

Banana Blossom Socks

Lace patterned toe-up socks with a gusset heel.

Materials:

2 – 50g skeins (191 yards each) of ArtYarns UltraMerino4, color 127 shown.
Set of 5 US size 3 (3.25 mm) double pointed needles, or size to get gauge
Blunt tapestry needle to weave in ends

Difficulty: Intermediate, this sock has toe shaping and the lace pattern is slightly different on each to align with the lace pattern at the toe. This pattern is not well suited to being adapted to knitting two socks simultaneously. There isn't a single round where the socks will match each other as they are designed to be mirror images.

Gauge:

28 sts x 41 rows over 4 inches x 4 inches (10 cm x 10 cm) in stockinette stitch

Sizes:

Woman's medium (large). The pictures are of the large size. The number of stitches required for the lace pattern at the leg make it difficult to design this sock for a small foot. I would recommend a smaller needle size to get a slightly tighter gauge if you want a smaller size sock.

Abbreviations:

yo yarnover
k2tog knit 2 stitches together
sl1 slip 1 stitch, if it is a knit stitch slip it knitwise, if it is a purl stitch, slip it purlwise
ssk slip, slip, knit
ssp slip, slip, pass stitches back to the left needles (just like ssk), purl through the back of the loop
s1, k2tog, pss0 . slip 1 stitch knit-wise, k2tog, pass slipped stitch over the k2tog
yo M1 Make a stitch by creating a yarnover. On the next row, close the yarnover by knitting into the back of the stitch. Most will become knit stitches. A few will become purl stitches. Knit or purl according to what the chart shows.

Toe:

Cast on 16 (20) stitches using your preferred toe-up cast on method. I used [Judy's Magic Cast-On](http://www.persistentillusion.com/blogblog/index.php?page_id=500), instructions are available at http://www.persistentillusion.com/blogblog/index.php?page_id=500.

Follow the charts; note that the right toe is different from the left toe in both shaping and patterning. Both toes start with a tendril pattern and then shift into the repeating (12 row) lace pattern. Use stockinette stitch on the bottom of the foot (needles 1 & 2) and the pattern stitch on the top of the foot (needles 3 & 4). The medium size will have 52 stitches, the large size will have 56 stitches.

Foot:

Continue in pattern until the foot measures 5.75 (6.5) inches. End on an even row.



Gusset:

You will now start increasing for the gusset on every odd row by increasing (yo M1) before needle 3 placing it on needle 2. Increase again after needle 4 placing the increased stitch on needle 1. Remember to close this yo increase on the subsequent round. The number of stitches on needles 3 & 4 will not change. Continue working in the established pattern until 10 stitches have been increased on each side of the sole stitches. End on an even round. 72 sts (76 sts)

Heel:

The increased gusset stitches will be ignored temporarily while the heel is turned. Work the heel on the 26 (28) stitches from the sole needles (needles 1 & 2) as follows:

K15 (16), k2tog, k1, turn

Sl1, p5, ssp, p1, turn

Sl1, k6, k2tog, k1, turn

Sl1, p7, ssp, p1, turn

Continue in this manner until all of the stitches are incorporated and you have 16 heel sts (18 heel sts), ending on a purl row. Turn to knit side.

You will now start the second half of the gusset shaping which incorporates some of the gusset stitches. I recommend that you move the increased gusset stitches to the working needles (needles 1 & 2) with the heel (formerly sole) stitches. Shifting the stitches makes it easier to incorporate the gusset stitches.

Sl1, k15 (16), ssk (second stitch of the ssk is a gusset stitch), turn

Sl1, p15 (16), ssp (second stitch of the ssp is a gusset stitch), turn

Continue in this manner until 6 (8) gusset stitches have been incorporated. Both sizes should now have 52 stitches.

There will probably be gaps between the heel and the rest of the sock. On the next round, lift the bar between the heel stitch and the adjacent instep stitch, twist it and knit it. Both sizes should now have 54 stitches. Be sure to work the lace pattern across the top of the foot.

