

READY, SET, KNIT

Air Date: December 6, 2008

Ribby Slipper Socks KAL, part 1

Materials:

1. A copy of Interweave Knits Holiday Gifts magazine, 2008
2. Blue Sky Alpacas Bulky, 1 ball (45 yds) for the first three sizes, 2 balls (90 yds) for the rest (I am using Valley Yarns Berkshire Bulky = 108 yds = \$4.99)
3. Blue Sky Alpacas Worsted Hand Dyes, 1 ball for all sizes (100 yds) (I am using Valley Yarns Berkshire Hand Dyed Worsted = 141yds = \$13.00)
4. Or, any yarn that knits to a gauge of 15 sts and 15 rows = 4" in 1x1 rib (relaxed) with MC on larger needles (suggested size 11 dpns) and 14 sts and 23 rows = 4" in 2x2 rib (relaxed) with CC on smaller needles (suggested size 8 dpns).
5. Tapestry needle for sewing the toe

Knitting the Slipper Socks:

With MC and larger dpns, cast on the indicated number of stitches and divide evenly onto 3 dpns or use one 40" circular needle and the Magic Loop technique. PM (I just use the tail as my marker to indicate the beginning of the round). Join in the round, being careful not to twist your stitches. If you use dpns, remember to knit or purl tightly on the first 2 stitches on each needle to avoid ladders. For all sizes, follow the directions for rounds 1, 2 and 3 – k1f&b means knit 1 in the front and the back of one stitch to increase by 1 st.

Follow rounds 4 and 5 for the 2 largest sizes only. For all other sizes, go directly to round 6 and repeat this round until the piece measures the indicated number of inches from the toe tip for your size.

Now, stop working in the round...work back and forth in rows in 1x1 rib on your stitches. Using your dpns is fine here, but using a circular needle to work the rows back and forth for the heel is much quicker. Continue working in 1x1 rib for the number of inches indicated for your size. Now divide your stitches in half and place each half on a dpn or if you use circs, put half the sts on each end and turn the slipper inside out so that right sides are facing each other. Use a third needle of the same size (if you are a tight knitter, use a larger needle) to do a 3-needle bind off. Hold the needles parallel to each other, insert the needle knitwise into the first st on the front needle, then into the first st on the back needle; knit these stitches together and move them onto the needle you are knitting with. Continue by knitting into the second st on the front needle and the second

st on the back needle, knitting them together, and transferring the resulting stitch to the needle you are knitting with. Bind off these 2 sts in the usual way. Continue this process until all the sts are bound off. Fasten off. You now have a slipper without a cuff. There will be a hole at the toe to close up later.

Next Week: Finishing the slipper and preview of guest instructors for our Winter/Spring semester.

