatively attach the "ladder" at the top of the foot, but you should still make it the same length, or you will have difficulty getting the sock on and off.

Instead of working to and fro, you can make the heel in rounds. Break off the thread once you have attached the ladder and sew in the end. Restart on the inside of the hole where the heel is to be, and work rounds within the opening, reducing 3-5 stitches at the corners (the number will depend on your stitch and wool) When the hole is quite small, perhaps an inch and a half across, reduce by one stitch, every other stitch, until the hole is small enough to sew closed.

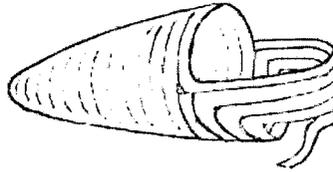


Figure 9: working rounds

Heel Type D

This method is my guess at the construction of a Roman child's sock on display in the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford. The sock looks more like a bootee from Mothercare than any archeological find, and the toe is made in broad stripes of orange, green and purple. The stitch looked like mesh stitch to me, i.e. it resembles stocking-stitch knitting in appearance, but it is presumably nalbinding since the sock dates from around the 4th century AD. A sock with similar construction but a divided toe is known from 4th-6th century Egypt [1].

Work a standard toe, and then work to and fro to make a piece which fits underneath your heel. Then work rows to and fro going up the sides and back of the heel, linking to the edge of the toe piece at each end. At the top, you can either start working in the round, or as on the Roman sock, you can work a few more rows to and fro to leave an opening at the front.

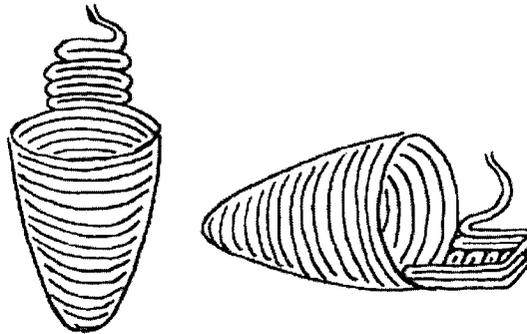


Figure 10: make a base for the heel and work to and fro up the heel

Heel Type E

I learned this method from a Norwegian re-enactor, and believe it to be a traditional Scandinavian method. She used Oslo stitch, but any stitch would probably do

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I learned this method from a Norwegian re-enactor, and believe it to be a traditional Scandinavian method. She used Oslo yarn, but any yarn would probably do. It is a terribly clever method, because you don't have to attach any pieces on, or ever work backwards and forwards, but you do have to be able to cast on. My first attempts came out looking very mis-shapen, because it's not easy to tell just how much you need to decrease to keep the sole of the sock flat.

It differs from the other methods in that you don't make a standard toe going right up to the arch of your foot. Instead, make just a small toe only about 2 inches long (depending on your foot). Then make a ladder going straight out to within about an inch of the end of your heel.

Then work down one side of the ladder and begin going round the entire open edge of the work in a deformed spiral. Decrease several stitches each time you go along the base of the ladder, and increase around the end of the ladder to keep the sole flat. Oh, just look at the pictures :)

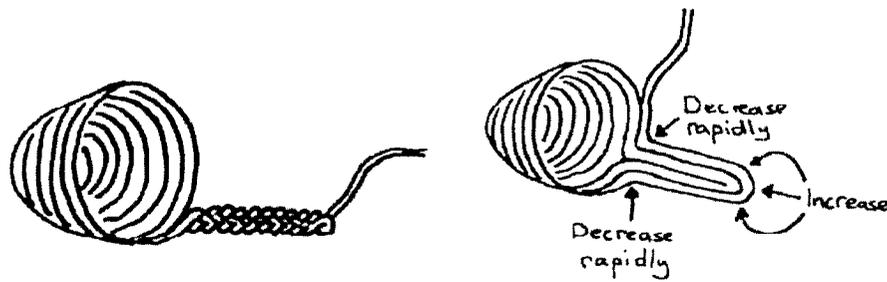


Figure 11: Norwegian all-in-one method

Once the sole is just a little smaller than your foot, stop increasing at the heel, but continue to decrease at the ladder base in order to bring the sock in around your ankle.

