



**Russian Lace Ankle Socks (W161)
Using Cascade Fixation Pattern**



Russian Lace Ankle Socks (W161)

This pattern uses techniques developed by the extraordinary lace knitters of the Orenburg region of Russia. It is worked all in garter stitch and features short row heels and toes.

Sized for a woman's medium foot

Materials: 2 balls of Fixation by Cascade Yarns (98.3% cotton, 1.7% elastic), 50 grams/186 yards (shown in Cherry, #3794), size 3 (3.25 mm) double pointed needles

Gauge: 7 st/in using size 3 needles in garter stitch. Please take time to knit a swatch and check your gauge. Adjust to a larger or smaller needle if needed.

Cuff: Cast on 20 stitches using a provisional cast on method. It will be convenient later if you leave a long tail of yarn for use in grafting later. Work as indicated in Chart 1 (starting with the 2 foundation rows, then row 1 - 16 of the pattern repeat) for 5 pattern repeats, less one row. Pick up the cast on stitches and graft the two ends together. (See our website at www.handjiveknits.com for grafting instructions if you need them.)

Pick up 48 stitches around the bottom edge of the cuff and divide them evenly onto 4 size 3 double pointed needles. The point between needles 1 and 4 will be the center of the heel. Work the ankle rounds as follows:

1. knit
2. *yarn over, purl 2 stitches together*, repeat around
3. knit
4. *purl 2 stitches together, yarn over*, repeat around
5. knit

Heel: Move 4 stitches from needles 2 and 3 to needles 1 and 4 so that you have 32 stitches total with which to work the heel. Knit until there is 1 stitch left on the left-hand needle. Slip this last stitch purlwise, bring the yarn to the front of the piece, then slip the stitch back to the left-hand needle. Turn the work. Knit across all the heel stitches until there is 1 stitch left on the left-hand needle (needle 4). Slip this stitch purlwise, bring the yarn to the front of the piece, then slip the stitch back to the left hand needle. Turn the work. Knit across all the heel stitches until there are 2 stitches left on the left-hand needle. Slip the next stitch purlwise, bring the yarn to the front of the piece, then put the slipped stitch back on the left hand needle. Turn the work. Continue working back and forth in this manner, until all but the center 4 stitches have been slipped and wrapped.

To work the second half of the heel, knit the 4 center stitches, then slip the first wrapped stitch to the right-hand needle purlwise, use the left-hand needle to lift the wrap up and over the slipped stitch so that it forms a separate stitch on the right-hand needle, slip both the slipped stitch and the wrap stitch back to the left-hand needle and knit the two of them together. Turn the work, and knit until you come to the first wrapped stitch. Slip this stitch to the right-hand needle, lift the wrap over it, slip the two stitches back, and knit them together as previously described. Turn the work. Continue working in this manner until all of the wrapped stitches have been worked. Knit to the end of needle 4. Put 4 stitches from needles 1 and 4 back onto needles 2 and 3. You should have 12 stitches on each needle.

Foot: Purl one round. Knit 13 stitches, then work as shown in Chart 2 over the instep stitches, finally knitting the last 13 stitches in the round. Continue working in this manner (purl odd rows, knit even rows) until the foot measures 1.5 inches shorter than the final desired length.

Toe: The toe is worked in the same manner as described for the heel, except that it is worked on just the 24 stitches on needles 2 and 3 and you work the stitches until all but the center 6 stitches have been slipped and wrapped before working the second half of the toe. Finally, graft the toe stitches to the foot stitches at the bottom of the foot.

A Word About Fit: Socks should have a firm fabric and fit snugly on the foot. This helps them wear longer, and they will be more comfortable. The instructions as written will make a sock that comfortably fits someone that measures 8.75 inches around the ankle and 8.25 inches around the ball of the foot. You can best adjust the fit by changing needle size. One of the great things about making socks is the ability to easily get a truly custom fit.

Chart 1

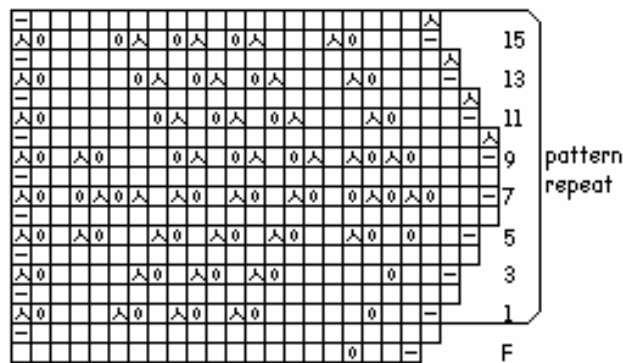


Chart 2

