

# All Tangled Up

*knitting from across the pond*

## Limbo Sock Pattern - Version 1.0



Annabel Fox DK Wool, Loden with Aubergine  
Heels and toes.



Stahl Limbo yarn. 2 balls with remnants of  
approx. 2 meters

This is a very simple unisex sock pattern written for DK weight yarn. It uses a garter stitch rib, to make the knitting a bit more interesting and forgiving. If you knit socks for gifts, you need them to be forgiving unless you've got access to the feet. I've made them twice, once using the Stahl Limbo Yarn and again using some very old, discontinued Annabel Fox DK yarn. 100g (2 balls) is just enough for a woman's medium sized pair with a 6 inch leg. I would recommend that you get the 3<sup>rd</sup> ball or have some contrasting yarn available for toes, if you are of a nervous disposition, otherwise, you might not enjoy living life on the edge.

If you require all your socks to be identical twins, may I suggest that you not knit with the Stahl Limbo Color. These 2 are from the same dye lot and with the 2 meters remaining, I still could not see a pattern repeat. If it bothers you, try another yarn, because life is too short... really.

Enjoy!

P.S. Pattern instructions written for magic loop, 2 circs and 4 dpns, save a tree (and a print cartridge and print only the pages that you need)

**Materials:**

Stahl Limbo Color Yarn (Farbe 2529) 2 balls for Medium Woman's sock. (3 balls if you want a longer cuff or larger foot) NB: This yarn is 125m/50g, a standard superwash DK wool)

2 stitch markers

1 tapestry needle

**For Magic loop method:**

1 x 4.00 mm, 32 inch circular (for cast-on)

1 x 3.00 mm, 32 inch circular

**For 2 circls method:**

1 x 4.00 mm can be straight or circular (for cast-on)

2 x 3.00 mm, 24 inch (60cm) circular

**For 4 Double-pointed needles (dpns) method:**

1 x 4.00 mm, can be straight or circular (for cast-on)

5 x 3.00 mm dpns (recommend that you use at least 5 inch long ones, pattern is written for 4 needles with 5<sup>th</sup> used for positioning stitches for gusset)

**Gauge:**

Approx 13.5 stitches per 2 inch.

**Size:**

To fit my UK 5.5/US 8/ EUR 38.5 feet (Woman's medium)

**Stitches Used:****1x1 Rib:**

Round 1: \*k, p\* repeat \* to \*

**Garter Rib:**

Round 1: \*k2 p3, k1\* repeat \* to \*

Round 2: \*k\* repeat \* to \*

**Heel Stitch:**

Row 1: \*with yarn in front s1, p1\*, repeat \* to \*, sl1

Row 2: \*k\* repeat \* to \*

**Instructions – Magic Loop**

1. With 4.00mm needles, cast on 54 stitches, using long tail method. Transfer stitches to 3.00mm needles. Carefully divide stitches so that the loop is pulled through at 27 stitches. Join the stitches, taking care not to twist.
2. On 3.00mm, begin cuff, knitting 10 rows of 1x1 rib.
3. Carefully work another 14 stitches and reposition stitches on needle so that the join is centered over 29 stitches. (The instep will have 25 stitches).
4. (You are now at the start of the instep.) Start leg using the Garter Rib pattern. Continue working so that the total length from cast on is 6 inches (15 cm) long. Stopping after finishing the 2 row repeat and completing the back of the sock.
5. Start heel flap. This is worked back and forth on the 29 stitches. Turn knitting.
  - Row 1: Slip 1, k3, Heel Stitch until last 4 stitches, knit 3.
  - Row 2: Slip 1, knit until end

