



I've been meaning to knit this for years. It's a combination of the knitted ammonite pattern and a backwards sock. I'm sort of surprised it worked first time.

You will need:

double knit yarn (100g ball – unless you are planning to change colours) • toy stuffing
4 x double ended knitting needles (3mm) • tapestry needle • scissors • poking device (i.e. pencil)

Pattern:

Cast on 6 stitches onto one needle.

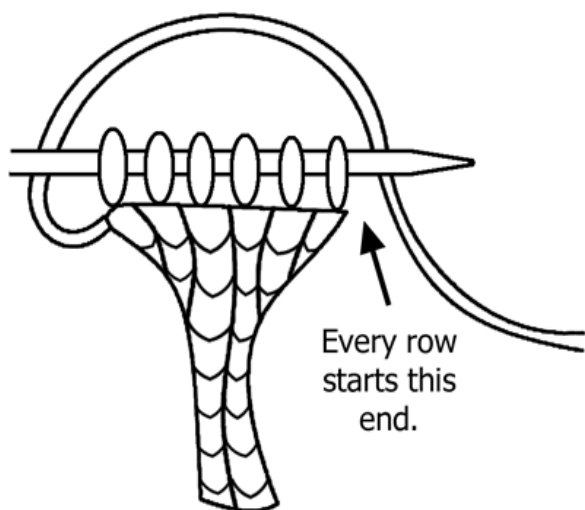
Row 1: Knit across. (6)

Row 2: Without turning your knitting take the yarn across the back. Knit across in the same direction as for row 1, pulling the first stitch tight. (6)

Row 3-10: as row 2 (6).

This should result in a thin tube of knitting, called *i-cord*.

Rearrange the knitting onto three needles, with two stitches on each. Use your poking device to prod a tiny amount of stuffing into the open mouth of the tube.



Next we will form the tube into a spiral by picking up one stitch every 4th row.

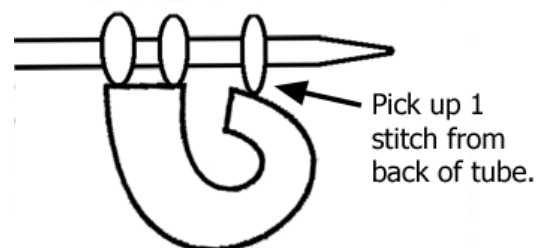
Round 11: Pick up one stitch from the back of the knitted tube. Knit this stitch, then knit to the end of the round. (7)

Round 12: k – (7)

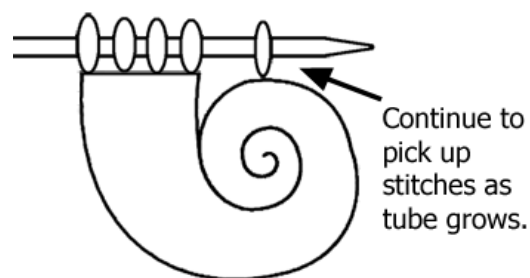
Round 13 & 14: p – (7)

Use your poking device to prod a little stuffing into the open mouth of the tube.

Repeat the previous 4 rows, stuffing as you go, until there are 24 stitches in total and the tube has formed into a tight spiral. Stop every few increases to redistribute the stitches among the needles.



(Diagram only shows 1st needle of 3)



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The next section forms the foot of the stocking up to the heel. It is unstuffed. The stuffing in the toe will be closed off as a final step once we have finished knitting the rest of the stocking.

Begin with the stitches evenly distributed among the needles and do not redistribute them until the foot is finished.

Round 83: Pick up one stitch from the back of the knitted tube. Knit this stitch. k6, kfb, k9, kfb, k6, kfb

Rounds 84-86: as rounds 12-14 (28)

Round 87: Pick up one stitch from the back of the knitted tube. Knit this stitch. k8, kfb, k4, kfb, k4, kfb, k8, kfb

Rounds 88-90: as rounds 12-14 (33)

Round 91: Pick up one stitch from the back of the knitted tube. Knit this stitch. k10, kfb, k4, kfb, kfb, k4, kfb, k10, kfb

Rounds 92-94: as rounds 12-14 (39)

Round 95: k12, kfb, k5, kfb, kfb, k5, kfb, k13

Rounds 96-98: as rounds 12-14 (43)

Round 99: k13, kfb, k6, kfb, kfb, k6, kfb, k14

Rounds 100-102: as rounds 12-14 (47)

Round 103: k22, kfb, kfb, k23

Rounds 104-106: as rounds 12-14 (49)

Round 107: k14, kfb, k8, kfb, kfb, k8, kfb, k15

Rounds 108-110: as rounds 12-14 (53)

Round 111: k25, kfb, kfb, k26

Rounds 112-114: as rounds 12-14 (55)

Round 115: k26, kfb, kfb, k27

Rounds 116-118: as rounds 12-14 (57)

Rounds 119 & 120: k –

Rounds 121 & 122: p –

Round 123: k27, kfb, kfb, k28

Rounds 124-126: as rounds 12-14 (59)

Repeat rounds 119 to 122 three times.