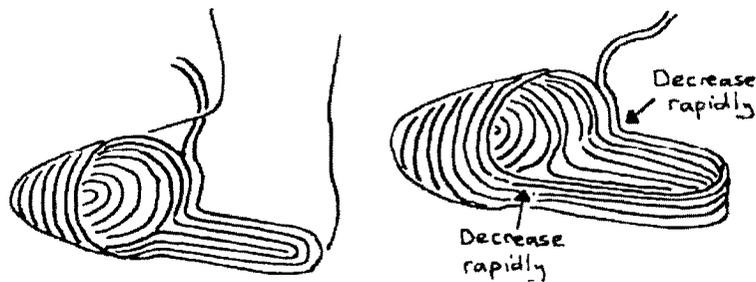


Figure 12: Norwegian all-in-one method

Ankles

Whichever method you choose to make the heel, you have a couple of choices about the ankle. Either go round and round, decreasing at the sides of the ankle, or go to and fro to make the sides and back.

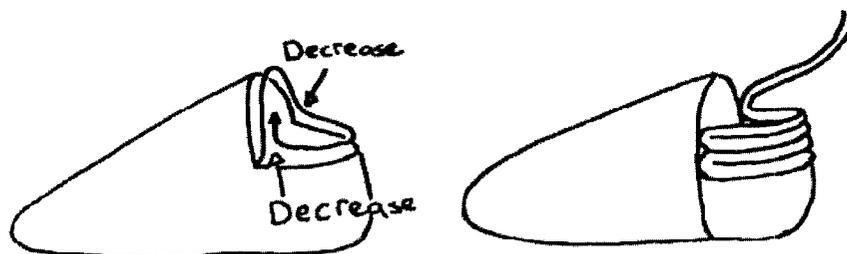


Figure 13: two ways to make ankles

If working to and fro, you can leave a slit at the top.

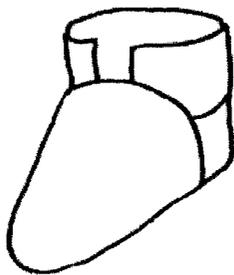


Figure 13: leave a slit at the front

Note that early socks were generally shoe-liners or very short ankle socks, and could be worn with a separate stocking to keep the leg warm. I've found that if you make a nalbinding sock which goes up the leg, it may be difficult to get on and off unless you make the ankle quite loose - you can always tie it close around your ankle with a piece of braid or ribbon.

References

1. Walton, Penelope. Textiles, Cordage and Raw Fibre from 16-22 Coppergate. York Archeological Trust 1989. [\[back\]](#)
2. Hald, Margrethe. Ancient Danish Textiles from Bogs and Burials: A Comparative Study of Costume and Iron Age Textiles, trans. Jean Olsen. Archaeological-Historical Series Vol. XXI. Copenhagen: The National Museum of Denmark, 1980. [\[back\]](#)

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US Patent 4253317 - Sock construction

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Estimated Patent Expiration Date: April 26, 1999

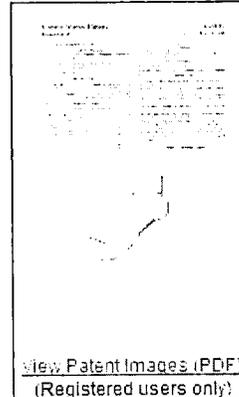
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Application
No. 06/033713 filed on 04/26/1979

US Classes:
[66:186](#), [2:233](#), [66:172E](#)

Field of Search
[66:182](#), [66:185](#), [66:186](#), [66:137](#), [66:188](#), [66:194](#), [66:180](#), [66:130](#)

Examiners
Primary: [Feltham, Ronald](#)

Attorney, Agent or Firm
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US Patent References
[1000000](#), [2000000](#), [3000000](#)

