Week 1
The Anatomy of a Sock

Consider the humble sock, a covering for your foot. Perhaps it helps to keep your foot warm. Or keeps your foot from sweating, which the foot might do if placed directly into a shoe. Or it keeps blisters at bay. What does this small marvel look like?

There is the toe, a narrow portion slowly expanding. Then the foot. Approaching the ankle, the foot gets much bigger around, and so, sometimes, does the sock. This is often accomplished with gussets, one on each side. Then the heel, a geometrical marvel that suddenly turns the whole thing 90 degrees. The heel flap comes up the back of the heel. Next comes the leg, widening at the top if necessary to accommodate larger calves. Finally the ribbing at the top to hold it up on the leg.
Two Socks, Two Feet
Gail Davidson

The Magic Loop

A number of years ago now, Cat Bordhi dreamed up the idea of knitting a tube using two circular needles, with half the stitches on each, and wrote a book about it. Not long after that, Sarah Hauschka translated that idea to using one long circular needle with the cable pulled out in the middle, half way around the tube. This is not to say that others hadn’t come up with these ideas, but these ladies were clever enough to publish them. Next came the idea of knitting two socks at once on this needle. Finally, someone came up with the idea of starting at the toe, allowing the knitter to try the sock on at any point.

Making the socks

We will cast on 12 stitches using Judy Becker’s Magic Cast On. We will next increase to 60 stitches, as follows:

- K1, M1, knit across until 1 stitch remains, M1, K1. Repeat for the other top and both bottoms.
- Knit around.
- Repeat these two rows until each sock has 60 stitches, 30 on the top and 30 on the bottom.

Knit as far as you would like on the foot before next week. Stop 3” short of the length of your foot.

Resources:

Two At a Time, Toe Up Socks. By Melissa Morgan-Oakes

Ravelry:  www.ravelry.com  Many, many patterns
Judy Becker’s Magic Cast On:  http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IhBIS0AhQY