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ALBUS ARGYLE SOCKS

Anne Berk

This is a completely traditional argyle sock, knit from the top down, with solid color heel and toe, traditional gusset and heel shaping. The only new aspect is that it is knit in the round, entirely seamless.

Finished Size 8 (9¼, 11¼)" foot circumference, and 10¼ (12, 14½)" long from back of heel to tip of toe. Foot length is adjustable.

Yarn Louet North America Gems #1 Super Fine (100% merino wool; 185 yd [169 m]/1¾ oz [50 g]): steel gray (MC) 2 (3, 3) skeins; teal (CC1), navy (CC2), willow (AC1), goldilocks (AC2) 1 skein each.

Needles Size 2 (2.75 mm): long circular (cir) for magic-loop method or set of double-pointed (dpn).

Notions Markers (m); tapestry needle.

Gauge 32 sts and 44 rows = 4" in patt.

NOTES

- The instructions are written to knit the large diamond motifs using intarsia in the round and to add the accent color lines during finishing using duplicate stitch. Accent color lines can be knit at the same time as the sock if preferred. If the accent color lines are all the same color, make the accent color strand twice the length that you need, and begin knitting from mid-strand, carrying each end up across the work, according to the chart. This eliminates two ends to weave in for each accent strand used.
- Wind butterflies of each color by winding yarn around the palm of the hand 10-30 times. Now, remove the yarn from the hand, wind the loose end around the middle of the loop a few times, then secure with a half-hitch loop (pretend you are

making a e-wrap cast on, and place around the butterfly, then pull securely). You will knit from the other end of the yarn, and pull out yarn a bit at a time. Alternatively, wind the same amount of yarn onto bobbins.

Prepare 1 yarn butterfly or bobbin for each diamond, and 2 for the main color (MC). Each section will need its own source of yarn. On Row 1, strand the MC behind the contrast color (CC) diamonds. On Row 2, begin the 2nd strand of MC after working first CC diamond.

As you get more comfortable with the technique, lengthen the strands you are working with to reduce the number of ends to weave in. As butterflies are used and get messy, unwind them and re-wind, or just let hang loose and pull through to untangle. Store butterflies or prepared bobbins in a ziplock baggie, and carry with the work instead of the balls of yarn. More butterflies and bobbins can be created as work progresses.

- Note on "loops":** when turning work, you will always create a loop as you link the yarn strands over each other, which marks the end of the row. You should always have one loop on the needle—but only one. If you find that you have two loops next to each other, one is a "false loop" that was created by not pulling the previous yarn through the loop when you finished the previous row. The loop that you come to first on the needle is the false one. Pull that yarn free from the real loop and you will be good to go. Leave 4" tails when adding new yarn and when you come to the end of a strand, so that ends can be woven in securely. Weave ends into the joined links, use a sharp needle to weave the yarn into the links, not around them, for security. You should not need any knots. When weaving, gently guide the needle through the fibers of the links, for 3-4 links, then return along the same path. This will smush the fibers all together, and they aren't going anywhere. You will not be sewing into any actually knitted sts, and nothing will show on the public side. Do not stop working at the end of a row. Without a loop in the knitting to tell you where you are, you will lose track of your

place, and where to turn the work. When working a loop, always turn the work afterward, and work at least a few stitches, creating a new loop. Placing a locking marker at the end of the row can also be a helpful guide when first learning this technique.

When the strands get tangled, take a moment to untangle the yarn butterflies, or undo the butterflies and pull the entire strand free. Generally, once you get a few separated, the rest untangle very easily.

SOCK

With MC and cir needle or dpn, CO 64 (78, 94) sts. Place marker (pm) and join in the rnd being careful not to twist sts. Work k1, p1 ribbing for 2½ (3, 3)", or desired length. Next rnd Knit, dec 0 (4, 4) sts evenly around—64 (74, 90) sts rem. Remove m.

