

Maisha

99% homemade :-)



Baby booties

Knit in the round, no sewing



I've said it before and I'll say it again – I really hate sewing knitted garments ;-). That's why I came up with these booties when two of my friends were pregnant and I wanted to get them sets of hats and booties for their new babies.

Once you've mastered the [Turkish cast-on](#) and the [magic loop](#), these booties will take no time at all, and very little yarn :-)

If you've not learned these wonderful techniques yet, you have two options: practise, practise practise ;-), or see if you can somehow adapt this to double pointed needles. I would go with the first option as these skills will undoubtedly serve you well many, many times :-)

This pattern is not for a specific size or specific weight of yarn. You can adapt it to any size by using foot measurements. More on this below.

Size:

The pattern adapts to all sizes and yarns :-)

You'll need foot measurements in order to knit these. If you don't know the exact length of the foot, you can use these standard measurements:

Preemie: 2 - 3½" (measure if possible)

0-3 months: 3¼ – 3¾"

3-6 months: 4 - 4½"

6-12 months: 4¼ – 4¾"

See more sizes at [Bev's chart](#) (save this link if you make baby gear often!)

If making booties for children who are standing or walking, I recommend giving them a leather sole or making them non-slip using another method.

Materials:

- Yarn – how much depends on the size, but I think you can do it with a 50 g skein no matter what size.
- Circular needle matching yarn weight – note that the pattern is written for use with magic loop!
- Wool needle
- Stitch markers, 4
- Scarp yarn to mark beginning or round (easier than using marker)

Gauge:

Not an issue – you'll just need measurements :-)

Stitch explanations and techniques:

- st – stitch
- p – purl; k – knit
- pm – place marker; sm – slip marker
- yo – yarn over; increase that leaves a hole – wrap yarn over right needle. Video [here](#).
- K2tog – knit 2 together; **decrease** – knit two stitches together as if they were a single stitch. Slants to right. Video [here](#).
- SSK – slip slip knit; **decrease** – slip one stitch, then slip the next. Insert left needle into the front loops of the slipped stitches and knit them together from this position (through the back loops). Slants to left. Video [here](#).
- M1F - increase; from the front, lift loop between stitches with left needle, knit into back of loop . Video [here](#).
- M1B - increase; from the back, lift loop between stitches with left needle, knit into front of loop. Video [here](#).
- Turkish cast-on; cast-on using 1 or 2 circular needles for knitting in multiple directions. Tutorial [here](#). When doing Turkish cast-on with 2 circulars, I used the needle I am going to be knitting with, and a smaller one. Now that I'm used to this method, I often just use the 1 circular I will be knitting with for the Turkish cast-on.
- Magic loop – using a large circular needle instead of double pointed needles. Video [here](#).

Pattern:

Before you begin, find out how long the sole should be by measuring or using the standard sizes above.

Sole:

Cast on 20 sts with Turkish cast-on (10 wraps on circulars).

Round 1: k 2, pm, k 7, pm, k 3, pm, k 7, pm, k 1. 20 st. Place scrap yarn to mark beginning of round.

Round 2: k 1, M1B, k 1, sm, M1F, k 6, M1B, k 1, sm, M1F, k 2, M1B, k 1, sm, M1F, k 6, M1B, k 1, sm, M1F, k 1. 28 st.

Round 3 and all odd rounds: k all sts.

Round 4 and all even rounds: *k to 1 st before marker, M1B, k 1, sm, M1F* repeat throughout round.

Continue until the sole is the desired length (measurement + maybe ½-1"). End with an odd round (all k, no incs) removing markers. Keep the scrap yarn marking the beginning of the round.

Finish the sole part with a round of purl to make a nice edge.

Edge:

If you're making booties for a newborn using sock yarn, you should probably do about 4 rounds of k now. .

But if you're knitting with much heavier yarn, you probably won't need to do more than 2 rounds of k or the edge will be too high.

If you're doing a larger bootie with thin yarn, you might need to do 6-8 rounds of k. Go ahead and try to see what will fit.

During the last round, place 2 markers: k to 2 sts before middle of round (let's say you have 56 sts – then k 27), pm, k 2, pm, k to end of round.

Top:

K to 2 st before marker, k2tog, k2, ssk, k to end of round.



Repeat on every round until you have about 60% of the sts left.

Now make a yarn-over round to make holes for the strings.

K to first marker, remove marker, k 1 (remove the other when you begin the round). This will be the beginning of the yarn-over round (keep the scrap yarn in the back), because then it's easier to figure out how to divide the sts (it was for me anyway :-)).

You'll need an even number of holes, maybe 6, so now you divide the sts with this number. Let's say you have 32 sts, so the math would be like this: $32 / 6 = 5 \text{ st} + 2 \text{ extra st}$. Add the extra sts to the front and/or back.

Using the number from the example above with 32 sts, the round would be:

k 2, yo, k2tog, *k 3, yo, k2tog* repeat from * once more, k 4, yo, k2tog, *k 3, yo, k2tog* repeat from * once more, k2.

Now, k to scrap yarn which will again mark the beginning of the round.

Then do 1½" or so of knit rounds before binding off very loosely. Weave in the end on the right side since the wrong side will show when it curls. Weave in the yarn end from cast-on on the wrong side.

Cord:

You can make cords in a number of ways – twisting, crocheting a chain or (as I did) [knitting I-cord](#). This is my favourite because of its elasticity. It needs to be fairly long to tie in a bow.

Pull the string through the holes, tie it, and you're done :-)



If you have any questions about the pattern or corrections for mistakes, please contact me on [Ravelry](#) or [email me](#).

2013, Sisse Holmstrup, *Maisha*

This pattern may be published anywhere, as long as it's free ;-) It may be used to make stuff for resale. It may also be altered and published, as long as it's still free and there's a link to the original pattern :-)