Description BACKGROUND AND SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The invention relates to a method of constructing a [sock](#), and the stocking so constructed, especially adapted for running and jogging or other active sports where running is necessary in the participation of such sports. Conventional commercial sport [socks](#) (e.g., such as shown in U.S. Pat. No. 3,250,095) have terry loops of the same density formed over the entire interior thereof, with elastic yarn being provided with substantially [equal](#) density throughout to urge the terry loops into contact with the skin of the wearer. While such socks are quite useful, they do not provide maximum cushioning for the foot areas that need cushioning. The sock according to the present invention contains additional cushioning at the heel thereof which is especially important

present invention contains additional cushioning at the heel thereof, which is especially important for sports requiring running, and additionally, the sock according to the present invention has an ankle and instep portion with a 1x1 mock rib which provides excellent instep support. Additionally, the top portion of the stocking according to the present invention is a mock-rib portion, having a 3x1 mock rib which provides an aesthetically pleasing construction for

1906137, 2102368, 2133840, 2144563, 2183862, 2219235, 2230402, 2318543, 2473677, 3154933, 3166992, 3250095, 3793051, 4080115, 4102483, 4172370, 4194349

The extra cushioning in the heel portion of the stocking according to the invention is provided by the random introduction of auxiliary to provide said second loop density. There have been proposals in the past (e.g., see U.S. Pat. No. 3,793,851) to provide a built-up heel area to increase the size of the heel so that it fills a , the built-up heel area being provided by plated auxiliary and main terry loops provided in the heel area. The extra cushioning provided according to the present invention does not take that approach, however, but rather the auxiliary terry yarn is run in a random manner through a different yarn finger than that through which the main terry yarn is introduced, with the auxiliary terry yarn being able to assume an orientation on the inside or outside of the stocking so that no plating is provided, but so that extra cushioning effect is provided at the heel portion. The toe portion of the stocking according to the present invention is free of mock ribbing, no being provided therein, and terry loops are formed on the interior thereof, preferably with the same density as in the ankle and instep portion. The mock ribbing is formed in the ankle and instep portion by running the terry yarn in the hook of the knitting needle and over the neck of the sinker, and running backing yarn and spandex in the hook and under the neck.

International Classes
A41B 11/02 (20060101)
A41B 11/00 (20060101)
D04B 1/26 (20060101)
D04B 1/22 (20060101)

It is the primary object of the present invention to provide an improved sock for running, jogging and sports requiring a good deal of running during participation therein. This and other objects of the invention will become clear from an inspection of the detailed description of the invention and from the appended claims.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIGS. 1 and 2 are side views of different embodiments of exemplary stockings according to the present invention.

FIG. 3 is an enlarged stitch diagram showing the top portion of the stockings of FIGS. 1 and 2;

FIG. 4 is an enlarged stitch diagram showing the ankle and instep portions of the stockings of FIGS. 1 and 2.

FIG. 5a is an enlarged stitch diagram of the heel portion of the stockings of FIGS. 1 and 2, and FIG. 5b is an enlarged vertical sectional view of said heel portion;

FIG. 6 is an enlarged stitch diagram of the toe portion of the stockings of FIGS. 1 and 2; and

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FIG. 7 is a schematic view showing the feeding of yarn to an exemplary knitting needle during knitting of the ankle and instep portion of the stockings of FIGS. 1 and 2.

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present invention may also be provided. Whatever the exact type of stocking provided, the stocking according to the invention includes a welt portion A, a top portion B, an ankle and instep portion C, a heel portion D and a toe portion E.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

An exemplary sun sock according to the present invention is illustrated in FIG. 1, and an exemplary crew length stocking according to the present invention is illustrated in FIG. 2. Additionally, an over-the-calf embodiment of the stocking according to the

The top portion B according to the present invention comprises a mock-rib portion having $2x$ wales, wherein x is a positive integer. The welt portion A bordering the top portion at the top thereof preferably comprises a plurality of courses of spandex, the welt portion having x wales. The welt portion ensures that the top of the stocking will not roll, and one preferred way that this can be accomplished is by providing four courses of spandex. Other non-roll configurations can also be provided, such as shown in U.S. Pat. No. 4,109,492 (disclosure of which is hereby incorporated by reference herein).

