Monkey Socks

These are inspired by some monkey socks that I used to have. They are made from Koigu KPPPM, a super soft, hand dyed 100% merino wool. I am not much of a pattern writer, so please email me if you have any questions! It is pretty much as basic sock with a short row heel and a rounded toe. You can use your own sock pattern if you want!

Materials

Yarn: Koigu KPPPM sock weight, 2 balls main color, 1 ball contrasting color.

Needles: 1 ½ US double points, sewing needle.

Pattern Notes

Sock is knit in the following simple Knit and Purl pattern for a little added texture.

Rows 1 and 3: Knit

Row 2: *K 3, P 1, repeat from star across all sts.

Row 4: *K 2, P 1, K 1, repeat from star across all sts.

Instructions

With main color, cast on 60 sts (LOOSELY)

Work in K 1, P 1 ribbing for 2 inches, or desired length for cuff.

Begin Knit and Purl Pattern, and work until sock measures about 7 or 8 inches from cast on ending with row 1 or 3 of pattern.

Short Row Heel Part I (I took this pretty much right from Emmy and Johanna www.dyedjemsyarn.com)

Arrange sts so that the next 30 sts are on one needle for the heel (working yarn is at the right edge of these sts). The other 30 sts on two needles to be worked as instep later. NOTE for a particularly high instep work a few more stitches (multiples of 2) into the heel (you will have fewer stitches on the instep needles). Join contrasting yarn. Don't cut main yarn here.

Work heel sts in short rows as follows:

Row 1: (RS) K 29 sts (1 st un-worked on left needle), turn.

Row 2: YO backwards, purl 28 sts (1 st un-worked on left needle), turn.

Row 3: YO normally, knit to one stitch before YO from previous row (leaving 3 sts on the left needle), turn.

Row 4: YO backwards, purl to one stitch before YO from previous row, turn.

Row 5: YO normally, knit to one stitch before YO from previous row, turn.

Rep the last 2 rows until there are 12 TOTAL sts between YOs, ending with a WS row (Row 4). Turn so RS is facing.

Heel Part II

Row 1: (RS) YO, knit to YO from previous row (12 sts), correct the mount of the YO (the stitch comes from back to front, left to right, over the needle), k2tog (the YO with the first st after it, leaving a YO as the next st on the left needle), turn.

Row 2: (WS) YO backwards, purl to YO of previous row, ssp (the YO with the next st), leaving a YO as the next st on the left needle, turn.

Row 3: YO, knit to the next YO (the next 2 sts will be YOs), correct the mount of both YOs, k3tog (2 YOs with the following knit st), turn.

Row 4: YO backwards, purl to next YO (the next 2 loops are YOs), sssp (2 YOs with the next purl st), turn.

Rep rows 3 and 4 until all original YOs of heel have been used up, ending with Row 4. The last turn will bring RS facing 30 sts + 1 yo.

Joining Row: Join main yarn (it should be right there ready to pick up) and working in pattern, YO, knit to YO at end of needle, place this YO on next needle (first instep needle), k2tog (the YO plus first st of next needle), work across instep sts to one st before end, place yo at beg of next needle onto instep needle and SSK YO and next st. Back to original 60 sts.

Continue working in knit and purl pattern until sock is about 2.5 inches less than total length of foot ending with row 1 or 3.

Toe (also from Emmy and Johanna)

When you are about 3" from desired length, join contrasting varn and knit 8 rows.

Work decrease row as follows:

Needle one (first half of instep sts): K to 3 sts before end of needle, k2tog, K1. Needle two (what used to be the heel sts): K1, ssk, K to 3 sts before the end of needle 2, k2tog, k1.

Needle three (second half of instep sts): K1, ssk, K to end of needle.

Knit 2 rows
Work decrease row
Knit 2 rows
Work decrease row
Knit 1 row
Work decrease row
Knit 1 row
Work decrease row
Knit 1 row
Knit 1 row

Work decrease on every row until 8 stitches remain.

Weave toe using kitchener stitch

Weave in ends, using the ends at the heel to reinforce any holes or loose spots that might have cropped up.

Glossary

St(s): stitch(es)

RS: right side of work WS: wrong side of work

K: knit P: purl

YO: yarn over

YO backwards: yarn is brought from back to front over needle. (This is done on WS

or purl rows.)

K2tog: knit 2 together

SSK: slip both stitches knitwise, then knit them together through back loop.

K3tog: knit 3 together

SSP: slip both stitches knitwise, then purl them together through back loop SSSP: slip all three stitches knitwise, then purl them through back loop