



Sock Innovation: Knitting Techniques and Patterns for One-Of-A-Kind Socks

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Unconventional, rule-breaking socks are part and parcel in this unique guide to sock knitting that includes 15 new sock patterns. The skills of the average sock knitter are increased through design exploration and advanced stitch manipulation, treating the sock as a knitted canvas where elements are strategically and intentionally placed. New designs of floral lace patterns, angular geometric shapes, and unusual cables are presented along with detailed instructions on modifications to suit needs and aesthetics. The incredible range of style and complexity in this guide runs from sweet and simple to delightfully imaginative.

Sock Innovation: Knitting Techniques and Patterns for One-Of-A-Kind Socks Details

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From Reader Review Sock Innovation: Knitting Techniques and Patterns for One-Of-A-Kind Socks for online ebook

Lindsey says

So I've looked through and read a good part of this book already and it's gorgeous and inspirational. I think it will serve as motivation to get out and think about sock design and maybe even design my own socks. Someday. I loved how all of the patterns were titled after the people she most loves in her life and I loved reading the little blurbs about how the socks reflect their personalities.

I was kind of irritated by how similar angee and wanida were and then the fact that they were right next to each other. When I see that I feel gypped because they're like 18 new patterns! But does it count when they're pretty much the same thing? Amazing book though. Even if nobody does stand like that.

::edit::

Working on rick and I'm noticing some wonky yo's going on, which is in the pictures too.. hmm.

Mckinley says

Pretty socks, nothing tempting me.

Donna says

Wow, what a great sock book. This was widely anticipated in the sock knitting world and it doesn't disappoint. The information about sock design at the beginning of the book is interesting and useful, although I got a bit confused about the deconstructing of stitches part and the travelling stitches in the charts. I'll have to read it again and concentrate.

The patterns are amazing, but some of the charts are quite daunting, and it would take quite a while to make some of the socks featured here, however they would be works of art and well worth the effort. I have already bought new sock yarn!

Anne says

I am so excited about this book. I had a copy on order at my LYS and the minute they called I was on their doorstep to pick it up. I do not understand her math and design theories, but I have lots to learn from her patterns and variations. I can hardly wait to get my current pairs OTN, so I can start one of hers.

And I get to meet her in August at the sock summit and have her autograph my copy.

I truly enjoy her work and taking the time to put it all down. She's the best.

Allison says

This book is absolutely brilliant. Cookie A knows her stuff, and I'm sure I learned more about sock knitting in one cursory reading of this book than I did in years of actually knitting. This book is probably not great for a beginning sock knitter (unless you are a particularly ambitious one), as most of her explanations and tutorials are a bit more advanced. She does cover the basics, but goes way beyond that fairly quickly. For anyone who wants to step up their sock knitting, or learn about designing knitwear, though, her explanations are fantastic. She manages to explain the math of knitting while maintaining an emphasis on design, and is able to balance the basics (like swatching, charting patterns) with more complex techniques (transitioning between patterns, re-working stitch patterns to fit a desired gauge).

The patterns themselves are great, but again, probably not for a beginner. Cables (*lots* of cables) and lace are everywhere on these socks, and might be better suited to a knitter who has worked with these techniques on a larger scale before trying them on size 1 or 2 needles. Also, defying the trend of a lot of sock yarns, I really like that most of the socks are shown in solid in subtly variegated yarn, so the stitch pattern and definition is very clear in the photos. One thing to keep in mind with these patterns, though, is that you pretty much have to be able to read and knit from charts. The only thing outnumbering the cables on these socks are the charts which accompany them.

Aimee says

Gosh I love this book. Great guidance, great design!

Kyle says

Excellent patterns, but not for the faint of heart, or those scared of geometry.

penny shima glanz says

First, please note the errata for this book at Interweave's site.

Why did I put that first? I don't want you to try knitting through CookieA's awesome patterns and become frustrated and angry. This is a marvelous book of interesting and engaging stitch patterns. Some little mistakes are bound to creep in during the publishing process. It happens. Go check them out. Many you probably could figure out but it doesn't hurt to check.

I don't know why I'm late to this party. I have loved knitting her previously published patterns (Monkeys and Pomatomus being my two favourites) and have likened them to kettlecorn.. once you start you want more and more, but these have none of the bad after effects. Well, not really, at least you probably won't gain gobs of weight and rot your teeth out. Once you finish one pattern you'll need to choose yarn and the next pattern (or the same pattern). So maybe there is a similar sugar high involved. Hmm.. well, there are 15 different patterns waiting for you to choose the yarn and colour you wish...