The heel of the stocking is two identical rounds with a lot of back and forth in them.

Rounds 139 & 140: k42, w&t/ p25, w&t/ k24, w&t/ p23, w&t/ k22, w&t/ p21, w&t/ k20, w&t/ p19, w&t/ k18, w&t/ p17, w&t/ k16, w&t/ p15, w&t/ k36

Arrange the stitches so that the first 29 sts of the round are on one needle, and the last 30 sts are on another.

Rounds 141 & 142: p –

Rounds 143 & 144: k –

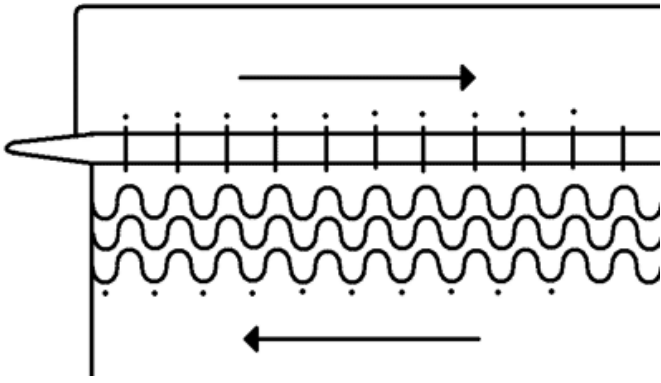
Repeat rounds 141 to 144 twenty-five more times to form the leg.

Reverse direction.

Round 245: kfb, k – (60)

Rounds 246-266: k –

Knit the first of the spikes at the top of the stocking.



Spike Round 1: k10 live stitches from the needle. Turn the knitting and fold the top edge back over to the start of the stocking stitch section. Pick up and knit 10sts from first row of this section. Join into the round. (20)

Spike Rounds 2 & 3: k –

Spike Round 4: [k1, k2tog, k7] x 2 (18)

Spike Rounds 5 & 6: k –

Spike Round 7: [k7, k2tog] x 2 (16)

Spike Rounds 8 & 9: k –

Spike Round 10: [k1, k2tog, k5] x 2 (14)

Spike Rounds 11 & 12: k –

Spike Round 13: [k5, k2tog] x 2 (12)

Spike Rounds 14 & 15: k –

Spike Round 16: [k1, k2tog, k3] x 2 (10)

Spike Rounds 17 & 18: k –

Spike Round 19: [k3, k2tog] x 2 (8)

Spike Rounds 20 & 21: k –

Spike Rounds 22: [k1, k2tog, k1] x 2 (6)

Thread yarn through remaining sts and pull tight.

Repeat this section until you have 6 spikes around the top of the stocking.

The only thing left to do is to seal the toe of the sock so the stuffing stays in place. Turn the stocking inside out until you reach the stuffed section. There are ridges of purled stitches encircling the sock. Choose the ridge nearest the stuffing, pick up and knit all the stitches in a round (about 24 sts depending on the ridge you chose). Keep knitting while decreasing 4 stitches at random intervals in every following round. When you have eight stitches remaining check that the toe is stuffed firmly (you may need to add a little extra), thread yarn through remaining stitches and pull tight.

Lose any remaining loose ends to finish your stocking.

Notes:

Which Stitches Should I Pick Up To Curl the Toe?

When picking up stitches try to do so in a straight line along the outside of the tube. This is not the same as picking up from the same column of stitches every time because picking up and knitting stitches can twist the tube. Use your own judgement to keep the spiral flat.

Every 4th row 1 stitch is picked up from the knitted tube. This does not mean that the stitches you pick up should be 3 rows apart as this would make the spiral too tight. Similarly do not pick up every stitch along the back of the tube as this is not tight enough. Experiment to see what works for you.

Abbreviations

[] x number	Repeat the section in square brackets the required number of times.
(number)	Gives the total number of stitches you should have on needle by the end of the row.
k –	Knit every stitch to the end of the row.
kfb	Knit into the front and then the back of a single stitch (+1 stitch).
k number	Knit this number of stitches.
k2tog	Knit the next two stitches together (-1 stitch).
p –	Purl every stitch to the end of the row.
p number	Purl this number of stitches.
w&t/	Wrap the yarn around the next stitch and turn the knitting. See "Short Rows".

Needle/Yarn Size

As with most ODDknit patterns the yarn and needle sizes in the "you will need" section are just a guide. Feel free to improvise with whatever needles and yarn you have lying around - that's half the fun!