

Textured socks Mont Blanc

Designer Maria Tarasova @[tarasova_marusya](#)

Tech-editor and translator Olga Barshai @[ginger_handcrafts](#)

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Please go through the whole pattern (text, charts and videos) before starting! It will make knitting much easier and the overall experience more enjoyable.



Sometimes you just want simple cozy socks, that let the yarn take the spotlight. A print that is timeless and suits anyone's taste: for big and strong, for gentle and tender, and even for the sweet tiny feet of our loved ones.

To me Mont Blanc (French for 'white mountain') Socks with their simple texture are exactly that kind of design. And it's up to you to decide who and what each pair is about.

Construction: Mont Blanc Socks are knit cuff-down in the round with knit-and-purl chevron texture on the leg and top of the foot. They have a classic heel flap, but with a texture that flows seamlessly from the main print. Instead of a classic gusset, this pair has instep decreases on the sole to let the print flow uninterrupted (don't worry, you won't notice it in wear). I offer two different toe constructions in the pattern – star-shaped, or classic – depending on your preference.

If you weave in the ends carefully, you will get a pair of reversible socks – shake things up by choosing to wear them with purl (in photos) or knit side out, or even as 'fraternal twins'.

Wish you happy knitting and warm feet!

For (yarn) inspiration, see projects on Instagram under the hashtag [#Mont Blanc socks](#).

Sizes: due to the wide pattern repeat, sizes in this design are determined by two factors: number of stitches and gauge (based on yarn thickness and needle size) – a total of 4 sizes.

Stitch and row counts in the pattern have 2 numbers only – based on 60 (72) stitch count.

Number of stitches			60	72
Gauge*	Suggested needle size	Yarn	Shoe Size	
35sts by 45rows	2.25 mm US 1	Classic sock – fingering weight (~400-420 / 435-460 yd per 100 g / 3.5 oz)	EUR 36-37 US 5-6	EUR 40-41 US F9-10 // M7-8
30sts by 40rows	2.5 mm US 1.5	Sport to light DK weight (~260-320 m / 285-350 yd per 100 g / 3.5 oz)	EUR 38-39 US 7-8	EUR 42-43 US F11-12 // M9-10

* per 10x10cm/4x4" in print after wet-blocking, slightly stretched

Contents

General Information	2
Materials and Tools	2
Terms and abbreviations	3
Techniques used	3
Cuff	3
Leg	4
Heel	5
Heel Flap	5
Heel Turn	6
Foot	6
Gusset (decreases on the sole)	6
Straight section	8
Toe	8
Star-shaped Toe	8
Classic Toe	9
Additional information on sizing and yardage	9



General Information

Materials and Tools

Yarn: for this design I would suggest rather dense and round yarn (3 or more plies) to really show off the texture. A bit of extra fuzz (alpaca, yak, cashmere, etc.) are perfectly fine too!

As for the color and dye method, I would recommend solid, tonal or slow gradients in natural and relatively light colors. Dark, heavily variegated / speckled / striped yarns will 'muddy up' the print.

You will need a total of ~70 (85) g / 2.5 (3) oz of fingering weight or 115 (130) g / 4 (4.5) oz of sport weight, depending on the size you are working (see table on the previous page).

My samples were knit out of:

For sizes EUR 36-37 and 40-41 / US 5-6 and 9-10 F or 7-8 M: classic sock – fingering weight (~400-420 / 435-460 yd per 100 g / 3.5 oz):

- Regia 'Premium Merino Yak' (58% merino, 28% nylon, 14% yak);
- Regia 'Premium Cashmere' (65% merino, 25% nylon, 10% cashmere);
- Gedifra 'Lana Mia' (80% merino, 20% nylon).

For sizes EUR 38-39 and 42-43 / US 7-8 and 11-12 F or 9-10 M: Sport to light DK weight (~260-320 m / 285-350 yd per 100 g / 3.5 oz):

- Sandnes Garn 'Klompelompe Spøt' (40% alpaca, 40% merino, 20% nylon);
- Novita 'Nalle' (75% wool, 25% nylon).