An exemplary stitch diagram for the top portion B is shown in FIG. 3, the mock rib being provided by spandex 10 being knitted in every fourth wale with the body yarn 12, a 3×1 mock rib thus being provided. As can be seen in FIG. 3, the top portion B is free of terry loops. Preferably, the spandex 10 is spandex, and the body yarn 12 is chosen from a variety of conventional body yarns, such as nylon. In the construction of a sun sock (FIG. 1), approximately 50 courses will be provided in the top portion B, with the top of the top portion being folded over and blind stitched to the bottom of the top portion inside the stocking, to thus provide a double top of 25 courses in length. In the formation of a crew sock (FIG. 2), preferably 60 courses are provided in the top portion B, and for an over-the-calf stocking approximately 134 courses would be provided in the top portion B.

The ankle and instep portion C is formed to provide additional compression and added support to that area of the foot of the wearer, and comprises a 1×1 mock rib with spandex 10 (see FIG. 4); being knit in every other wale with the body yarn 12, and with terry loops 14 (having a first density) formed on the interior of the ankle and instep portion C. The terry loops may be formed of any appropriate conventional yarn, such as orlon. The ankle and instep portion C is knitted on a conventional circular knitting machine including knitting needle 16 (see FIG. 7) having a hook portion 17 and a latch 18, and including sinkers 19 each having a neb 20 with a throat portion 21. To form the 1×1 mock rib, terry loop construction of FIG. 4, the terry yarn 14 is run in the hook 17 and over the neb 20 while the backing yarn 12 and spandex 10 (every other needle for the spandex) are run in the hook 17 of the needle 16 and into the throat 21 of the sinker 19 under the neb 20.

The heel portion D of the stocking is illustrated most clearly in FIGS. 5a and 5b. In the heel portion D, the spandex is dropped out, and an auxiliary terry yarn 24 is provided along with the main terry

... yarn 14 and the backing yarn 12. The auxiliary terry yarn 24 is not plated to the main terry yarn 14, but rather it is fed in through a separate yarn finger in a random manner. This random introduction manifests itself by the auxiliary yarn 24 assuming a position either inside the stocking (as illustrated in the top-most two courses in FIG. 5b), or outside the stocking (as illustrated in the bottom-most two courses in FIG. 5b). This random introduction provides a second terry loop density in the heel portion D which is greater than the first terry loop density provided in the ankle and instep portion C.

In the toe portion E (see FIG. 6 in particular), the spandex is dropped out and circular knitting is continued from the ankle and instep portion C utilizing the body yarn 12 and the terry loops 14. Thus, no mock ribbing is provided in the toe portion E. Preferably the terry loop density in the toe portion E is the same as in the ankle and instep portion C, the sock construction in the toe portion E thus being a conventional cushion foot sock construction in that area.

The method according to the present invention may be practiced on most conventional circular knitting machine having knitting needles, sinkers, and yarn fingers. The method thus comprises the steps of circular knitting a top mock-rib portion B circular knitting an ankle and instep portion C having a 1×1 mock rib by knitting spandex in every other wale, and forming terry loops 14, having a first density, on the interior of the ankle and instep portion; knitting a heel portion including terry loops 14, 24 having a second density greater than the first density; and circular knitting a toe portion E free of mock ribbing and including terry loops 14 formed on the interior thereof.

It will thus be seen that according to the present invention a stocking has been provided which is essentially adapted for use in athletics requiring significant amounts of running, and a method has been provided for simply constructing such a sock. While the invention has been herein shown and described in what is presently conceived to be a practical and preferred embodiment thereof, it will be apparent to those of ordinary skill in the art that modifications may be made thereof within the scope of the invention, which scope is to be accorded the broadest interpretation of the appended claims so as to encompass all equivalent structures and methods.

