

Grandma's Knitted Slippers

This is the pattern for slippers that my grandma has made for years. They are a “booty” style slipper, and can be made with whatever worsted weight yarn you feel appropriate. There is a separate knit sole sewn onto the bottom of the slippers. If you use a rug yarn for the soles they will last longer and be more durable. Grandma's were always acrylic variegated yarn, but I've made them from Lion Brand Wool-Ease with great results. You could also try any number of the nicer yarns out there. I recommend you use a machine-washable yarn for these.

I need to make more pairs for my family now, and will have pictures available once I have them knit.

You will need:

2 skeins worsted weight yarn

Size 7 needles

Yarn needle for seaming and weaving in ends

Sizes: Child (Woman, Man)

Beginning at heel, and using 2 strands of yarn cast on 24 (30, 36) sts. Leave 12” yarn end for sewing later.

Row 1: Knit

Row 2 (ws): K 8 (10, 12), P1, K 6 (8, 10), P1, K 8 (10, 12).

Repeat rows 1 and 2 until piece is half the length you want the slipper to be, end with row 2.

Next row (rs): K2, inc 1 st in next st, K2, inc 1 st in next st, K 4 (8, 11), inc 1 st in next 3 sts, K4 (6, 9), inc 1 st in next st, K2, inc 1 st in next st, k3. 31 (37, 43) stitches.

Ribbing row 1 (ws): P1, *K1, P1. Repeat from * across row.

Ribbing row 2 (rs): K1, *P1, K1. Repeat from * across row.

Work in ribbing until piece measures 1/2” less than desired length, end on row 1.

Decrease rows:

Dec Row 1 (rs): Work in ribbing on 7 (9, 11) sts, P3tog, work in ribbing on 3 (5, 7) sts, P3tog, K1, P3tog, work in ribbing on last 7 (9, 11) sts. 23 (29, 35) sts remain.

Next row (ws): P1, *K1, P1. Repeat from * across row.

Dec Row 2 (rs): Work in ribbing on 3 (5, 5) sts, P3tog, work in ribbing on 11 (13, 19) sts, P3tog, work in ribbing on 3 (5, 5) sts 19 (25, 31) sts remain.

Next row (ws): P1, *K1, P1. Repeat from * across row.

For children's slippers, continue on to finishing. For womens and mens slippers, work another decrease row as follows:

Work in ribbing for 3sts, P3tog, work in ribbing on (13, 19) sts, P3tog, work in ribbing for 3sts.

Next row (ws) P1, *K1, P1. Repeat from * across row.

Note: In order to make sure both slippers are the same, you may want to put first slipper on a spare needle or stitch holder while knitting the second (before closing toe).

Finishing:

Cut yarn 36” from last st. Thread yarn end in needle. Beginning with first stitch on right side of work, slip sts off knitting needle onto yarn needle. Draw yarn through stitches and pull tightly for toe.

Turn piece to wrong side. With side edges meeting at center top of slipper, overcast toe stitches together to close the toe hole. Overcast edge of ribbing together, up to garter stitch, end off.

Thread 12” of yarn from cast-on onto needle and overcast back sts down to middle of heel to close back of slipper.

Sole:

With cc color, cast on 2 (4, 6) sts.

Row 1: K, inc 1 st in last st.

Row 2: P, inc in last st.

Rows 3-5: K, inc in last st of each row.

Row 6: P, inc in last st. 8 (10, 12) sts.

Work in ridged pattern of K3 rows, P1 row until sole is same length as garter stitch section of slipper. End on P row.

Next row: K, inc 1 st in first st, center st, and last st. 11 (13, 15) sts.

Continue in ridged pattern until sole is 1 1/2" less than slipper length, end on P row.

Shape toe: K2tog, K to last two sts, K2tog.

K 2 rows

P 1 row.

Repeat these 4 rows twice more.

Bind off remaining 5 (7, 9) sts.

Finishing: With cc yarn sew sole to bottom of slipper along ribbing lines using overcast st.

Sew on jingle bells, pompom, or ribbon bow, if desired.