Needles: I've knit all my samples using 5 wooden Lykke DPNs (see suggested size in the table on Page 1).

You can use your preferred method: magic loop (circular needles on ~60-100 cm / 24-40" cable), three needles, or short circulars (~25cm/9-10" circulars).

Swatch until you get gauge for your size!

Notions: 2-6 stitch markers (depending on your type of needles), tapestry needle, scissors

Gauge: see table on Page 1 for your size.

Terms and abbreviations

BOR – beginning of round

k – knit

k2tog – knit 2 together (right-leaning 1 st decrease)

N1/2/3/4 – needle 1/2/3/4 (for DPNs / magic loop)

p – purl

p2tog – purl 2 together (right-leaning 1 st decrease)

PM – place marker

R – row / round

RS – right side

sl – slip (purlwise, unless indicated otherwise)

ssk – slip-slip-knit (left-leaning 1 st decrease)

ssp – slip-slip-purl (left-leaning 1 st decrease)

st(s) – stitch(es)

tbl – through the back loop (to create a twisted st)

wyib – with yarn in back

wyif – with yarn in front

WS – wrong side

Techniques used

- Elastic cast on: e.g. classic long-tail on larger needles, German Twisted/Old Norwegian cast on
- (Half-)twisted rib
- Basic decreases (k2tog, p2tog, ssk)
- Reading charted instructions (optional)
- Grafting with Kitchener stitch (for Classic Toe only)

Cuff

Using your preferred stretchy cast-on method (I use Classic Long-Tail, holding my needles double to make the sts bigger; another great method for cuff-down socks is German Twisted/Old Norwegian cast on), cast on 60 (72) sts, distribute evenly across your needles (4 for DPNs, 2 for magic loop).

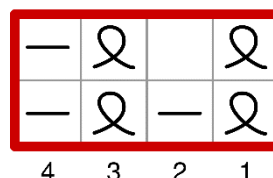
Join to work in the round, being careful not to twist the sts. PM for BOR (if working with DPNs / magic loop – put a locking stitch marker through the 1st st; short circulars – on the needle).

The cuff is worked in (half)twisted broken rib to add a bit of interest to the simple texture:

R1: *k1tbl, p1*, repeat *--* to BOR;

R2: *k1tbl, k1, k1tbl, p1*, repeat *--* to BOR.

Repeat R1-2 another 5 (6, 6, 7) times – a total of 12 (14, 14, 16) rounds of ribbing (or to your desired length). Move on to Leg.



2

1

 k

 p

 k1tbl

 pattern repeat

Leg

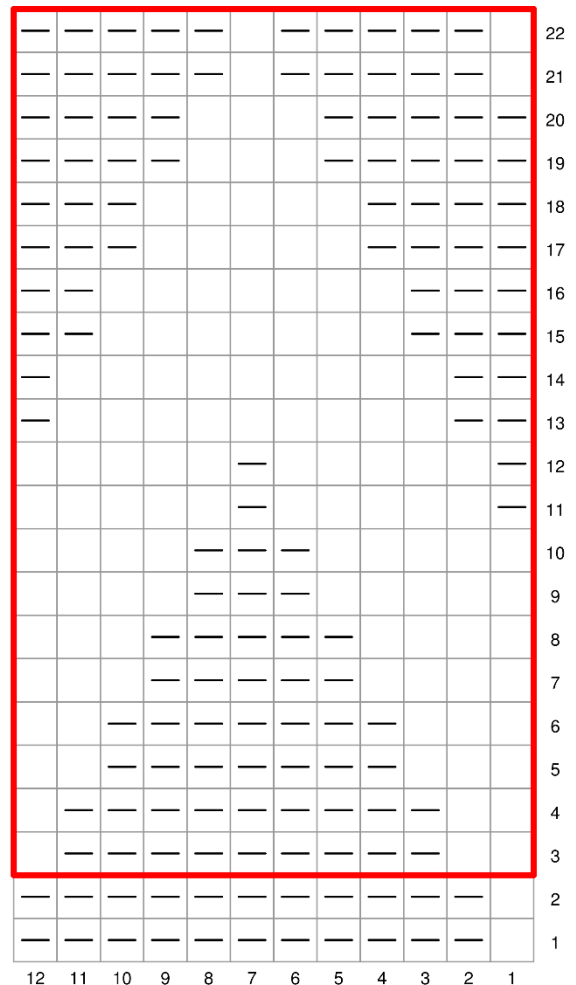
Leg is worked with all-over chevron texture made up of knit and purl sts (see chart and written instructions for your stitch count below). 1 repeat is 10 (12) sts by 16 (20) rows – you will work a total of 6 repeats widthwise (feel free to PM between repeats to help you track them).

