so strickt man heute
die Strickschmiede

Spikes

for japanese knitting machines (for example on socks)

Details

- sock yarn (75% wool, 25% Poly) with 420m/100g

accessoiries needed:

- claw weights

The spiked socks are a fun thing to knit with a lot of heels, which are knitted single bed and side by side in groups. You don´t have to knit 3 spiked rows or change their size, as I did. Feel free to vary in any way.
I made something similiar a couple of years ago in Baby´s size and just remembered that while reading the book „A Machine Knitter´s Guide To Creating Fabric“.

In general you´ll use your own sock recipe regarding the number of stitches and the gauge. This way you´ll make sure that everything below the spiked brim will fit.

In this pattern I describe how I knit my socks for german size 40 (UK 7/US 9): with 64 stitches and main tension 5.5.

At the end of this pattern you´ll find some hints and versions.

And now: have fun knitting, wherever you may place those spikes ☺

Happy knitting!
Kirsten Schreiweis

Feel free to follow me on social media
Facebook
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meine Homepage
If you have any questions, please contact me via email
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Cast on

cuff 1:1

- knit 20 rows, T4
- transfer all stitches to the back bed
- transfer the cast on row onto the needles, if you want a double layered cuff
- attach single bed sinker plate, knit 2 rows in T7 → **carriage on the right**

spiked row 1st group

Attention: for „my" socks the number of stitches should be devidable by 16, as the spikes will be knitted in groups. My socks got 64 stitches, so I have 4 groups with 16 stitches per group and sub groups with 8 stitches.

- T 5,5
- set up your carriage to short rowing (H)
- the groups start on the right side: put all the needles except for the 16 on the right to hold (E-Position) = needles 32 to 17 right
- hang claw weight
- knit 2 rows over these 16 needles of group
- the following instructions refer to ***this actual*** group
- ***__opposite the carriage__** put first end needle in hold → knit 1 row
- opposite the carriage put first end needle in hold → knit 1 row *
- repeat from * to * and rehang your weights until all the needles are in hold position. Your yarn is now in the (almost) middle of this group.

For a better understanding this is the way you bring the needles in hold: needle in hold position – knit 1 row – needle in hold position - ...and so on

In this order (needle number): 17,32,18,31,19,30,20,29,21,28,22,27,23,26,24,25 ← now ALL of your needles are in hold, carriage is on the right.

Now you knit reverse short rows:

- rehang your claw weights
- ***__on carriage side__** put the needle in the middle back to working position (the one adjacent to that needle with the yarn...I know there is no real center if there are even numbers of needles ☺ → knit 1 row
- on carriage side the other „center needle" back to working position → knit 1 row *
- repeat from * to * and rehang your weights until all the needles are back in working position.

Put them back to working position in this order:
24,25,26,23,27,22,28,21,29,20,30,19,31,18,32,17 → **Carriage on the right**

You´ve finished the first group.

spiked row 2nd group

- bring needles of first half of the next group in working position (= 8 needles) = needles 16 to 9 right → knit 1 row over all 16 needles of your 1st group PLUS the 8 needles of group 2. You´ve got 24 needles in work **in this row**.
- carriage on the left
- rehang claw weights
- put first half of your first group to hold (=8 needles, needles 32 to 25 right)
- knit 1 row to the right
- knit this 2nd group the same way as the 1st one from * to * and also the same steps for reverse short rows. Don´t miss rehanging your claw weights!

Work in this way knitting in groups until you finised the last spike on the left.

Knit 4 rows over all of your needles. To make sure they all knit well bring all your needles in E position, set your carriage to knit (N), for these 4 rows only. Your carriage is now back on the left. Set the carriage to short rowing.

Use the same technique/rhythm for your 2nd spiked row, but now you start on the left working towards the right side. Knit 4 rows plain.
Repeat for a 3rd row of spikes.

From now on you´ll knit the rest of your sock as you´re used to.
Until now everything was knitted single bed, now transfer your stitches to circular knitting. **The heel will be knitted on the front bed**, to have the seam on the back of the cuff. If you´re more used to knit the heel on the back bed, you´ll need to turn the hole cuff around to the front bed (with a garter bar or waste yarn) and rehang it, so the spikes point towards you.

Variations & tips

- The number of stitches used should always be even and devidable by 2 to achieve an even number for sub groups, too
- you may even create 2 huge groups of 32 stitches, the sub groups have 16 stitches then (see photo, this is how I did the 3rd group)
- you may create very tiny groups as well, maybe groups of 8 (sub groups of 4)
- always rehang your claw weights!
- knit as many or less rows of spikes as you´re fancy
- knit each spike in a different color, but be aware that you´ll have threads on the non public side and you´ll need to secure them
- looks faboulus on a child´s hat or a boot´s cuff
- you may knit this circular, too. I recommend a 1:1 rib, though, als a rolled brim won´t hold it up (see photos). If knitting circular the groups were knitted overarching the beds at one point, which is kind of tricky but doable
- use the spikes like a spiral by working single ones with some rows in between and shift the position of the single spike.
- **tip for closing the cuff´s seam:** there are kind of long stitches occuring on the sides. Hold them in a bit while sewing, otherwise there´ll be wholes and it looks untidy.

I hope you´ll have lots of fun knitting these spiky things and I´m quite curious to see your results – please feel free to post them on my facebook page ☺

Kirsten Schreiweis

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Here you can see the difference in fitting clearly:
on the left with a well fitting brim (double layered/ folded down).
On the right knitted seamless circular with a rolled brim: due to the width given by the spikes
it stands away from the leg...not really neat, right?

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