

BASIC CHRISTMAS STOCKING: Houndstooth Cuff Version Instructions for adding houndstooth colorwork to the cuff of your Churchmouse At Home 'Basic Christmas Stocking' pattern

Yarn:

3 (4, 4) skeins Brown Sheep *Lamb's Pride Worsted* (190 yds/174m each): 1 (2, 2) skeins of Color A and 1 skein each of Color B and C.

Or approx. 145 (240, 345) yds/133 (220, 315)m of Color A; 45 (70, 95) yds/41 (64, 87)m of Color B; 40 (50, 70) yds/37 (46, 64)m of Color C.

Cuff: Approx. 30 (50, 70) yds/28 (46, 64)m of Color A and 45 (70, 95) yds/41 (64, 87) Color B.

Leg: Approx. 70 (115, 170) yds/64 (105, 156)m of Color A.

Heel & Toe: Approx. 20 (25, 35) yds/18 (23, 32)m each of Color C.

Foot: Approx. 45 (75, 105) yds/41 (69, 96)m of Color A.

A bit on color dominance:

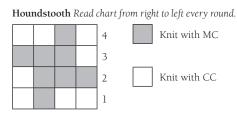
In two-handed stranded knitting, the color carried in your left hand will show up more than the other, by virtue of the fact that it is carried along below the other yarn; it essentially has a shorter commute. Known as 'left hand color dominance', this phenomenon is unrelated to which hand dominates in your everyday life, or which hand normally carries your yarn. Typically then, your 'pattern', or motif, color is held in your left hand, and your 'background' color in your right, so the motif will 'pop'. However, with a balanced pattern like houndstooth, there really isn't a background color. Here's an opportunity to take advantage of this theory: Since darker colors tend to recede, hold your darker color in your left hand (the dominant position), to bring it visually forward and balance it with the lighter color. Feel free to experiment—just be sure to hold colors in the same hands throughout—it's surprising how different your pattern repeats can look if you aren't consistent!

Cuff:

With Color B, cast on and work through Round 2 as directed in original pattern.

Round 3: Continuing with Color B, knit to end.

Round 4: Join Color A, and with both yarns, begin working houndstooth chart in the round, repeating the 4-st repeat a total of 12 (16, 20) times. Note: Take care to strand floats evenly across back of work. To keep floats loose, stretch out sts of your last color on right needle before you bring your new color across the back.



4-st repeat; repeat 12 times each round.

<u>Rounds 5–7</u>: Continue working Rounds 2–4 of houndstooth chart, always reading chart from right to left.

Repeat four rounds of houndstooth chart, 2 (3, 4) more times. [chart worked a total of 3 (4, 5) times] Cut Color A yarn, leaving 8"/20cm tail to weave in later.

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Cuff cont'd: Next round: With Color B, knit to end.

Continuing with Color B, turn work so wrong side is facing you; with yarn in back, slip the first stitch purlwise, and begin knitting back in the other direction for $1\frac{1}{2}$ (2, $2\frac{1}{2}$)"/4 (5, 6)cm, knitting every round. *Note: This will put knit side out when you fold over the cuff, and leave a decorative purl edging at the natural fold.* Cut Color B yarn, leaving 8"/20cm tail to weave in later.

Leg: Change to Color A and work as directed in original pattern through Foot.

Toe: Change to Color C and work as directed in original pattern through Graft toe.

'Afterthought' heel: With Color C, work as directed in original pattern.