I suggest working 3 full repeats lengthwise, but you can adjust to your preferred length; for the print to flow into the Heel seamlessly it's best to finish with R18 (22). Move on to Heel.

Note! R1-2 are setup – you only work them once at the start of the Leg, the repeat (red box in the charts) starts with R3 and finishes with R18 (22).

'Mont Blanc' print – charts and written instructions

Read the charts right to left, from bottom to top.

60 sts**R1-2 (setup only):** k1, p9**R3-4:** k2, p7, k1**R5-6:** k3, p5, k2**R7-8:** k4, p3, k3**R9-10:** *p1, k4* x 2**R11-12:** p2, k7, p1**R13-14:** p3, k5, p2**R15-16:** p4, k3, p3**R17-18:** *k1, p4* x 2**72 sts****R1-2 (setup only):** k1, p11**R3-4:** k2, p9, k1**R5-6:** k3, p7, k2**R7-8:** k4, p5, k3**R9-10:** k5, p3, k4**R11-12:** *p1, k5* x 2**R13-14:** p2, k9, p1**R15-16:** p3, k7, p2**R17-18:** p4, k5, p3**R19-20:** p5, k3, p4**R21-22:** *k1, p5* x 2

Heel Turn

Heel Turn is worked in reverse stockinette (RS rows purled, WS – knit) over the Heel Flap sts, split into 3 sections: 11 (13) sts in the middle and 9 (11) sts per side.

R1 (RS): sl1 wyib, p16 (20), p2tog, p1, turn to WS;

R2 (WS): sl1 knitwise wyib, k6 (8), ssk, k1, turn to RS;

R3 (RS): sl1 wyib, p7 (9), p2tog, p1, turn to WS;

R4 (WS): sl1 knitwise wyib, k8 (10), ssk, k1, turn to RS.

Repeat R3-4, working 1 stitch more (to the gap) in every next row, than in the previous one, until you run out of Heel Flap sts, finishing with a WS row. Note: in the last 2 rows you should finish with a decrease (there will be no stitch after it – this is fine, just turn and slip immediately after the decrease). You should have 17 (21) sts left.

Move on to Gusset.

Foot

Gusset (decreases on the sole)

Setup row – picking up extra sts from the selvedge edges of the Heel Flap:

- sl1 wyib, p to last Heel Turn st. If using DPNs, split the Heel Turn sts in half over two needles; if using any other method – PM in the middle. *Make the first (right) half 1 st smaller, than the second!*
- Using the same needle, pick up and knit sts into every selvedge st (under both legs – it should look like “<” – see photo) along the left side of the Flap. You should get half the number of Heel Flap rows. Then pick up and knit 1-3 extra sts into the corner between the Flap and the instep so that there is no hole. The exact number of extra sts depends on how tightly you knit (I only need 1 extra st here – so a total of 13 (14, 15, 16) sts);
- Work R3 of main ‘Mont Blanc’ print (see Page 4) across all instep sts, except the very last one on N4 (DPNs) / N2 (magic loop) – slip this stitch back onto N1;
- With N1 purl the st you just slipped, then pick up and knit the same number of sts into the corner and the second selvedge edge of the Heel Flap (should look like “>”). Working exactly per pattern and with 1 extra st in each corner, you should have a total of 74 (84, 78, 88) sts;
- Purl across the Heel Turn sts on N1 – this is your **new BOR** (middle of the sole). Please note: for now your row starts with N2 (DPNs) or middle of N1 (magic loop) – also see schematic.

