

## Lace Maple Leaf Socks

For these socks, I interpreted the maple leaf of Canada in a textured lace stitch. Yarn over stitches loosely define the outer edges of the leaves. Twisted knit stitches and decreases define the stem and main veins. Knit-purl texture serves double-duty for further defining the interior of the leaves plus giving some resiliency to the fabric to enhance the elastic fit about the leg.

The socks begin at the cuff with a crown-like pointed bias-ribbed border, symbolizing the ties the self-governing country of Canada still retains to the British crown. The ribbed border then transitions into a field of overall maple leaves encircling the leg. As a nice feature for wearing with open-back sandals, I designed the heel to transition back into the bias-ribbed pattern. If you prefer a plain heel, feel free to substitute. The maple leaves are carried into the instep and taper to a point as the solid fabric of the foot takes over to complete the sock.
Sizes 60 -stitch women's medium (72-stitch women's large) with planned finished measurements of -

Sock leg length: 6 (8)"
Sock foot length: $91 / 2(11)$ "
Sock foot circumference: $7^{1 ⁄ 2}(9)$ "
See Designer Notes for tips on adjusting for other sizes
Yarn 335 (410) yards fingering weight
Suggested Needles
For knitting the sock other than cuff: US $1 / 2.25 \mathrm{~mm}$ or size needed to obtain gauge; your choice of double points or circulars
For cuff: US 2 / 2.75 mm needles or one size larger than used to get gauge
Gauge 8 stitches / inch with smaller needles over stockinette stitch Skill Level Intermediate
Stitch Instructions Charted and written