Continue Row 1 and 2 until the heel flap is 2.25 inches/.5.75 cm  
(I achieved this by working Rows 1 and 2, 15 times)
6. Heel Turning. I used Round Heel Turning.
  - Row 1: p 16, p2tog, p1 turn (28 sts)
  - Row 2: with yarn in front, sl 1, k 4, ssk, k1, turn (27 sts)
  - Row 3: with yarn in front, sl 1, p5, p2tog, p1, turn (26 sts)
  - Row 4: with yarn in front, sl 1, k6, ssk, k1, turn (25 sts)
  - Row 5: with yarn in front, sl 1, p7, p2tog, p1, turn (24 sts)
  - Row 6: with yarn in front, sl 1, k8, ssk, k1, turn (23 sts)
  - Row 7: with yarn in front, sl 1, p9, p2tog, p1, turn (22 sts)
  - Row 8: with yarn in front, sl 1, k10, ssk, k1, turn (21 sts)
  - Row 9: with yarn in front, sl 1, p11, p2tog, p1, turn (20 sts)
  - Row 10: with yarn in front, sl 1, k12, ssk, k1, turn (19 sts)
  - Row 11: with yarn in front, sl 1, p13, p2tog, p1, turn (18 sts)
  - Row 12: with yarn in front, sl 1, k14, ssk, k1 (17 sts)
7. Start Gusset. Pick-up the slipped stitch from the Heel Flap. (Instructions are for 15, but replace this number with the number of slipped stitches that you have), continue in pattern across the instep stitches, picking up equal number of stitches along other side of heel flap. You should have 17 heel stitches + 15 heel flap, + 25 instep + 15 heel flap for a total of 72 stitches). Place a stitch maker on either side of the 25 stitch instep pattern. (This should help you identify when to do garter ribbing if you tend to knit socks on auto-pilot)

8. Rearrange stitches on needle so that the cable loop is half way between the stitches on the instep and the soles. All sole stitches will be knit only (stocking stitch), while the instep will continue in garter rib.  
Work gusset as follows.  
Round 1: Knit sole stitches until 2 stitches before the 1<sup>st</sup> stitch maker. Ssk, slip marker, continue in garter rib for 25 sts instep, slip marker, k2tog, knit  
Round 2: Knit sole stitches until 2 stitches before the 1<sup>st</sup> stitch maker. slip marker, continue in garter rib for 25 sts instep pattern, slip marker, knit  
Continue Rounds 1 and 2 until there are 52 stitches remaining.
9. Re-arrange stitches so that cable loop divides the 25 instep stitches from the 27 sole stitches. (You can ditch the stitch markers now.)
10. Continue knitting foot without further decreases until foot is 1.5 inches (5cm) shorter than desired length.
11. The toe stitches are all done in knit. (stocking pattern) Start toe decreases.  
Round 1: Knit across instep stitches (25 sts) , k1, ssk, k21, k2tog, k1 across sole. (25 sts)  
Round 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12: Knit  
Round 3: k1, ssk, k19, k2tog, k1 (23 sts), k1, ssk, k19, k2tog, k1 across sole (23 sts)  
Round 5: k1, ssk, k17, k2tog, k1 (21 sts), k1, ssk, k17, k2tog, k1 across sole (21 sts)  
Round 7: k1, ssk, k15, k2tog, k1 (19 sts), k1, ssk, k15, k2tog, k1 across sole (19 sts)  
Round 9: k1, ssk, k13, k2tog, k1 (17 sts), k1, ssk, k13, k2tog, k1 across sole (17 sts)  
Round 11: k1, ssk, k11, k2tog, k1 (15 sts), k1, ssk, k11, k2tog, k1 across sole (15 sts)  
Round 13: k1, ssk, k9, k2tog, k1 (13 sts), k1, ssk, k9, k2tog, k1 across sole (13 sts)  
Round 14: k1, ssk, k7, k2tog, k1 (11 sts), k1, ssk, k7, k2tog, k1 across sole (11 sts)  
Round 15: k1, ssk, k5, k2tog, k1 (9 sts), k1, ssk, k5, k2tog, k1 across sole (9 sts)  
Round 16: k1, ssk, k3, k2tog, k1 (7 sts), k1, ssk, k3, k2tog, k1 across sole (7 sts)
12. Kitchener the 14 remaining stitches together.
13. You're done, now repeat for second sock.

**Instructions –2 circs**

1. With 4.00mm needles, cast on 54 stitches, using long tail method. Transfer to 3mm needles dividing so that the half the stitches are on the first circ and the remainder on the other circular needle. Join the stitches, taking care not to twist.
2. Begin cuff, knitting 10 rows of 1x1 rib
3. Carefully work another 14 stitches and reposition stitches on needles so that the join is centered over 29 stitches. This will be needle 2. (The instep will have 25 stitches and be referred to as needle 1).
4. Start leg using the Garter Rib pattern. Work so that the total length from cast on is 6 inches (15 cm) long. Stopping after finishing the 2 row repeat and completing the back of the sock.
5. Start heel flap on needle 2. This is worked back and forth on the 29 stitches. Turn knitting.