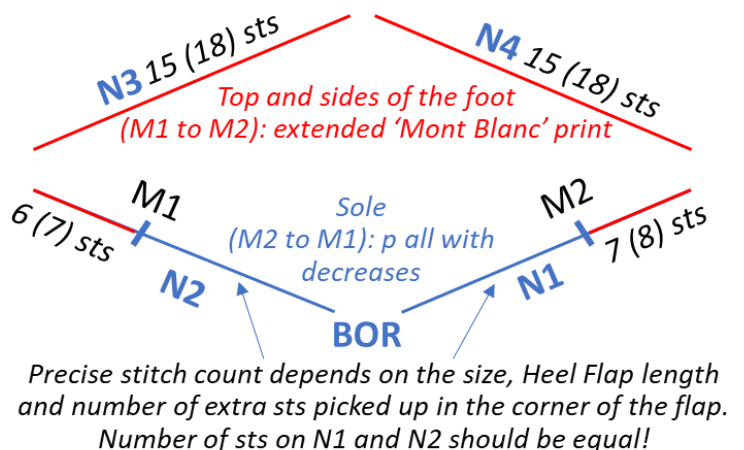


Instep decreases are worked along the middle of the sole, the sole itself is purled, the top and sides of the foot are worked in extended Mont Blanc print (see charts and written instructions on the next page) over a total of 43 (51) sts.

Text and schematic are for 5 DPNs, if using magic loop your N1 = N1+2 and N2=N3+4, if using short circulars – all together with markers delimiting the ‘needles’ as per DPNs:

1. N2: p to last 6 (7) sts, place M1 (it will be the beginning of extended ‘Mont Blanc’ print), p6 (7);
2. N3+4: work R4 of main ‘Mont Blanc’ print
3. N1: p7 (8), place M2, p to end of needle.

Double-check your marker placement and stitch count!



Work decreases as follows (needle numbers as per DPNs):

R1 (2 sts decreased):

N2: p1, ssp, p to M1, start of extended 'Mont Blanc' print (see charts and written instructions below, start first repeat with R3);

N3-4: 3 full repeats of 'Mont Blanc' print;

N1: end of extended 'Mont Blanc' print up to M2, p to last 3 sts, p2tog, p1.

R2:

N2: p to M1, start of extended 'Mont Blanc' print;

N3-4: 3 full repeats of 'Mont Blanc' print;

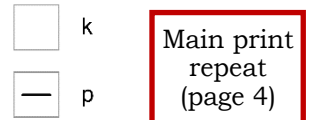
N1: end of extended 'Mont Blanc' print up to M2, p to end of needle.

Repeat R1-2 until you only have 30 (36) sts left on N1+2, total number of sts should be back to original – 60 (72) sts.

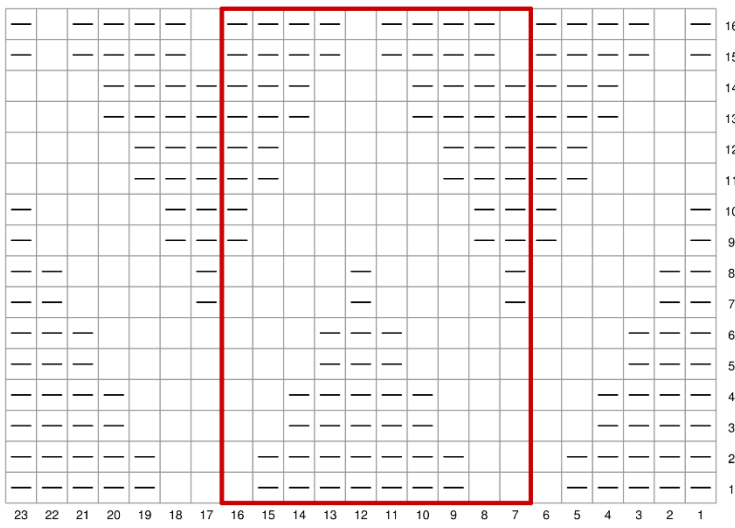
Extended 'Mont Blanc' print – charts and written instructions

Read the charts right to left, from bottom to top. Start first repeat with R3.