Adjust the stitches are evenly divided on the needles and so that and the heel stitches are evenly divided between needles 1 & 2. All rounds will now start at the middle of the heel. Needle 1 will become needle 2, needle 2 will become needle 3, etc. To help you recognize the beginning of a round, you can place a marking thread to indicate the round starting point (middle of heel). I use a contrast piece of scrap yarn or string looped through the knitting below and cut it out later. A safety pin style stitch marker will work well too.

Leg:

Both sizes are worked on the same number of stitches. Continue in pattern until the tendril pattern can be added. It will start on a round 1 for the right leg and a round 7 for the left leg. Work the full chart as shown for each leg. You can add or subtract pattern repeats to make a longer or shorter sock. If you decide to make the socks longer, check to make sure that it will fit on your calf. Note that for the large size in the given yarn, there probably isn't enough yardage to add a repeat. See the charts for more information.

Finishing:

Weave in ends. Wash in mild soap and block to dry. Or slap 'em on your feet and wear them.

Pattern doesn't make sense? You found an error? Have a question?

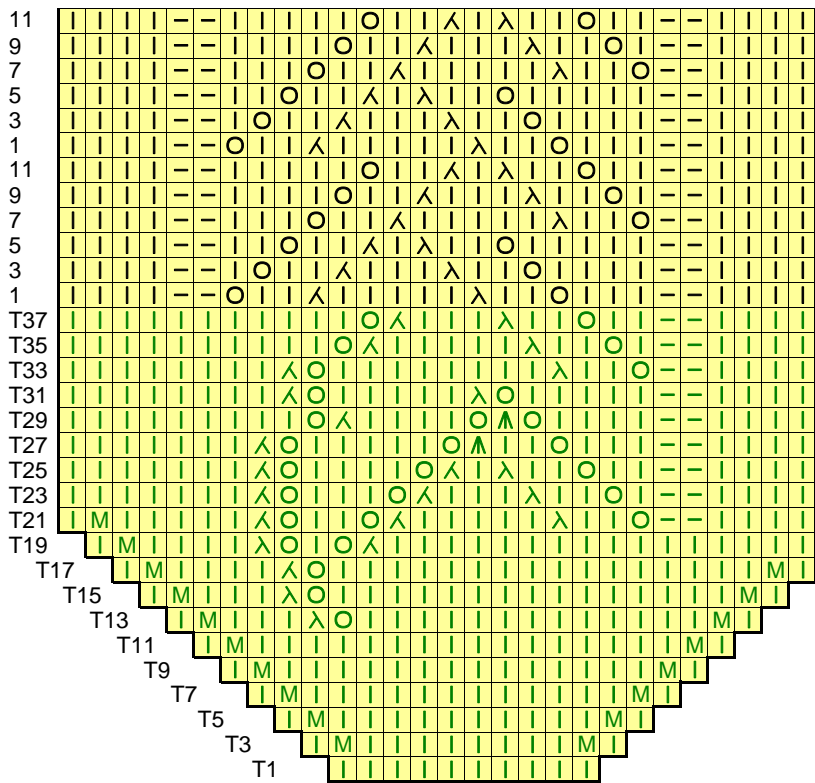
Contact me at miss_maia@hotmail.com.

Larger pictures along with corrections and questions regarding this pattern will be answered at [Design A Lace Sock](http://maiaspins.typepad.com/maiaspins/2006/10/design_a_lace_sock), http://maiaspins.typepad.com/maiaspins/2006/10/design_a_lace_s.html.