Row 1: RS (Set-up row) Join CC1, leaving a 4" tail. With CC1, k1, drop CC1, cross MC over CC1, with CC1, k1 (0, 0), with MC, k30 (36, 44), join CC2 leaving a 4" tail, k2 (1, 1), cross MC over CC2, with MC, k30 (36, 44), turn.

Row 2: (WS) With MC Sl 1 pwise (the beg of row moves 1 st, you will work the sl st at the end of the row), take the strand of CC1 from the edge of the section to the right and bring over the top of MC that you were just knitting with, note the "loop" of color CC1 at beg of row, where it crossed over to be locked by MC, with MC p28 (34, 42), pick up CC2 from under MC to link colors, with CC2, p4 (3, 3), join new MC, p1, cross CC2 over MC, with MC, p27 (33, 41). The loop of CC1 signals the end of row. Pull on the loop to loosen enough yarn to purl with. Put your butterfly of MC through the loop of CC1 to link the colors. With the yarn from the loop of CC1, p4 (3, 3) including sl st of MC from beg of row. Gently tighten the loop to draw up the extra yarn, turn. Leave the yarn butterflies or bobbins to the outside of the work.

Row 3: (RS) Sl 1 kwise from right needle left needle (beg of row moves over 1 st again, as you increase the size of the diamond, sl st will be worked at beg of Row 3), cross MC from the edge of the section to the right over top of CC1, note the "loop" of MC at beg of row. With CC1, k6 (5, 5), drop CC1, pick up MC from under CC1 to link, with MC, k26 (32, 40), pick up CC2 from under MC, with CC2, k6 (5, 5). Pick up MC from under CC2, with the yarn from

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the loop of MC, k26 (32, 40). Gently tighten the loop to draw up the extra yarn, turn. Follow chart, cont to form diamonds, being careful to link yarn at each color change. Work 31 (37, 45) rows of chart once, then reverse CC1 and CC2 and work chart again. Row 1 on second rep of chart will be a WS row. The heel flap needs to be knit on an even number of sts, in order for the heel st patt to work correctly. With diamond motif centered below, arrange 32 (36, 44) sts on one needle for the heel flap as foll. With MC, k17 (18, 22) sts, ending at end of heel sts. Heel sts should be centered above one diamond and instep centered above the second diamond. Place next 32 (38, 46) st on holder for instep.

Heel flap:

Row 1: (WS) *Sl 1, p1; rep to end.

Row 2: (RS) Sl 1, knit to end.

Rep Rows 1 and 2: 15 (17, 21) more times, and then work Row 1 once more. **Turn Heel:**

Row 1: (RS) K18 (20, 24), ssk, k1, turn.

Row 2: (WS) Sl 1, p5, p2tog, p1, turn.

Row 3: Sl 1 pwise, knit to 1 st before gap, ssk, k1, turn.

Row 4: Sl 1 pwise, purl to 1 st before gap, p2tog, p1, turn.

Work Rows 3 and 4 until all sts have been worked. With RS facing, knit heel sts, pick up and knit 16 (18, 22) sts on the left edge of the flap, picking up into the slipped sts, pm. Starting on Row 1 of chart and working center

diamond only, knit across all instep sts in patt, centering the new diamond on top of the previous one, pm, pick up and knit 16 (18, 22) sts on right edge of the flap, pm. Knit to motif edge, turn work, make loop and purl 1 row even, loop yarn, finishing row, turn. Gusset Dec row (RS) Knit to m, sl m, k1, ssk, work in patt to 3 sts before m, k2tog, k1—2 sts dec'd. Working in St st with MC over foot and gusset, and argyle patt over instep, rep Dec row every RS row 8 (9, 11) more times—64 (74, 90) sts rem.

Size note: If the ankle is large, but the foot is a smaller size, continue to decrease gusset until the correct stitch count for the foot. Work the foot for the smaller size.

When finished with argyle chart, work with MC only for remainder of sock, in the rnd. Cont working even in St st until the foot covers the little toe, or 7½ (8½, 9)" from heel.