Main print repeat (red box) is worked exactly as on the Leg (see page 4 for written instructions please note, that row numbering is off by 2 rows: R1 extended=R3 main due to the two setup rows).

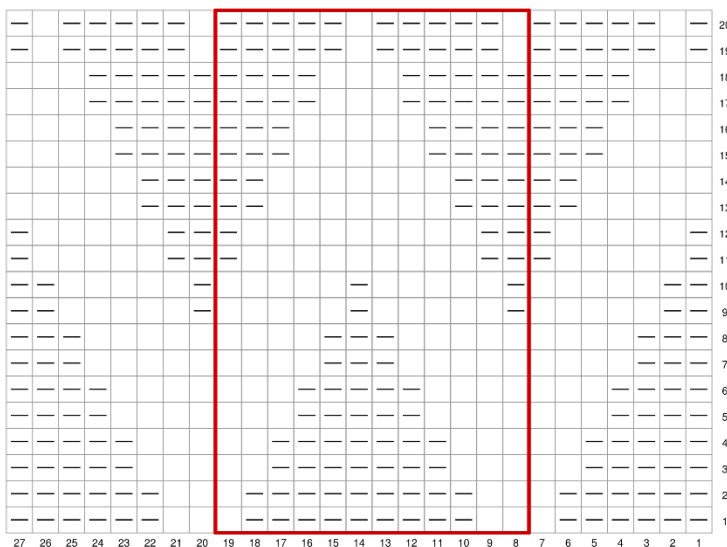


60 sts



Row	Start of print	End of print
1-2	p5, k1	k2, p5
3-4	p4, k2	k3, p4
5-6	p3, k3	k4, p3
7-8	p2, k4	p1, k4, p2
9-10	p1, k4, p1	p2, k4, p1
11-12	k4, p2	p3, k4
13-14	k3, p3	p4, k3
15-16	p1, k1, p4	p5, k1, p1

72 sts



Row	Start of print	End of print
1-2	p6, k1	k2, p6
3-4	p5, k2	k3, p5
5-6	p4, k3	k4, p4
7-8	p3, k4	k5, p3
9-10	p2, k5	p1, k5, p2
11-12	p1, k5, p1	p2, k5, p1
13-14	k5, p2	p3, k5
15-16	k4, p3	p4, k4
17-18	k3, p4	p5, k3
19-20	p1, k1, p5	p6, k1, p1

Straight section

Continue in the round, purling the sole sts and working extended 'Mont Blanc' print on the top and sides of the Foot (between M1 and M2) without any further decreases until you reach the point, where you need to start the Toe. You should subtract ~6 (7, 7.5, 8) cm/2.5 (2.75, 3, 3.25)" from the total foot length (also see shoe size table on the last page for reference). For the best look, finish with R16(20) of extended 'Mont Blanc' print – you should have 3 (3, 4, 4) print repeats worked along the foot, but make sure to double-check and adjust accordingly by working an extra print repeat OR working several extra reverse stockinette (p all) rows before you start toe decreases.

Toe

Purl all sts for 2 rounds.

Pick a toe shape: star-shaped (see photos of the white pair), or classic (see red pair on Page 3; note: shown with WS out – sole in stockinette).

Star-shaped Toe

Decrease rounds are worked at a speeding up rhythm, with 8 sts decreased per decrease round. You can remove all markers except BOR.

72 sts sock – start with R1 of the algorithm below; 60 sts sock – work 4 setup rounds (to make stitch count a multiple of 8, then move on to R16:

Setup R1 (for 60 sts sock only!): *p13, p2tog* x4 times (4 sts decreased, 56 sts on the needles)

Setup R2-4 (3 rounds): p to BOR.

