

TURKISH WALRUS

By Rachel Brown



These socks are my attempt to recreate a much beloved pair given to me by my Turkish sister-in-law many Christmases ago. Her family nickname (completely at odds with her general appearance and personality I assure you!) is Walrus, hence the pattern name.

These socks are knit in stripes from the toe up with a short, buttoned cuff. The gusset is worked “upside down”, with a sole flap instead of a heel flap. A simple wave pattern transitions from color to color and adds interest. This is a good opportunity to try some two color knitting if it’s new to you. Play around with different color combinations and stripe sizes.

SIZE:

S (M, L), 7 (8, 9) inch foot circumference (shown in size large)

MATERIALS:

Brown Sheep Nature Spun Sport (100% wool, 184 yds/50 g skein), Sienna (#101), Clay (#17), Sapphire (#65) and Sunburst (#308), 1 skein each color.

1 set (5) US#2 DPNs, or size needed to get gauge

2 nylon washers (available at hardware store) or buttons for cuffs

Tapestry needle

GAUGE:

7 sts/9 rows = 1 inch in stockinette stitch

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PATTERN NOTES:

The pattern is written to make the socks pictured, knit with 10 rows between each working of the chart, but you can vary the width of the stripes as desired. Color sequence for the socks pictured is given in the pattern. The socks look best if the toe and heel are worked in one color, so place your striping pattern to accommodate the heel as you work the socks

Toe M1 – make one by inserting the tip of the left needle into the bar between two stitches and knitting through the back loop.

Cuff cast-on/M1 – make one using backwards loop method.

Chart: The pattern is worked over 3 rows on a 6 stitch repeat.

						3
						2
						1

PATTERN:

Toe: Pick a starting color (Sienna), and cast on 12 (12, 16) sts using Judy's Magic Cast-On (<http://knitty.com/issuespring06/FEATmagiccaston.html>). Work one round.

Set-up row: k1, m1, k1 (1, 3) on one DPN (needle 1). With needle 2, k1 (1, 3), m1, k1. With needle 3, k1, m1, k1 (1, 3). With needle 4 k1 (1, 3), m1, k1. 16 (16, 20) sts total.

Next row: knit all sts

Increase row: Needle 1 - k1, m1, knit to end. Needle 2 – knit to last st, m1, k1. Needle 3 – k1, m1, knit to end. Needle 4 – knit to last st, m1, k1.

Repeat the last two row until there are 48 (52, 60) total sts. Work two rows even and begin Chart.

Size M only: in first work-even row, increase 2 stitches evenly, bringing total stitch count to 54 sts.

Foot: Work the three rows of Chart using starting color and color 2 (Clay). Work 10 rows (or desired stripe width) with color 2. After 10 rows, work Chart again with color 2 and color 3 (Sapphire). Work 10 rows with color 3, then work Chart with color 3 and color 4 (Sunburst). Continue in this manner until sock is about 2.5 inches shorter than desired length, ending in the middle of a stripe.

Heel: "Sole flap" is worked on the stitches on needles 1 and 2. Work needles 1 and 2. Turn, and purl back across – 24 (27, 30) sts. Turn. **Row 1:** Sl1, knit across, turn. **Row 2:** sl1, purl across. Repeat last two rows 8 (9, 10) times – 9 (10, 11) slipped stitches along each side of the heel flap.



Turn heel: **Row 1:** k 15 (17, 18) sts, ssk, turn.

Row 2: Sl1, purl 4 (4, 6), p2tog

Row 3: Sl1, knit 4 (4, 6), ssk

Repeat last two rows until all heel stitches have been worked. You will have 6, (6, 8) sts on the needle.

Gusset: Pick up one stitch for every slipped row along left side of. Work needles 2 and 3, and pick up one stitch for every slipped row along the right side of the gusset – 48 (53, 60) sts. **Next row:** Begin to work in pattern. **For**

size M only: increase one stitch at beginning of round to get 54 sts.

Leg: Continue in pattern until leg is desired length, ending before starting the next repeat of the chart. Work to the end of needle 3, and break yarn.

Cuff: Starting at the beginning of needle 4, with color 4 (or desired contrasting color), knit to end of needle 3 (one round). Turn and knit back to the beginning of needle 4. Cast on 10 stitches to form flap for button – there will be a gap between needles 3 and 4 on the front of the foot and 58 (64, 70) total stitches. Work cuff in garter stitch (knitting every row) for 8 rows (4 ribs of garter stitch).

Buttonhole: Knit to 5 sts before the end of needle 3. Bind off 2, k3. Turn, k3, m2, and continue to beginning of needle 4. Knit 2 more rows and bind off loosely.

FINISHING:

Button: I wanted matching yarn-covered buttons for these socks, so I bought some small plastic washers at the local home improvement store and covered them myself. To cover washers, cut a long



piece of yarn and thread on a tapestry needle leaving a 3-4 inch tail, wrap the washer with yarn by coming up through center of washer and wrapping around the plastic in a figure 8 fashion. Continue wrapping until washer is completely covered and go back down through center, leaving another 3-4 inch tail. Use the tails to sew the buttons on. Alternatively, you can use any other button that catches your fancy.

Weave in all ends and block as desired. Slip on socks and enjoy!