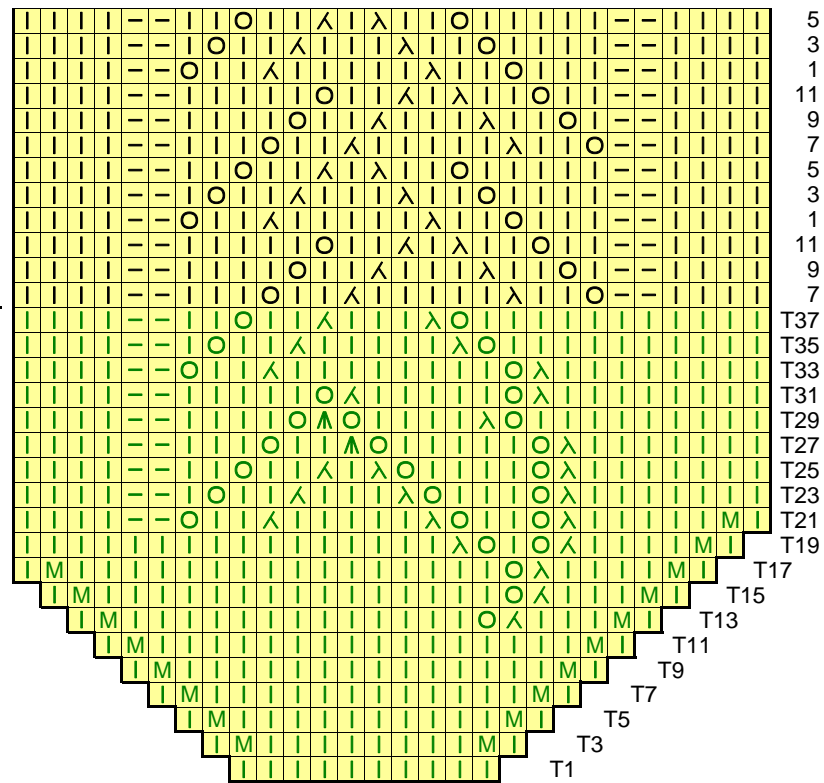
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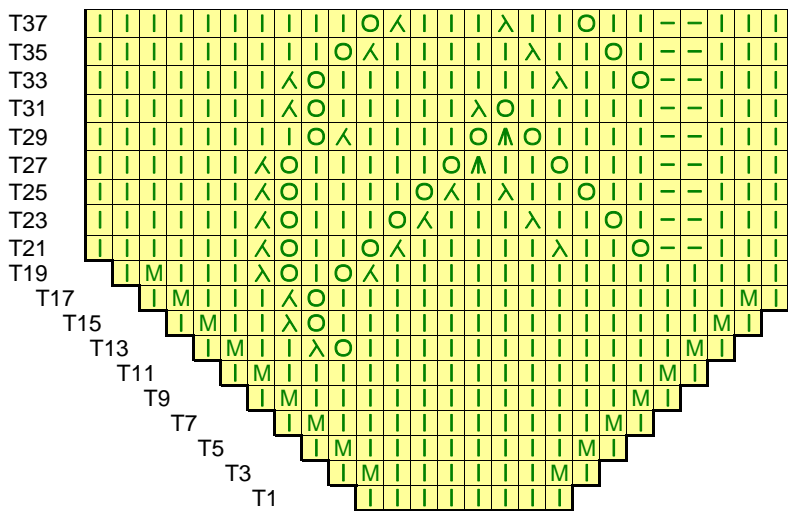