Row 1: Slip 1, k3, heel Stitch until last 4 stitches, knit 3.

Row 2: Slip 1, knit until end

Continue Row 1 and 2 until the heel flap is 2.25 inches./5.75 cm

(I achieved this by working Row 1 and 2, 15 times)

6. Heel Turning. I used Round Heel Turning.
  - Row 1: p 16, p2tog, p1 turn (28 sts)
  - Row 2: with yarn in front, sl 1, k 4, ssk, k1, turn (27 sts)
  - Row 3: with yarn in front, sl 1, p5, p2tog, p1, turn (26 sts)
  - Row 4: with yarn in front, sl 1, k6, ssk, k1, turn (25 sts)
  - Row 5: with yarn in front, sl 1, p7, p2tog, p1, turn (24 sts)
  - Row 6: with yarn in front, sl 1, k8, ssk, k1, turn (23 sts)
  - Row 7: with yarn in front, sl 1, p9, p2tog, p1, turn (22 sts)
  - Row 8: with yarn in front, sl 1, k10, ssk, k1, turn (21 sts)
  - Row 9: with yarn in front, sl 1, p11, p2tog, p1, turn (20 sts)
  - Row 10: with yarn in front, sl 1, k12, ssk, k1, turn (19 sts)
  - Row 11: with yarn in front, sl 1, p13, p2tog, p1, turn (18 sts)
  - Row 12: with yarn in front, sl 1, k14, ssk, k1 (17 sts)
7. Start Gusset. With Needle 2, pick-up the slipped stitches along the Heel Flap. (Instructions are for 15, but replace this number with the number of slipped stitches that you have), continue in pattern across the half the instep stitches. Continue with needle 1, patterning across instep, then picking up an equal number of stitches along other side of heel flap and work across half the heel flap stitches. So you should have 17 heel stitches + 15 heel flap, + 25 instep + 15 heel flap for a total of 72 stitches, with 36 stitches on each needle). Place a stitch maker on either side of the 25 stitch instep pattern. (This should help you identify when to do garter ribbing if you tend to knit socks on auto-pilot)

8. All sole stitches will be knit only (stocking stitch), while the instep will continue in garter rib.  
Work gusset as follows.

Round 1:

Needle 2 - Knit sole stitches until 2 stitches before the 1<sup>st</sup> stitch maker. Ssk, slip marker, continue in garter rib

Needle 1 - continue in garter rib until marker, slip marker, k2tog, knit until end

Round 2: For both needles, knit sole stitches until 2 stitches before the 1<sup>st</sup> stitch maker. slip marker, continue in garter rib for 25 sts pattern, slip marker, knit

Continue Rounds 1 and 2 until there are 52 stitches remaining.

9. Re-arrange stitches so that the 25 instep stitches are on needle 1 and 27 sole stitches are on needle 2. (You can ditch the stitch markers now.)
10. Continue knitting foot without further decreases until foot is 1.5 inches (5cm) shorter than desired length.
11. The toe stitches are all done in knit. (stocking stitch pattern) Start toe decreases as follows

Round 1:

Needle 1 - knit

Needle 2 - k1, ssk, k21, k2tog, k1

50 stitches remaining

Round 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12: Knit

Round 3:

Needle 1 - k1, ssk, k19, k2tog, k1

Needle 2 - k1, ssk, k19, k2tog, k1

46 stitches remaining

Round 5:

Needle 1 - k1, ssk, k17, k2tog, k1

Needle 2 - k1, ssk, k17, k2tog, k1

42 stitches remaining

Round 7:

Needle 1 - k1, ssk, k15, k2tog, k1

Needle 2 - k1, ssk, k15, k2tog, k1

38 stitches remaining

Round 9:

Needle 1 - k1, ssk, k13, k2tog, k1

Needle 2 - k1, ssk, k13, k2tog, k1

34 stitches remaining

Round 11:

Needle 1 - k1, ssk, k11, k2tog, k1

Needle 2 - k1, ssk, k11, k2tog, k1

30 stitches remaining

Round 13:

