MINIATURE SOCKS

(any cylinder and any yarn that works well for that cylinder)

1. Set up with scrap yarn on the front 8 needles of cylinder, all other needles being removed and set aside. Using heel tension spring, knit back and forth a few times and completely around the cylinder to be sure it is working okay. If needles want to skip at the start, lower your yarn carrier. I like to tie the beginning tail of yarn to the end tail of the scrap yarn so it keeps sufficient tension on the first stitch of the row. You will need a pointed tool to pull down on the heel portion. Use only 1 section of weight or just your hands for pulling down.

2. Knit left to right stretching the stitches larger than normal by working back a loop of yarn. This will enable ease of the release when stitches are doubled. Knit right to left.

3. Hang bars from row one onto needles with round two. Knit to right.

4. Continuing all the way around the cylinder counter-clockwise, knit 8 rounds. Mentally number needles from 1 through 8, left to right.

5. Lift needle 8; knit to left. Lift needle 1; knit to right. Lift needle 7; knit to left. Lift needle 2; knit to right. Lift needle 6; knit to left. Lift needle 3; knit to right. Lift needle 5; knit to left. Lift needle 4; push down needle 5; knit to right. Push down needle 4; knit to left. Push down needle 6; knit to right. Push down needle 3; knit to left. Push down
needle 7; knit to right. Push down needle 2; knit to left. Push down needle 8; knit to right. Push down needle 1; knit to left.

6. Knit to right and continue around counter-clockwise 6 rounds.

7. Leave 6" tail for closing. Attach scrap yarn. Knit back and forth for 8 rows of scrap yarn. Remove from machine or make another sock. These can be done in a long string.

8. Run final tail through all 8 end stitches and pull tight.

9. Place a pen or pencil in the sock so you can see the "rungs" easily. There should be 7 at the top of the sock, a space, then 5 at the foot end.

9. Using a spare needle, pick up any loop or go through the center of the end you just closed. Ladder up the 5 foot rungs.

10. Push the needle through a loop on the left side, then a loop on the right side where there is a significant space between the rungs of the foot and leg. Then pick up the first rung of the leg and continue laddering to the top leaving the needle in the last stitch temporarily.

11. Run the initial piece of yarn through the final stitch; remove latch needle. Run yarn through end stitch of selvedge to the right, back through the same stitch and into the first or second stitch of the selvedge on the left.

12. Weave in ends at toe and top.

To change colors at the heel, change yarns at end of step 4 for heel.

©2012 Roxana Baechle
For toe, use contrasting color for last two rows of toe and tie off securely. Since there really is not a good place to bury the tail yarn in this case, leave the ends about 1/2" long and work them to the inside of the sock.