

# *Baby Chucks*

*By Laura Helton*



## *Introduction*

These booties feature a unique seamless construction method. They are based off of the wonderful “Christine’s Stay-On Baby Booties” pattern and adapted for colorwork and a larger size. To begin you will knit the sole of the bootie flat on two needles, and will then pick up sts all around to create the top of the bootie. A crocheted chain is worked to create the “laces”. Which color(s) you choose are up to you!

As written, the pattern will produce a bootie approximately 4 inches long for a 3-6 month old baby. By adjusting needle size, yarn size and the length of the sole you can create booties for smaller or larger babies.

## *Materials*

Hobby Lobby's *I Love This Yarn Sport* in White and Black or other sport weight yarn  
US #2 (2.75mm) DPNs or circular needle suitable for magic loop  
If using DPNs, sets of 5 will work much better than sets of 4

## *Pattern*

To create the sole, you will be working back and forth on two needles.

In your contrast color (white, in the picture above):

Cast on 8 sts and knit one row.

Round 1: K1, M1, K6, M1, K1 (10 sts total)

Round 2: Knit.

Round 3: K1, M1, K8, M1, K1 (12 sts total)

Round 4: Knit.

Knit in garter stitch until your sole measures 3.5 inches from the cast on edge. (Note: If you are making a smaller bootie, you may want to make this shorter; say, only 3 inches, and pick up fewer sts later on.)

Decrease round 1: K1, ssk, k6, k2tog, k1 (10 sts total)

Decrease round 2: Knit.

Decrease round 3: K1, ssk, k4, k2tog, k1 (8 sts total)

Decrease round 4: Knit.

Keep remaining 8 sts live on a DPN for the next part.

## *Foot*

From the first long edge, pick up and knit 19 sts onto another DPN. (Note: If you are making a smaller bootie, this number will be less. However many you pick up, be sure to have the same number on both long edges.)

From the cast on edge, pick up and knit 8 sts onto another DPN.

From the second long edge, pick up and knit 19 sts onto another DPN.

Now you are ready to begin knitting in the round. Place a marker to denote the beginning of the round as being the *beginning* of the 8 sts you kept live earlier.

Round 1 and 2: Knit.

Round 3: Pick up your main color (black, in the picture above). Knit one round.

Rounds 4 and 5: Switch back to your contrast color. Knit.

Begin shaping toe:

Continuing with your contrast color, you will be doing short rows.

Knit across 7 sts on the next needle (one stitch remaining). Knit the remaining st

together with the first stitch of the next needle.

Turn work. Slip the first stitch, and purl back across the next 6 sts (one stitch remaining). Purl the remaining st together with the first stitch on the next needle.

Turn work. Slip the first stitch, and knit across the next 6 sts (one stitch remaining). Knit the remaining st together with the first stitch on the next needle.

Continue in this way until 4 stitches from each long needle have been used up (8 short rows, total). For a cleaner switch between colors, before doing your last p2tog, switch to your main yarn.

Continue doing short rows with your main color until 4 more stitches from each long needle have been used up (16 short rows, total).

You should have 38 sts left.

### *Tongue*

Using the same 8 stitches with which you have been working, cease short rowing and begin knitting in stockinette, flat, over just those 8 sts, for 14 rows. Bind off loosely. Break yarn.

### *Uppers*

Rejoin yarn on the knit side of the work.

Begin knitting in stockinette, flat, over the remaining 30 sts for 10 rows.

Switch to 2x2 ribbing and knit 4 rows.

Bind off loosely.

### *Laces*

Using a crochet hook and yarn of your choice, make a crocheted chain approximately 24 inches long. Trim yarn to approximately ½ inch on either side of the chain. Roll ends lightly in glue if desired to better approximate the hard tips on shoelaces (and to prevent fraying).

Weave through the tongue and both sides of the bootie.

Repeat for the 2<sup>nd</sup> bootie.

Finish by sewing on small felt stars or star-shaped buttons, if desired.

Stitch Legend:

K	Knit
P	Purl
M <sub>1</sub> through	Make one stitch by lifting the bar between two sts and knitting it the back loop.
ssk	Slip, slip, knit – a left-leaning decrease.
k2tog	Knit two together – a right-leaning decrease.