Needle 1 - k1, ssk, k9, k2tog, k1

Needle 2 - k1, ssk, k9, k2tog, k1

26 stitches remaining

Round 14:

Needle 1 - k1, ssk, k7, k2tog, k1

Needle 2 - k1, ssk, k7, k2tog, k1

22 stitches remaining

Round 15:

Needle 1 - k1, ssk, k5, k2tog, k1

Needle 2 - k1, ssk, k5, k2tog, k1

18 stitches remaining

Round 16:

Needle 1 - k1, ssk, k3, k2tog, k1

Needle 2 - k1, ssk, k3, k2tog, k1

14 stitches remaining

12. Kitchener the 14 remaining stitches together.

13. You're done, now repeat for second sock.

**Instructions – 4 Dpns**

1. With 4.00mm needles, cast on 54 stitches, using long tail method
2. Transfer stitches to 3mm dpns, 18 stitches per needle. Join carefully to avoid twisting the stitches. Using 4<sup>th</sup> dpn, begin cuff, knitting 10 rows of 1x1 rib
3. Carefully work another 14 stitches and reposition stitches on needle so that, there are 13 stitches on needle 1, 12 stitches on needle 2 and 29 stitches on needle 3, where the join is centered. The instep is on needles 1 and 2.
4. Start leg using the Garter Rib pattern with Needle 1. Work so that the total length from cast on is 6 inches (15 cm) long. Stopping after finishing the 2 row repeat and completing the back of the sock.
5. Start heel flap. This is worked back and forth on the 29 stitches.
6. Turn knitting.
  - Row 1: Slip 1, k3, Heel Stitch until last 4 stitches, knit 3.
  - Row 2: Slip 1, knit until end

Continue Row 1 and 2 until the heel flap is 2.25 inches./5.75 cm  
(I achieved this by working Row 1 and 2, 15 times)

7. Heel Turning. I used Round Heel Turning.
  - Row 1: p 16, p2tog, p1 turn (28 sts)
  - Row 2: with yarn in front, sl 1, k 4, ssk, k1, turn (27 sts)
  - Row 3: with yarn in front, sl 1, p5, p2tog, p1, turn (26 sts)
  - Row 4: with yarn in front, sl 1, k6, ssk, k1, turn (25 sts)
  - Row 5: with yarn in front, sl 1, p7, p2tog, p1, turn (24 sts)
  - Row 6: with yarn in front, sl 1, k8, ssk, k1, turn (23 sts)
  - Row 7: with yarn in front, sl 1, p9, p2tog, p1, turn (22 sts)
  - Row 8: with yarn in front, sl 1, k10, ssk, k1, turn (21 sts)
  - Row 9: with yarn in front, sl 1, p11, p2tog, p1, turn (20 sts)
  - Row 10: with yarn in front, sl 1, k12, ssk, k1, turn (19 sts)
  - Row 11: with yarn in front, sl 1, p13, p2tog, p1, turn (18 sts)
  - Row 12: with yarn in front, sl 1, k14, ssk, k1 (17 sts)
8. Start Gusset. Transfer 8 stitches from heel turning to new needle. Pick-up 15 stitches from the slipped stitch of the Heel Flap. Pattern across instep (joining these 25 stitches onto 1 needle). With a new needle, pick up equal number of stitches along other side of heel flap, knit up 9 stitches from heel turning. So you should have 17 heel stitches + 15 heel flap, + 25 instep + 15 heel flap for a total of 72 stitches, divided as follows
  - Needle 1: Sole = 23
  - Needle 2: (Instep) = 25
  - Needle 3: Sole 24
9. Start Gusset Decreases. Decreases occur on needle 1 and 3.

Round 1: Knit sole stitches until 2 stitches before completing the stitches on needle 1, ssk, pattern across needle 2 using garter rib. On needle 3, k2tog, knit to end of needle

Round 2: Knit across all needles.

Continue Rounds 1 and 2 until there are 52 stitches remaining.