Lengthen or shorten the foot here to adjust

for individual size. **Toe:** Dec rnd On needle 1, (instep) k1, ssk, knit to end; on needle 2 (instep) knit to last 3 sts, k2tog, k1; on needle 3 k1, ssk, knit to last 3 sts, k2tog, k1—4 sts dec'd. Next rnd Knit. Rep last 2 rnds 7 (9, 11) more times—32 (34, 42) sts rem. Then rep Dec rnd every rnd 4 (4, 5) times—16 (18, 22) sts rem.

FINISHING

Use Kitchener st (see page 5) to graft toe seam. Using Argyle chart as a guide and duplicate st, add accent lines using any combination of AC1 and AC2.

Anne Berk was certified by TKGAs as a Master Knitter in 2003. She has written patterns and articles for many publications, including *Piecework*, *Sockupied*, *ColorKnit* and *Twist Collective*. Anne is also an optometrist in private practice in Portland, OR, is a distance runner and a busy wife and mom.



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ABBREVIATIONS

beg	beginning; begin; begins	M1R (L)	make one right (left)	sl st	slip stitch (sl 1 st pwise unless otherwise indicated)
bet	between	p	purl	ssk	slip 1 kwise, slip 1 kwise, k2 sl sts tog tbl (decrease)
BO	bind off	p1f&b	purl into front and back of same st	ssp	slip 1 kwise, slip 1 kwise, p2 sl sts tog tbl (decrease)
CC	contrasting color	p2tog	purl two stitches together	st(s)	stitch(es)
cm	centimeter(s)	patt(s)	pattern(s)	St st	stockinette stitch
cn	cable needle	pm	place marker	tbl	through back loop
CO	cast on	pssso	pass slipped stitch over	tog	together
cont	continue(s); continuing	p2sso	pass two slipped stitches over	WS	wrong side
dec(s)	decrease(s); decreasing	pwise	purlwise	wyb	with yarn in back
dpn	double-pointed needle(s)	RC	right cross	wyf	with yarn in front
foll	following; follows	rem	remain(s); remaining	yo	yarn over
g	gram(s)	rep	repeat; repeating	*	repeat starting point (i.e., repeat from *)
inc	increase(s); increasing	rev St st	reverse stockinette stitch	**	repeat all instructions between asterisks
k	knit	rib	ribbing	()	alternate measurements and/or instructions
k1f&b	knit into front and back of same st	rnd(s)	round(s)	[]	instructions that are to be worked as a group a specified number of times
k2tog	knit two stitches together	RS	right side		
kwise	knitwise	rev sc	reverse single crochet		
LC	left cross	sc	single crochet		
m(s)	marker(s)	sk	skip		
MC	main color	sl	slip		
mm	millimeter(s)				
M1	make one (increase)				

