

# Classic Slipper Pattern

Here is a classic slipper that can be made to fit all ages, from children to adults. Directions are given here for small, medium and large sizes. You can also vary the yarn or needles to give different sizes.

## Materials:

Yarn can be a worsted weight, knitted with two strands, or else a chunky yarn, or any combination to give the gauge shown. Bright or dark colours are most practical. As with all knitting for hospitals, please use clean, new, washable yarn only.

One 50 g ball (82 yards) of chunky yarn will give one pair of slippers.

Needles: 5.5 mm (Cdn/UK size 5) or a size larger for size Large

Gauge: 8 ridges and 8 sts per 2 inches in garter stitch (approximate)

Note on increasing: inc. 1 means to knit first in the front, then in the back of the same stitch

Psso = pass slipped stitch over the one you just knitted on RH needle

## Tips:

- for a firmer edge, slip the first stitch of each row knitwise (not shown in directions below, so count the slipped stitch as your first knit stitch.)
- you can cast on two slippers, one from each end of your ball or from two identical balls, and knit both slippers at once.

Where small and medium directions are the same, the first number is for small/medium size and large size is shown in brackets below. Where they are all different, small comes first, followed by medium and large in brackets.

## Basic pattern

Cast on 23 sts. for size small and medium, and 27 sts. for large size, leaving about 8 inches as a tail for sewing the heel seam.

Row 1 (wrong side): k.9 (11), p.1, k.3, p.1, k.9 (11)

Row 2 (right side) and all even rows: knit across

Row 3: repeat row 1

Row 5: k.9 (11), p.1, inc.1, k.1, inc.1, p.1, k.9 (11)

Row 7: k.9 (11), p.1, k.5, p.1, k.9 (11)

Row 9: k.9 (11), p.1, k.1, inc.1, k.1, inc.1, k.1, p.1, k.9 (11) (small and medium will have 27 sts; for first size only, no further increases, so skip to next paragraph; for large size you will have 31)

Row 11: k.9 (11), p.1, k.7, p.1, k.9 (11)

Row 13 (medium and large only): k.9 (11), p.1, k.1, inc.1, k.3, inc.1, k.1, p.1, k.9 (11) (medium size will now have 29 sts, no further increases so skip to next paragraph; large size will have 33)

Row 15: k.9 (11), p.1, k.9, p.1, k.9 (11)

Row 17 (large size only): k.11, p.1, k.1, inc.1, k.5, inc.1, k.1, p.1, k.11 (35 sts)

Row 19: k.11, p.1, k.11, p.1, k.11

All sizes: continue alternating Row 11 (15, 19) with right-side knitted rows until piece measures 4 to 5" for small, 6" for medium or 8" for large size, ending with a wrong-side row.

Now, the left and right sections can be finished in your choice of a variety of stitches, while keeping the centre (sole) section in garter stitch and the single ridge stitch dividing the sections in stocking stitch.

**Classic ribbed-toe version:**

*(see below for variations – changes will be in this paragraph only)*

First row: slip 1, \*k.1, p.1; repeat from \* till 9 (11) sts. on RH needle; k. across sole and ridge stitches; \*p.1, k.1 and repeat to last st., k.1

Second row: slip 1, \*p.1, k.1; repeat from \* till 9 (11) sts. on RH needle; p.1, k. 7 (9, 11), p.1, \*k.1, p.1 and repeat to last st., k.1

Work in rib pattern as established for 1½" (2", 2½"), ending with wrong-side row.

First decrease row: work in pattern for 7 (7, 9) sts., \*slip 1, k.1, pssso, k.1, k.2 tog.\*, k.3 (5, 7), repeat between \*s once, finish row in pattern. 23 (25, 31) sts.

Next row: Work 8 sts. in pattern, p.1, k.5 (7, 13), p.1, work 8 sts. in pattern

Second decrease row: Work 6 (6, 8) sts., \*k.2 tog., k.1, slip 1, k.1, pssso\*, knit 1 (3, 5) sts., repeat between \*s once, finish row in pattern. 19 (21, 27) sts.

Cut yarn, leaving an end about 10" long. Thread yarn through remaining sts. on needle and pull tightly to close. Pull thread through all sts. again. Sew seam on top of foot up to about 3 (5, 7) ridges into the garter stitch. Finish off.

Take the cast-on tail and sew heel seam down to last ½". Then thread needle in and out of the remaining 6 or so sts. and pull the hole tight. (This makes a rounder heel rather than having the seam come to a point.) Finish off and weave in all ends. Lastly, to keep the pair together, take a short length of any scrap yarn (about 6" or so) and use a needle to run the yarn between the side or heel of one slipper and the side or heel of its mate. Tie in a bow.

If you want to use another colour, join it within the last inch of the main garter stitch section to avoid having knots on edge. Toe section can be done in contrasting colour. At the stitch change, knit across the first right-side row in the new colour, then change to the stitch pattern on the wrong side, starting with the second pattern row.

**Moss stitch toe:**

Instead of keeping ribbing in rows, reverse the knit and purl on alternate rows.

First row: slip 1, \*k.1, p.1; repeat from \* till 9 (11) sts. on RH needle; k. across sole and ridge st.; \*p.1, k.1 and repeat to last st., k.1

Second row: slip 1, \*k.1, p.1; repeat from \* till 9 (11) sts. on RH needle; p.1, k. 7 (9, 11), p.1, \*p.1, k.1 and repeat to last st., k.1

**Moss variation:**

Instead of breaking the rib every row, as in moss stitch, keep in rib for two rows and alternate for the next two rows.

You can also do a **double moss stitch variation** where you do k.2, p.2 for two rows, changing to p.2, k.2 for the next two rows. **Another variation** is the same except changing every four rows, instead of every two.

**Waffle stitch:**

Similar, but k.4, p.4 for four rows, then p.4., k.4 for the next four rows, and so on.

You can use the outside sections for other stitches, such as cables. Be sure to keep the first and last stitch plain.