Needle 1: Sole = 13

Needle 2: (Instep) = 25

Needle 3: Sole 14

10. Continue knitting foot without further decreases until foot is 1.5 inches (5cm) shorter than desired length. Complete round **and then knit across needle 1.**

11. The toe stitches are all done in knit. (stocking pattern) Start toe decreases as follows. **All rounds start with needle 2, due to additional knitting at the end of instructions from Step 10.**

Round 1:

Needle 2 (instep) – Knit

Needle 3 (sole) – k1, ssk, knit until end

Needle 1 (sole) – Knit until last 3 stitches, k2 tog, k1,

50 stitches remaining

Round 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12:

Needles 1, 2, 3 – knit

Round 3:

Needle 2 (instep) – k1, ssk, k19, k2tog, k1

Needle 3 (sole) – k1, ssk, knit until end

Needle 1 (sole) – Knit until last 3 stitches, k2 tog, k1,

46 stitches remaining

Round 5:

Needle 2 (instep) – k1, ssk, k17, k2tog, k1

Needle 3 (sole) – k1, ssk, knit until end

Needle 1 (sole) – Knit until last 3 stitches, k2 tog, k1,

42 stitches remaining

Round 7:

Needle 2 (instep) – k1, ssk, k15, k2tog, k1

Needle 3 (sole) – k1, ssk, knit until end

Needle 1 (sole) – Knit until last 3 stitches, k2 tog, k1,

38 stitches remaining

## Round 9:

Needle 2 (instep) – k1, ssk, k13, k2tog, k1  
Needle 3 (sole) – k1, ssk, knit until end  
Needle 1 (sole) – Knit until last 3 stitches, k2 tog, k1,

34 stitches remaining

## Round 11:

Needle 2 (instep) – k1, ssk, k11, k2tog, k1  
Needle 3 (sole) – k1, ssk, knit until end  
Needle 1 (sole) – Knit until last 3 stitches, k2 tog, k1,

30 stitches remaining

## Round 13:

Needle 2 (instep) – k1, ssk, k9, k2tog, k1  
Needle 3 (sole) – k1, ssk, knit until end  
Needle 1 (sole) – Knit until last 3 stitches, k2 tog, k1,

26 stitches remaining

## Round 14:

Needle 2 (instep) – k1, ssk, k7, k2tog, k1  
Needle 3 (sole) – k1, ssk, knit until end  
Needle 1 (sole) – Knit until last 3 stitches, k2 tog, k1,

22 stitches remaining

## Round 15:

Needle 2 (instep) – k1, ssk, k5, k2tog, k1  
Needle 3 (sole) – k1, ssk, knit until end  
Needle 1 (sole) – Knit until last 3 stitches, k2 tog, k1,

18 stitches remaining

## Round 16:

Needle 2 (instep) – k1, ssk, k3, k2tog, k1  
Needle 3 (sole) – k1, ssk, knit until end  
Needle 1 (sole) – Knit until last 3 stitches, k2 tog, k1,

14 stitches remaining

12. Transfer sole stitches to same needle. Kitchener the 14 remaining stitches together.

13. You're done, now repeat for second sock.

### **Miscellaneous Pattern Notes**

#### **Heel details**

The garter ribbing is echoed in the heel flap. Slipping the first stitch of each row of the heel flap, makes it easier to pick up stitches

#### **Which method to use is best?**

That depends on which method you prefer. I generally prefer using double pointed needles, although many people find that they get laddering between the needles. I usually do socks on circulars mainly for portability.

#### **What is ssk?**

This is the mirror decreasing slant to k2tog. You can find an excellent tutorial here → <http://knitting.about.com/library/bllearnssk.htm>



#### **What is Kitchener?**

Kitchener is grafting stitches together. You can find an excellent tutorial in Knitty, written by Theresa Vinson Stenersen → <http://knitty.com/ISSUEsummer04/FEATtheresasum04.html>

If this is all a bit too much, you can put the stitches on safety pins, turn the sock inside out and do a three needle bind-off. This is a good way to go if you're not sure about the recipient's foot length because it much easier to unpick than Kitchener.

#### **Why am I casting on using 4.00 mm?**

It gives the cast-on edge more elasticity and prevents the cast-on edge from cutting off blood flow to your feet.

#### **I don't understand/found a mistake/think that your pattern is written by ferrets...**

You can contact me on [alltangledup@at}hotpop.com](mailto:alltangledup@at}hotpop.com) with any questions or to report any errors.