R1 (decrease round): *p2tog, p7* x8 times (8 sts decreased, 64 sts left);

R2-8 (7 rounds): p to BOR;

R9 (decrease round): *p2tog, p6* x8 times (8 sts decreased, 56 sts left);

R10-15 (6 rounds): p to BOR;

R16 (decrease round): *p2tog, p5* x8 times (8 sts decreased, 48 sts left);

R17-21 (5 rounds): p to BOR;

R22 (decrease round): *p2tog, p4* x8 times (8 sts decreased, 40 sts left);

R23-26 (4 rounds): p to BOR;

R27 (decrease round): *p2tog, p3* x8 times (8 sts decreased, 32 sts left);

R28-30 (3 rounds): p to BOR;

R31 (decrease round): *p2tog, p2* x8 times (8 sts decreased, 24 sts left);

R32-33 (2 rounds): p to BOR;

R34 (decrease round): *p2tog, p1* x8 times (8 sts decreased, 16 sts left);

R35 (1 round): p to BOR;

R36 (decrease round): p2tog x8 times (8 sts decreased, 8 sts left).

Break the yarn, leaving a ~15 cm / 6" tail. Thread it through your tapestry needle, go through all remaining live sts and cinch the toe to close (I suggest going through all sts twice to secure).

Now weave in the ends, wash your socks with specialized wool-wash and enjoy wearing them!

Classic Toe

Decreases are worked in every other round, 4 sts decreased per decrease round:

Setup round: p all sts to start of N1, returning your BOR to the side of the sock and removing M1 and M2 as you go. Double-check that you have 30 (36) sts on N1+N2=N3+N4 for DPNs or N1=N2 for magic loop;

R1: *p1, ssp, p to last 3 sts on N2 (DPNs) / N1 (magic loop), p2tog, p1*, repeat *--* to BOR;

R2: p to BOR.

Repeat R1+2 until you have a total of 20-24 sts left (10-12 on sole and top of the foot each).

If working on DPNs, slip all top sts onto 1 needle, and all bottom sts on another one.

Break the yarn, leaving a ~25 cm/10" tail. Thread it through your tapestry needle and graft all sts together, using Kitchener Stitch (see tutorial by VeryPink Knits: https://youtu.be/9dYP_GeHLG0).

Weave in the ends, wash your socks with specialized wool-wash and enjoy wearing them!

Please link your project to the pattern page on Ravelry and tag me @tarasova_marusya / the design #Mont Blanc socks in your Instagram post – I'd be delighted to see your progress and results!

Thank you again for choosing to use my pattern. If you have any questions – don't hesitate to contact me (best way is via e-mail: whirligig@yandex.ru).

Additional information on sizing and yardage

For a pair of mid-calf socks, you should buy the following *amount of fingering-weight yarn* (400-420m/435-460yds per 100g/ 3.5oz):

Range	EUR sizes	US sizes	Yarn amount
Children sizes	Up to size 31	All children	50g/1.8oz
Teen/female /small male	Up to size ~42	Up to adult F10 / M8½	100g/3.5oz
Mid to large male	42.5+	F10½+ / M9+	150g/5.3oz

Shoe sizes and foot length (to determine where to start the Toe):

Shoe size		Foot length	
EUR	US	cm	"
20-21	Ch5-5.5	12	4.75
22-23	Ch6-6.5	13.5	5.25
24-25	Ch7-8	15	6
26-27	Ch8.5-9.5	16.5	6.5
28-29	Ch10-11	17.5	7
30-31	Ch11.5-13	19	7.5
32-33	Ch1-1.5	20.5	8
33.5-34.5	Ch2-2.5 // F3.5-4	21.5	8.5
35-36	Ch3-4 // F4.5-5.5	22.5	8.75
36.5-37	F6-6.5	24	9.5
37.5-38.5	F7-7.5 // M5.5-6	25	9.75
39-40	F8-8.5 // M6.5-7	26.5	10.5
41-42	F9.5-10 // M7.5-8.5	27.5	10.75
43-44	M9.5-10	29	11.5
45-46	M11-11.5	30	11.75
47-48	M12.5-14	31.5	12.5