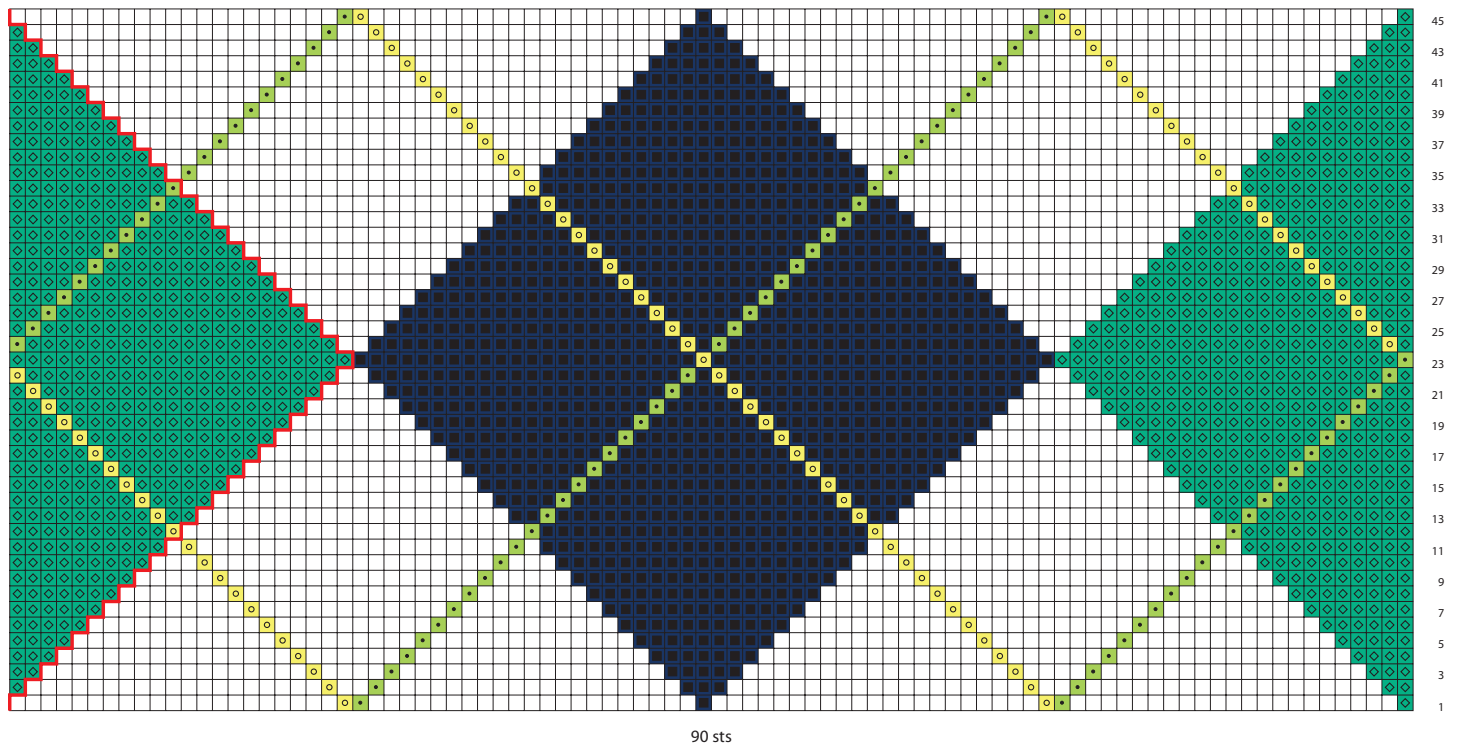
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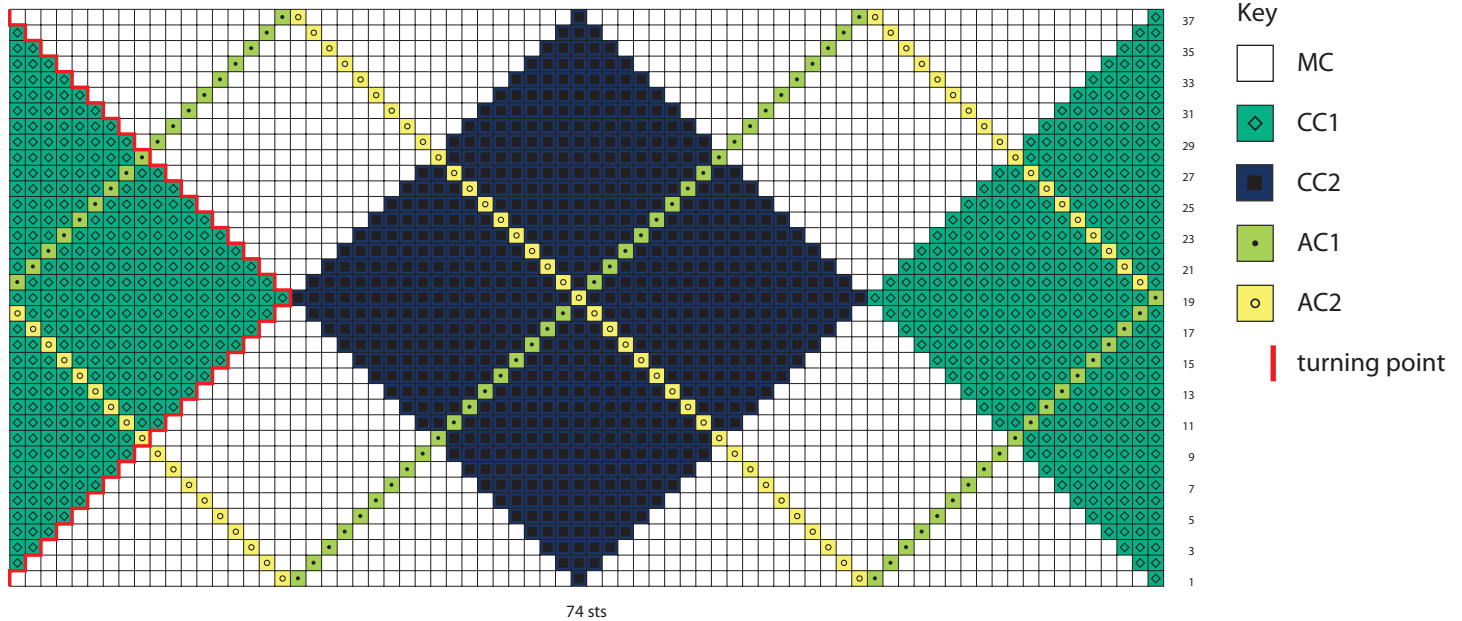
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Large, size 111/4"



