



Linda's Slippers

The original slippers (see page 3) from where I made this pattern belong to my father's mother. The slippers were knitted by her best friend Linda Kirjavainen (b. 1917(?) in Muolaa, Finland) in the 1950's or 1960's. Linda has passed away so unfortunately I have no information where she got this slipper design. I have done some research as I am interested in history of textiles but haven't found similar a striped pattern anywhere. So I guess it is fair to say that the design is traditional. The pattern is slightly modified and written by me.

Size: European 37(40), US 5(7,5)

Yarn: Thicker sock yarn (100m/50g, 109 yards/50g) **or** thinner sock yarn knitted with two strands of yarn (420m/100g, 460 yards/100g).

Yarn Required: Main color (MC) about 75(80) grams, stripe color (SC) about 25(30) grams

Gauge: 25 sts *k1, p1* ribbing stretched = 10cm/4 inches

Needles and notions:

Circular needles 60 cm 3,50 mm (US 4), double pointed needles 3,5 mm (US 4), stitch marker

Decrease 1 sts: k2tog= Knit 2 sts together **or** PSSO= Pass Slip Stitch Over **or** p2tog = Purl 2 sts together

Sole part (in rows): Cast on with MC 55(61) sts with circular needle and work in *k1, p1* ribbing 40(44) rows. Always knit the 1st st of row.

Garter stitch part (in rows): Bind off 4(4) sts. Change to SC and knit the row. Then pick up sts at the cast-on edge (see Picture 1), don't pick up the last 4(4) sts. There is now 51(57) knitted sts and 51(57) picked up sts = 102(114) sts. Place a marker to the middle of a row. Knit the next row. Change to MC and dec: k2tog, k2tog, knit until there are 4 sts left before the marker. K2tog, k2tog, PSSO, PSSO, knit until there are 4 sts left on the row, PSSO, PSSO. Repeat the decreases on every right side row until there are 14(10) sts left.

Smaller size: Knit wrong side row. On right side row: K2tog, k1, k2tog, k2tog, PSSO, PSSO, k1, PSSO.

Bigger size: Knit wrong side row. On right side row: K2tog, k1, k2tog, PSSO, k1, PSSO. **Both sizes:** Knit wrong side row and cut the yarn. There are 8(6) sts left. **Note:** Knit always 2 rows with SC, 2 rows with MC, 2 rows with SC and so on. The last 2 rows should be with SC.

Leg (in rounds): Pick up sts with MC and 3,5mm DPN: 4 sts which were bound off, then pick up always 2 sts from SC stripe and 1 sts from MC stripe (see Picture 2). From needle: **Smaller size:** k2, k2tog, PSSO, k2.

Bigger size: k1, k2tog, PSSO, k1. **Both sizes:** On the left side of the marker pick up sts in the same way as on the right side = 50(54) sts. Knit *k2, p2* rib in rounds but dec on the 1st round 2 sts: k1, p2tog, repeat *k2, p2* until there are 3 sts left on round, p2tog, k1 = 48(52) s. **Striping:** 3 rows MC, 3 rows SC, 3 rows MC, 3 rows SC, 3 rows MC, 3 rows SC, 4 rows MC. **Note:** always change the color **after** the 1st st of round. Bind off. I recommend Jeny's surprisingly stretchy bind off technique:

<http://knitty.com/ISSUEfall09/FEATjssbo.php>. Sew the heel and toe seams as flat as possible. Sew in all yarn ends.

Picture 1



Picture 2





Here are the original much loved slippers knitted by Linda in 1950's or 1960's. As you can see my grandma has used them a lot.



Any feedback, errata notes, information of origin of this slipper design? Have you seen this kind of stripy slippers in old book or magazine? Please send e-mail: mielitty@gmail.com