

produce chain edge stitches along each selvedge, for as many rows as there are heel stitches. Work as follows:

**Row 1:** (RS) Knit a quarter of the total number of ankle sts beyond the seam st, turn work. Note how many sts were worked beyond the seam st.

**Row 2:** Sl 1, purl to the seam st, purl the seam st, then purl as many more sts after the seam st as you noted above (the seam st will be in the center of the completed row), turn work—there will be half the total number of sts plus the seam st on one needle for the heel flap; the other half of the sts will be divided between two needles for the instep, which will be worked after the heel is completed.

**Row 3:** Sl 1, knit to seam st, purl the seam st, knit to end.

**Row 4:** Sl 1, purl to seam st, knit the seam st, purl to end.

Repeat Rows 3 and 4 until flap is the desired length.

**Turn heel:** Continue working the heel stitches in short rows as follows:

**Row 1:** (RS) Sl 1, knit to seam st, k2 (the seam st plus the next st), sl 1, k1, pss0, k1, turn.

**Row 2:** Sl 1, p4, p2tog, p1, turn.

**Row 3:** Sl 1, k5, sl 1, k1, pss0, k1, turn.

**Row 4:** Sl 1, p6, p2tog, p1, turn.

**Row 5:** Sl 1, k7, sl 1, k1, pss0, k1, turn.

**Row 6:** Sl 1, p8, p2tog, p1, turn.

Continue as established, working 1 more stitch before the decrease every row until all of the stitches have been worked, ending with a WS row.

**Gussets:** Knit across the heel stitches, then with the same needle (needle 1), pick up and knit the desired number of stitches along the right side of the flap; with a new needle (needle 2), work across the instep stitches; with another

new needle (needle 3), pick up and knit the desired number of stitches along the left side of the flap, then knit half the heel stitches again. The round begins at center of heel. Work decreases as follows:

**Rnd 1:** On needle 1, knit to the last 3 sts, k2tog, k1; on needle 2, work across instep sts; on needle 3, k1, sl 1, k1, pss0, knit to end of rnd—2 sts decreased.

**Rnds 2 and 3:** Knit all sts.

Repeat Rnds 1–3 until there remains the same number of stitches as there was at the ankle, before the heel flap began.

## TOE SHAPING

*Weldon's* offers a number of ways to finish off a sock toe. Below are six examples, many of which are commonly used today. These instructions follow the convention of beginning all rounds at the center sole of the foot.

### ROUND TOE

The Round Toe is worked over a relatively large number of rounds. To keep the sock from being too long, you'll want to work fewer rounds in the foot before you begin this toe. A Round Toe is worked on the Oak Ribbed Stocking (page 30).

This toe is begun on a number of stitches divisible by 10, arranged so that half of the stitches are on the instep needle (needle 2) and the other half of the stitches are evenly divided between two sole needles (needles 1 and 3). Decrease as follows:

**Rnd 1:** \*K8, k2tog; rep from \* to end.

**Rnds 2–9:** Knit.

**Rnd 10:** \*K7, k2tog; rep from \* to end.

**Rnds 11–17:** Knit.

Continue in this manner, knitting 1 less stitch between decreases on decrease rounds, and working 1 less round between decrease rounds until you've worked a round consisting of all k2togs. According to *Weldon's*, the proper way to finish off the