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DPNs and Circular Needles, Two at a Time Socks, and Toe Up Socks

[Emily Chauviere](#)



There are many different **sock** knitting techniques, such as two at a time socks, **toe up socks**, and knitting socks with a circular needle instead of double-pointed needles.

Knitting socks can be intimidating, but there are many different **sock** knitting techniques that a knitter can try. Websites such as [Ravelry](#) and [Knitty.com](#) have links to tutorials, and Youtube has some video demonstrations.

Parts of a Sock

A **sock** is made up of the **cuff**, the **leg**, the **heel**, the **instep** (top of the **sock**), the **sole** (bottom of the **sock**), and the **toe**. The heel is made of the **heel flap**, which lies on the back of the foot and extends from the ankle to the sole, the **heel turn**, which cups the heel and connects the heel flap to the sole, and the **gusset**, which is a triangular area that connects the heel flap to the instep.

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One of the reasons to try variations on **sock** knitting techniques is to be able to knit two socks at once or **toe up** socks. One of the advantages of knitting two socks at once is that the knitter will know they will match: they will be the same size, and the knitter won't forget to knit any pattern variations into both socks. It's also a way to avoid the dreaded sockitis, the reluctance to knit the second **sock** because the knitter is anxious to move on to the next project.

When knitting **toe up** socks the knitter can try them on and make sure they fit as she is knitting, and she doesn't need to worry about not having enough yarn to finish the foot.

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Sock Knitting Techniques

- **Double-pointed Needles (DPNs)** The most common **sock** knitting technique, using four or five DPNs. Working from the cuff down, the knitter distributes the stitches around the needles, rearranging them when working the heel.
- **One Short Circular Needle** By using a very tiny (12") circular with very short needle ends, the knitter can work the **sock** in the round using only one needle. The benefit of working with a circular is that the knitter doesn't have to worry about DPNs sticking out and falling out of the project.
- **Two Circular Needles** The knitter divides the back of the **sock** and the front of the **sock** stitches between two circulars. There's a two at a time variation of this method.
- **One Long Circular Needle (Magic Loop)** Sarah Hauschka explains the *Magic Loop* method in her pamphlet, sold on [Knit Picks](#). The knitter divides and slides the stitches around one long (40") circular needle. Half of the stitches are on the center of the circular while the other half are being knit by the needles.
- **Two at a Time Socks on One Circular Needle** This is like the *Magic Loop* method, but with a few extra tricks to keep the socks separate. Melissa Morgan-Oakes explains this method in *2-at-a-time Socks*.
- **Two at a Time Socks on Double-pointed Needles** Leo Tolstoy has a character use this method in *War and Peace*. Basically, it's like knitting using the regular DPN method, but every other stitch on the needles belongs to the inner **sock**. Both socks grow on the needles, and in the end the knitter pulls the inner **sock** out of the outer one.
- **Toe Up Socks on Double-pointed Needles** Using a special cast-on, the knitter starts at the **toe** and knits up. The only difference in **sock** construction is that the heel turn and gusset end up being 'above' the heel flap instead of below it like in top-down socks.

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flap instead of below it like in top-down socks.

- **Two at a Time, Toe Up.** One Circular Needle Knit Pick's has designed a pattern for putting it all together—two socks at once, starting at the toe, on one big circular needle

Have Fun With Sock Knitting

Sock knitting is useful, fun, and addictive. Many knitters have said that turning their first heel was like magic and they've always had socks on their needles since. There isn't one 'right' way to knit socks, so knitters can experiment with different methods and techniques to find one that suits their knitting lifestyle.

Sources:

- Budd, Ann. *Getting Started Knitting Socks*. Loveland: Interweave Press, 2007.
- Morgan Oakes, Melissa. *2 at a Time Socks*. North Adams, MA: Storey Publishing, 2007.

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