Right Foot, large size



Left Foot, large size



Right Foot, medium size

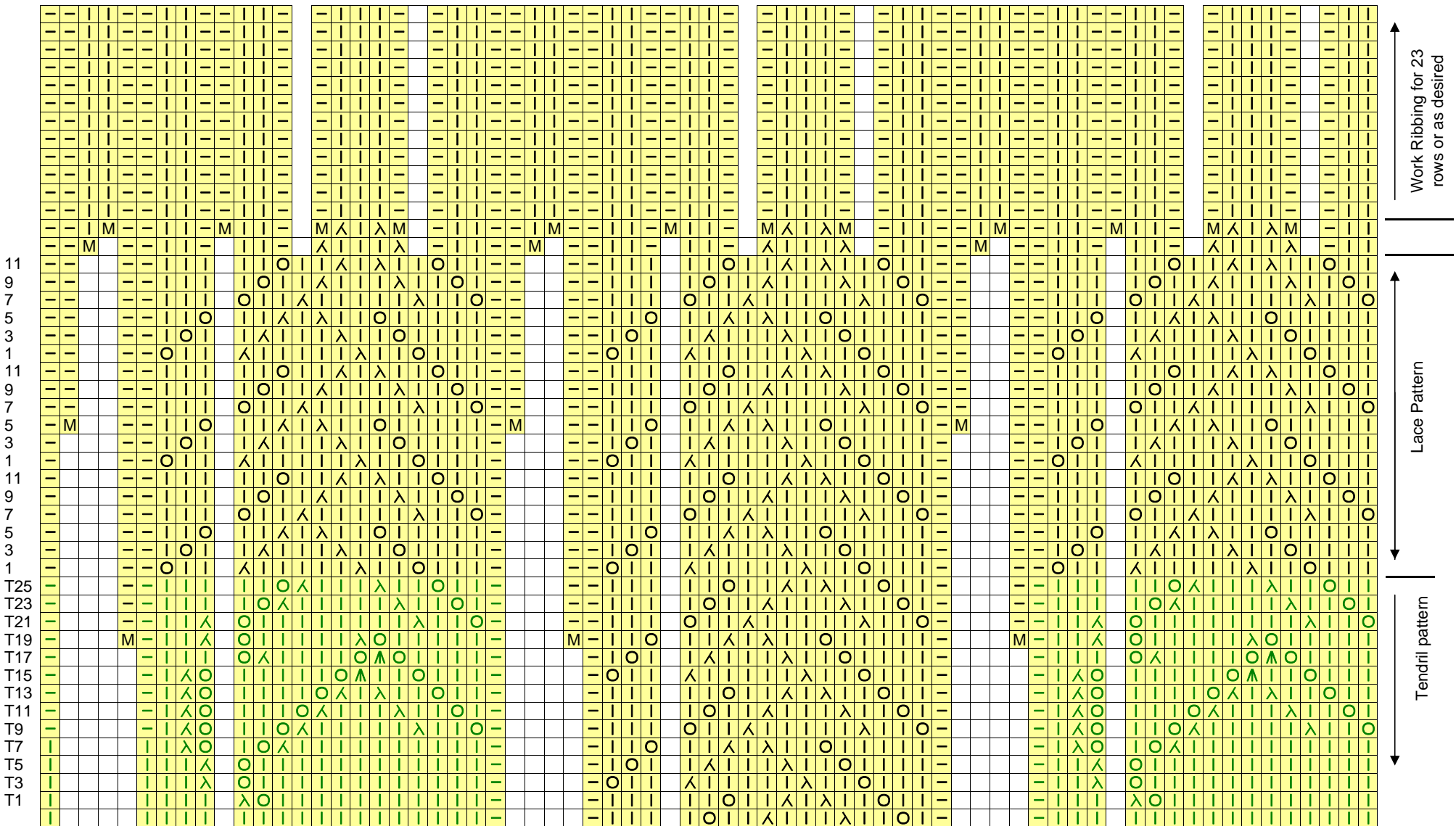
Stitch Key

	knit	Λ	k2tog	See abbreviations on page 1 for more information.
-	purl	λ	ssk	
○	yarnover	M	yo M1	
Λ	slip 1 knitwise, k2tog, pss0			

Notes:

- 1 The pattern repeats are different on each foot in order to align with the tendril pattern at the toes. It is the same 12 row pattern, but the right sock starts on the first row and the left sock starts on the seventh row.
- 2 For even rows, knit, except at the purl stitches framing the lace pattern (knit the knits and purl the purls).
- 3 The medium size is shown for the right foot only. The left foot is a mirror image. Follow the chart for the large size but knit on 4 less stitches like the chart for the medium right foot shows.
- 4 Tendril pattern is shown in green text. Lace repeating pattern is shown in black text.

Right Leg



Stitch Key

- | | | | | | | | |
|--|------|--|-------|--|-----------|--|--|
| | knit | | k2tog | | yarnover | | yo M1, on next row, knit or purl as pattern requires |
| | purl | | ssk | | no stitch | | slip 1 knitwise, k2tog, pss0 |

See abbreviations on page 1 for more information.
See notes at toe chart.

