

LONG stockings possible to over-the-thigh or all the way to crotch!

You can use this technique with any yarn that will go smoothly through your machine with ALL needles in work and operating at half-pitch: thus, on a 60 slot, you would have 90; on a 72 slot you would have 108. The more needles in work, the finer the yarn required. (This is NOT the pattern to use with your 54 slot cylinder.) Be sure that your original set-up is adjusted so that you will be able to move your ribber lever in either direction, as an alteration in line-up will be required later in the sock. In other words, don't be set so that you are at either extreme end of the screw; you may need to move in either direction.

Set up in scrap yarn with all needles loaded in ribber dial and set to come out between every other cylinder needle (half-pitch), thus ribbing in 1X2 configuration. SELVEDGE is CRITICAL. Follow closely. In scrap, BEFORE you attach your working yarn (starting at a designated spot you will recognize such as side hash mark), start in front of the yarn carrier pulling UP out of work every other cylinder needle (the second one of the pair where there are two cylinder needles side-by-side). When you enter the point you want to attach your working yarn, the needles ahead of your yarn carrier have to already be in this position. Continue around the dial raising every other cylinder needle as you move ahead. Be careful not to drop anything by having a knot interfere with the yarn change! Knit ONE round with the ribber in work. As you come to the point where your first needle in working yarn is lined up with the front of your entry to the tappet plate, switch the ribber to OUT position.) Go around the dial ONE time out of work. Put the ribber back in work when slightly farther ahead of the point where you originally took it out of work. Go 3/4 of the way around. When you are coming to the point where you started the selvedge, push the second needles (every other needle around the dial) back down INTO working position far enough ahead of your dial so that they are back into work when your Vcam and yarn carrier get there. That's critical. Once everything is back into work, you can continue as you wish. The following is my extreme thigh-high version.

Knit selvedge as described above. Knit 225 rounds in 1X2 ribbing (all needles in work). On the next round, begin removing the every other needle so you can go to 1X1 ribbing for the lower leg and ankle. To do so, take out a cylinder needle and place its stitch on the above ribber needle which will be slightly off-kilter temporarily. You will be leaving every other needle in the cylinder to create your standard 1X1 ribbing. You will need to switch half of the ribber dial until such time as you are able to readjust your ribber lever to standard line-up for regular ribbing (not off-set for half-pitch). That's the only tricky part of this whole sock.

Knit 65 rounds in 1X1 ribbing. Remove heel section ribber needles for pre-heel and knit 15 rounds. You may want to do this with the heel-spring in place in order to not require adjusting the size of your stitch. (You will likely want the foot more snug than the leg.) Knit required rounds for foot; I did 40. Return to stockinette stitches for the final round of foot, then knit toe. Kitchener closed.

With the 60 slot cylinder, I knitted this sock in acrylic sportweight baby yarn, and it easily went up over my thigh and seemed to stay in place nicely. Wool would do a better job with better memory, so I don't think there will be any trouble having it stay up. The 1X2 ribbing is very springy and not as constricting as 1X1. I have a sizeable thigh and am 5'4" tall if that gives you an idea of whether you want this many rows or to add or decrease. This was way too much fun! Photo available upon request.