Medium, size 91/4"



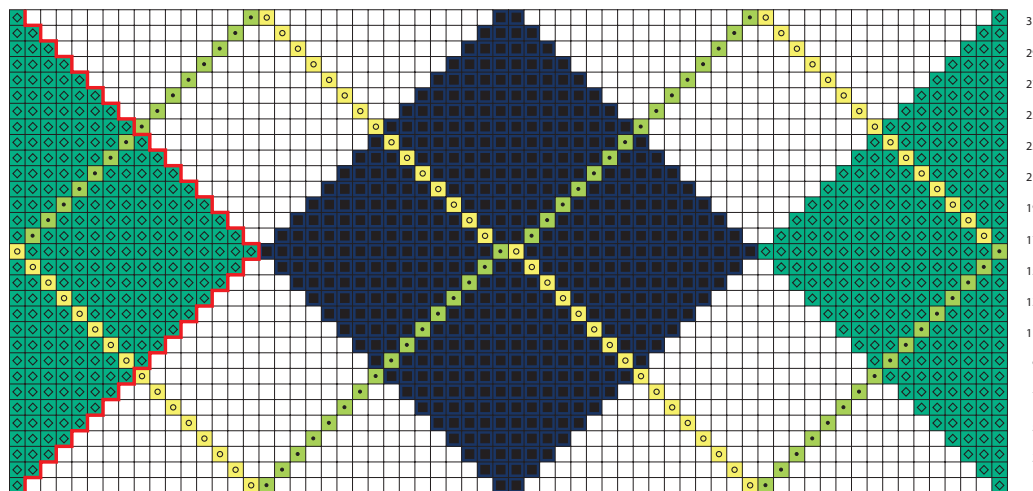
- Key
- MC
 - CC1
 - CC2
 - AC1
 - AC2
 - turning point

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Small, size 8"



64 sts

Key

-  MC
-  CC1
-  CC2
-  AC1
-  AC2
-  turning point



Kitchener Stitch

Step 1: Bring threaded needle through front stitch as if to purl and leave stitch on needle.

Step 2: Bring threaded needle through back stitch as if to knit and leave stitch on needle.

Step 3: Bring threaded needle through first front stitch as if to knit and slip this stitch off needle. Bring threaded needle through next front stitch as if to purl and leave stitch on needle.

Step 4: Bring threaded needle through first back stitch as if to purl (as illustrated), slip this stitch off, bring needle through next back stitch as if to knit, leave this stitch on needle.

Repeat Steps 3 and 4 until no stitches remain on needles.

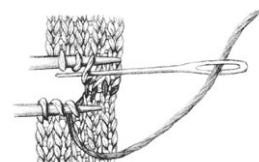



Illustration by Gayle Ford

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