

SECOND THOUSAND.

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**Directions for
Knitting Two
Socks at once**

**FOR OUR MEN ON
ACTIVE SERVICE**

**The Lady Mayoress's League,
Melbourne.**



HOW TO KNIT TWO SOCKS AT ONCE.

This method can soon be learnt by anyone already expert in sock-knitting, but should not be attempted by beginners.

For the first and second trials, it is very advisable to use different coloured wools for your two balls, and thus complete two different pairs of socks. Double quantity of wool and two sets of needles are necessary to start with, and No. 12 needles are recommended as of lighter weight and more pointed. Care must be taken to knit evenly with both wools (otherwise your socks may be different sizes).

Welts or Ribbing.—Cast on the usual number of stitches, and knit $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches of purl and plain ribbing. Then take another ball of wool and cast on the same number on another set of needles. Repeat the $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches of purl and plain.

N.B.—When finished, top must not measure less than 14 inches round (when stretched 7 inches across).

To transfer to one set of needles.—Place one welt inside the other and with a free needle pick off one stitch from the front welt (the welt on which your thumbs rest) and then one stitch from the back welt, and continue thus exactly time about from front to back till the whole number are on one set of needles.

To manage your threads of wool from the two balls it is advisable to guide the wool for the purl with your right hand in the English way, and the wool for the plain with your left hand in the Swiss way; if this is not manageable, different fingers can be used of the one hand, but great care must be taken to avoid crossing the wool as this would cause the two socks to become joined.

The Leg.—Now proceed: purl the first stitch (making sure it belongs to the front sock) plain the next stitch (belonging to the back sock) and continue thus till the legs measure 12 inches from top of welt. You will see that the whole of the front sock is knitted purl—(as if it were

outside in) and the whole of the back sock is plain, and the wool for the front sock must therefore always be kept in position for purling.

The Heel-flap.—The heel-flap is knitted in the usual way, by knitting back and forwards on half the number of stitches for $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches. For double knitting, you will, of course, have double the usual number of stitches, and will knit them 1 purl, 1 plain, as in the leg. In slipping the first stitch when turning your work, remember to slip one for each sock, front and back.

Heel-gusset—Knitting two together.—When it is necessary to knit two stitches together there must be a re-arrangement, as, if a purl and plain were knitted together it would cause a join. The stitches must therefore be arranged so that 2 purl are side by side, and 2 plain side by side. To do this proceed as follows:—

Commence always with one from the front sock, i.e., a purl stitch. Slip this first purl on to your right needle. Gently drop off the next stitch (a plain one) at back of the row and slip the third stitch purl on to the right needle. Now pick up the dropped plain stitch on your left needle. Transfer the 2 purl slipped stitches from the right to the left needle, and you now have 2 purl to knit together, and 2 plain to knit together, and you have taken in a stitch on each separate sock. This is to be followed whenever it is necessary to make an intake of stitches.

Picking up side of Flap.—Pick up the side stitches alternately, from the double flaps, knitting 1 purl and 1 plain.

Ankle gusset.—Follow your usual pattern and take 2 together in the way described for the heel gusset.

Foot.—Knit alternately 1 purl and 1 plain as in the leg.

Toe.—For decreasing, take 2 together, as described for heel.

Weaving off.—When reduced sufficiently for weaving pull the needles out, separate the socks, and insert two needles for each toe and weave off separately, as described in "Standard Sock Pattern," issued by the League.