

F I R B R A N C H S O C K S

*This Sock pattern has a pattern in the wrapper, that looks like fir branches
German Tannenzweige = English Fir Branch*



both photos © Regina Regenbogen



Basic Principle:

The socks were knit inside out, only in this way you can knit without big thinking after the little picot edge of the fir branch wrap – this is appropriate during Christmas time. A little fun with a pattern and then plain knitting. ;-)

So you just turn the socks inside out after knitting them. Then you pull down the fir branch wrapper.

Size:

The knitting chart is in German size 38/39 – a little more than the usual stitches in the wrapper, as there are knit through back of loop and twisted stitches.

For size 40/41 please knit instead of the knitted in back stitches (see arrow) two stitches and twist them every fourth row. So you have to knit in the line where the arrow is 2 sts instead of 1 and twist it (cable it) every fourth row.

Cast on:

The cast on is knitted in a way that the fir branches go out a little over the normal edge (see photo). We use a knitted cast on (just search for it in youtube videos, if you do not know those cast on). The one, where the needle is put in the sts before is one possibility, the other is to put the needle between the stitches. I used both to get it absolutely perfect. But if you only use one of it, it will work, too.

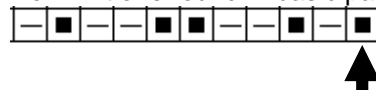
Cast on 6 (7) sts (knitted cast on with the needle in between). Then cast on 5 sts for the tip of the fir branch (cast on by knitting in the sts before). These sts are casted off immediately (you cast on the 5 sts and backward you cast them off). Then you have on the left needle 6 casted on sts and 1 sts on the right needle from the cast off left.

With this stitch on the right you cast on 10 (11) sts (knitted cast on with the needle in between), then cast on 5 sts for the tip of the fir branch and cast these off again as before.

Cast on another 11 (11) sts with the left sts on the right, cast off 5 sts of them as tipp of the fir branch and so on.

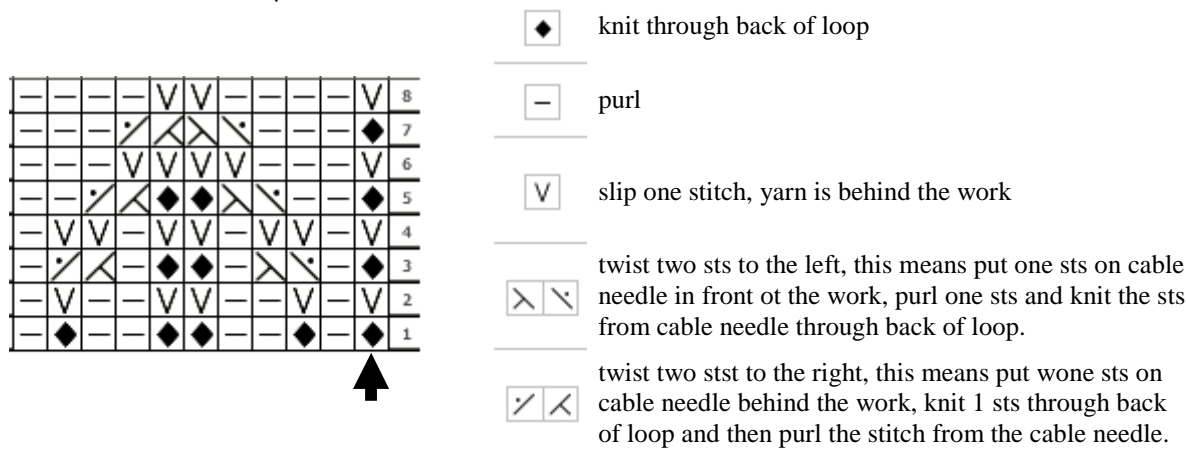
You knit all in all 6 tips of the fir branch, then cast on another 5 sts (with the sts on the needle from the cast off) an close it to a round. Be careful not to twist the cast on.

Now knit one round in basic pattern bevor you start the fir branch pattern.



black box: knit 1
dash: purl one

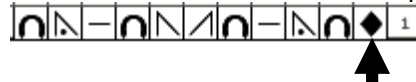
Then knit in fir branch pattern:



Knit the pattern five times, then knit two rounds in this pattern:



Now knit a round similar to a little picot edge, but the sock will be wrapped there only when it is finished:



This looks a little mad, but i will describe it for size 38/39 here.
knit 1 st through back of loop, yo, knit together 2 sts purlwise, purl one st, yo, knit together 2 st knitwise, slip 1 st, knit 1 st and pull slipped st over knitted one, yo, purl 1 st, knit together 2 sts purlwise, yo Repeat from * to * until round is finished.

Now knit one round and for 5 rounds in pattern: *knit 1 st through back of loop, purl 1 st* repeat from * to *. Then knit the rest normal and decrease from 66 sts to 60 sts evenly spread for size 38/39

For size 40/41: Important is the arrow. There are the two knit sts through the back of the loop that are twisted. When you reach the plain knitting decrease to 64 sts.

Heel:

Just knit on and choose the boomerang hill or hybrie boomerang heel (knit a small heel flap then do the first part of the boomerang heel. In the first of the following two rounds knitted over the whole stitches I pick up the edge sts of the heel flap. Then I knit the second part of the boomerang heel.) Just remember you turn the sock inside out after knitting, so in my opinion this heel looks best for it.

Foot and Toe:

Just knit the foot and then the Startoe – I think this is the best toe for Christmas. (If you knit in size 40/41 decrease in the last normal round 4 sts that you have 60 sts and knit for three more rounds).

You need not count much if you start the toe with 6 DPNs – I know for English speaking people who normally work with 4 DPNs instead of 5 like German sock knitters this sound really crazy, but just try.

Put 12 sts on each of the 5 needles (=60 sts). If you really find it hard to knit with so much needles, just knit two decrease rounds with this amount of needles, then you will see where to further decrease.

The decreases go like this:

- Purl together the first two sts of each needle. Then knit two rounds in between. Do the whole thing three times = 45 sts.
- Purl together the first two sts of each needle. Then knit one round in between. Do the whole thing three times = 25 sts.
- Purl together the first two sts of each needle. Do this without a round in between 5 times = 5 sts and pull them together.

PLEASE TAKE CARE: Before sewing up the threads please remember, that the socks must be turned inside out, so that the purl stitches in the foot are outside.



pattern © 2008 Susanne Fiedler

If you like the pattern, please donate something to the friends of our school that support our school and students.

Thank you in advance!

<http://alpenfee.wordpress.com/spende-donation>

Regina Regenbogen was so nice to knit this pattern and sent me the photos for the pattern.

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