

The Bumblebee Socks

by Ann Myhre
a Needle Lady-design



- Yarn** Fingernig weight sock yarn.
In this pattern I have used Wollmeise Twin 80/20 in 3 different colours: Natural, Löwenzhan og Salamander. The two last colours are variegated to make the effect of grass and bumblebees.
The pair weighs 110 gram.
- Needles** Double pointed needles and circular needle (for casting on) in size 0 (2 mm)
- Size** The socks are knitted toe-up. Knitted here are women's European size 37-38 (about 9.5 Inches/24 cm long). Increases for the gusset start at about 5 Inches/13 cm from the toe. If you want the foot longer or shorter, start the increase before or after.

Good to know

These socks are knitted toe-up, using the [Magic Cast On](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lhBIS0AhhQY) (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lhBIS0AhhQY>), or any preferable cast on.

For the increases (the sides of the toe part, and for the gussets) I have used M1 all through the sock. M1 means pick up the thread between the stitches on the row under where you want to make the increase.

I have used [short rows](http://www.knitty.com/ISSUEsummer03/FEATbonnetric.html) (<http://www.knitty.com/ISSUEsummer03/FEATbonnetric.html>) on the heel to make a nice rounded heel.

Toe

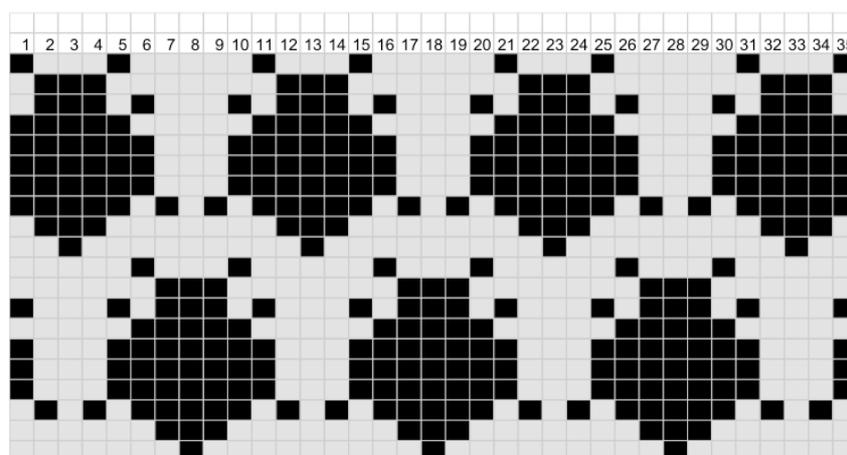
CO 34 st using circular needle size 0 and Magic Cast On in the green colour. 17 sts each side. *Knit 1 round stockinette, then 1 round with increases each side of the toe: Knit 1, inc, knit until there is 1 sts left on the needle, inc, repeat for the other needle. You have now increased 4 sts. * Repeat from * to * until you have 70 sts on your sock. Every bumblebee + 1 st spacing = 10 sts.

You can change to DPNs whenever you want, or continue with your circular needle whatever you prefer.

When you're done with the increases for the toe, knit 8 more rounds with green, cut the thread. Work two rounds with the main color before you start the bumblebee pattern.

Foot

It is now time to start the bumblebee pattern. Place the pattern on the sock so you get symmetry on your sock.



You start with the lower right corner, and knit left wise. This chart shows only half the pattern. Work to the top so when you come to needle 3 and 4 you just continue the bumblebees as established.

For the women size you knit three rows with bumblebees before you start increasing for the gusset.

Gusset

When the sock is about halfway on your foot, you'll start to increase for gussets on both sides of the sock.

Round 1:

Knit the pattern for 35 sts, then start the gusset. I have knitted the heel in stripes (one white, one multicolored), with one stitch in the main color before each inc: Knit 1, inc 1, knit until you have one stitch left on the gusset, inc 1, knit 1.

Round 2:

Knit the bumblebee pattern for 35 sts. Knit the stripes.

Repeat these two rows until you have 55 sts in stripes, ending with a row 2 at the start of the bumblebee pattern.

Heel

Now it's time for the short rows and the heel flap. Start with needle 1 and 2 of the bumblebee pattern (still 35 st) as you have already established.



When you come to the striped part, the heel starts. Knit 43 sts, wrap around the 44th stitch, turn. Do not knit the first stitch. Purl 31 sts, wrap the next, turn. Do not knit the first stitch; knit 30 stitches, wrap and turn. Repeat this until you have 8 wrapped sts each side, and 17 sts in the middle.

Next row, right side facing you: Knit 17, knit the wrapped stitches together with the wrap (8 sts), knit the bumblebee sts until you reach the wrapped sts on the right side. Knit the wrapped sts together with the wrap (8 sts).

You have finished the short row part.

Now you'll start to shape the heel flap, which will be made by decreasing 11 st on each side.

Row 1: You have now knitted the 8 wrapped sts. Knit 17 sts, knit 7 sts, k2tog, Turn.

Row 2: Do not knit the first stitch; purl 31 sts, p2tog, turn.

Repeat these two rows until you have decreased 10 sts each side, and there is one st left on each side that has not been decreased. From now on you'll be knitting in the round again.

Turn, right side is now facing you. Knit until there is 2 sts left on the heel, k2tog, work bumblebee pattern as established (35 st), and knit the last and first of the st together.

Theoretically there should now be 70 st. Isn't it? Well, increase or decrease the odd st out evenly on the next round. That's how I knit, and no one will ever see it. Promise!

Leg

You have now 70 sts again, and you are going to knit the bumblebee pattern both in front and back. Knit until 2 inches before wanted length. I think it looks best if you finish after a row of bumblebees. Knit 2 rows in the main color. Cut the thread. Work one round in green and increase 2 sts on this round. Continue in ribbing (k2, p2) for 2 inches. Bind off loosely by knitting one st, knitting one st, and knitting these two st together where this st will be the first in the next decrease.

Don't forget to knit the second sock!

Translated by Marianne Glørstad -
Proof read by MaryJo O.
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This pattern is free, and you can make as many socks you want (or use the bumblebee chart as part of something else), and sell them or give them away. What I ask is that this pattern never is sold as part of a yarn parcel. I did not make this *pattern* for others to make money.

If in doubt, I speak English and am easy to reach on my mail,
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And, any faults, any misunderstandings, any written problems, any questions, please don't hesitate to send me an E-mail. I would love to hear from you and see your pictures of your socks, your mittens, your hat, your ... :D