

Swirling Diamonds

by Deborah V. Gardner

Swirling Diamonds are knit on the instep and up the leg with a lacy pattern on each side. When you reach the leg, you can continue the lacy pattern on the back or wait until you are closer to the top—your choice.

Pick your favorite architecture. Now, depending on the number of instep stitches you have, determine how many repeats you need.

For example, my sock has a total of 62 stitches. The design for the foot is 31 sts and my instep has 31 stitches. If you have less than 62 stitches, use just the diamond pattern (sts 8 – 24) from Chart 1, centered on the instep. If you have more than 62 sts, divide the number of stitches by 2 and center the pattern on the instep.

Once the heel is complete, I decreased one stitch in the middle of the heel (61 sts) and then worked the Chart 1 pattern for 4", knitting the rest in stockinette stitch. Then I worked Chart 2 for 3". I finished with a 1 x 1 ribbing, increasing 1 stitch on the first ribbing round.

You can begin Chart 2 on the first round of the leg or work 2 or 3" before beginning the Chart 2 pattern. Finish using your favorite cuff or a simple ribbing.

Symbols and abbreviations

□	k	Knit
↘	k2tog	Knit 2 together
↙	ssk	Slip 1 purlwise, slip 1 knitwise, knit together through back loops
○	yo	Yarn over
⤴	cdd	Central Double Decrease: Slip 2 sts together; knit 1, pass slipped stitches over.

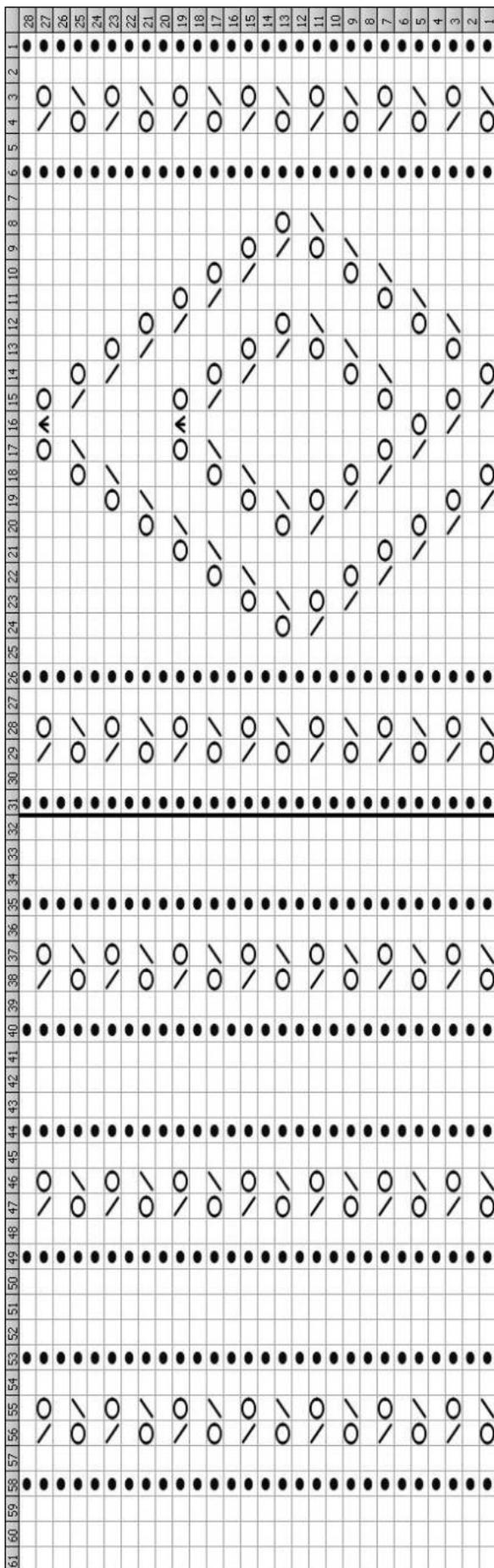


Sample was knitted using the Riverbed architecture and reinforced heel from Cat Bordhi's *New Pathways for Sock Knitters: Book One*; and Judi Becker's Cast-on on dpns. The yarn is Hand Maiden Sea Sock, 51% silk, 29% merino wool and 20% Seacell®.



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Chart 1—Instep



Bold line indicates end of instep pattern.

Chart 2