What I liked best was the display of the socks in different yarns, often a solid contrasted with a variegated, and an explanation of what to look for when pairing a yarn with a pattern. I've seen some really bad choices out there (I've made a few myself). The reminder to choose wisely is appreciated.

I've been away from intense sock knitting for a bit and I think this book offers the inspiration I need to replenish my sock drawer.

Erin Germain says

Cookie has been a favorite designer of mine for a while, and this book gives a glimpse into how she comes up with her amazing designs. It breaks down the creation of socks, from cuff to toe, gives tips on making charts or designs work in the round, and provides a blueprint on how to create your own unique designs. Then, to top it off, she offers a number of patterns, all building on the steps detailed in the first half of the book.

A definite must for anyone who enjoys knitting socks.

Scilla says

If you like to knit socks, this is a great book. It discusses how to design your own socks. There are directions for many knitting techniques, with pictures. It discusses how to make a pattern which is the mirror image on both sides and how to adjust the size of the socks to make them fit. The patterns included are mostly nonsymmetric, and strange, but the how to parts are very extensive and clearly written.

Jennifer says

I am the only one who hates this book. Let's not mistake: I love the patterns. My problem is that everything is CHARTED! I can't knit by a chart if you paid me a million by the second! I need a hard and fast line by line WRITTEN PATTERN. Forgive me, but I am not an advanced knitter, but am looking to get into sock knitting but need patterns, NOT charts. Maybe someday I can take a class and learn all this chart nonsense, but for now, please, just give me the patterns to these beautiful socks!

Nelly says

This is a fantastic book about sock knitting and designing sock patterns. I expected a book with beautiful patterns that might use some unusual techniques, but that was it. What I've got with this book was so much better than what I expected. This book not only contains 15 great sock patterns, it also covers how to work a sock in great detail (cuff options [ribbed cuff, hemmed or picot cuff, patterned cuff:], heel options [flap heel and turn variations, stockinette short row heel, garter-stitch short-row heel, afterthought heel:] and toe options [wedge toe, round toe, short-row toe:]). The information provided about designing sock patterns is invaluable. After reading this book you will have a better understanding of how to modify a pattern to make it fit your needs and how to design your own fancy sock patterns.

I recommend this book to anybody who is interested in sock knitting (not only for designers!), it is for the advanced knitter though as the information provided is quite sophisticated.

Before you begin casting on, please take a look at the errata document for this book:

<http://www.interweave.com/corrections...>

Polly says

I am in love with this book and never want to return it to the library. At first I thought it was a book with sock patterns, but then I quickly discovered this is a book on how to design your own sock patterns (with some beautiful examples of the author's). Great tips for resizing as well! I can't wait to actually work on a pair.

(Afterthought: I do wish that she included just one plain, basic sock as a starting point.)

Tina says

As a really new sock knitter (I mean really new, as in I haven't even finished my first sock yet), I found this book to be chucked full of great information about socks. Cookie A went over sock construction, stitch patterns, sock design, and altering sock patterns to fit your foot. Some of the information in the book was over my head; especially the part on adjusting cable patterns for flat knitting and for rectangular knitting. However, once my skill level has increased I'm sure I'll be coming back to this book again and again for future instruction.

Oh, and the patterns in the book are fantastic. There are several pairs that I really want to try.

notgettingenough says

An odd and somewhat distressing juxtaposition:

Thomas is a physicist at Cern who knits in public at lunchtime.

Anna is a physicist at Cern who envies Thomas but can't knit in public at lunchtime because she feels bad enough already that she is a girl without adding to her woes by typecasting herself even further.

Maybe Thomas can afford not to give a fuck and Anna can't.

Or maybe Anna is just being paranoid.

Women began denigrating knitting as part of the 'feminist' thing which involved rejecting everything their mothers did as being unworthy. Men had already denigrated such things since they stopped doing them centuries ago. Women, oddly, saw that being feminist involved thinking the same way as men did on these things.

Maths. Elegance is not optional.

This book's introduction:

My inspiration doesn't come directly from mathematics. I'm unlikely to knit a Fibonacci pattern, use cellular automata, or think of ways to incorporate crazy topological spaces. But my entire approach to life involves abstract thought rooted in maths. An elegant proof is one that is simple, involves a bit of insight that isn't considered obvious, and proves something that is greater than the sum of its parts. An inelegant proof is one that is done by brute force or is overly complex. I find exactly the same to be true of knitting. Taking simple components and combining them in a way that is greater than the sum of its parts is the essence of good design.

What are those components? 'Everything boils down to three actions: wrap yarn around needle, stick needle through loop, and pull yarn through loop. Depending on the order or the direction of these three manoeuvres, infinite possibilities exist.'
