Three Pines Christmas /tocking

by Katherine Misegades

Three Pines is a state of mind. When we choose tolerance over hate, kindness over cruelty, goodness over bullying, when we choose to be hopeful not cynical, then we live in Three Pines. [LOUISE PENNY]



Louise Penny, a mystery writer from Québec, Canada, is one of my favorite authors. Three Pines is the imaginary village that is home to many of the characters in her enthralling stories.

As the unofficial Christmas stocking knitter in my extended family, an honor I inherited from my mama, I usually knit colorful designs. I've long dreamed of doing one in a cream color with the pattern in texture stitches. The name is rendered in clear glass beads (close up on page 2). This is my tribute to Louise Penny and her imaginary village.

Gauge

8 Rows/inch (2.5 cm) and 6 Stitches/inch (2.5 cm).

Materials & Jupplies

YARN: Aran or cream colored worsted weight such as Brown Sheep Nature Spun or Cascade 220, 100 grams.

NEEDLES: Double-pointed sock set or short circular in a size to render the gauge—about US #4 (3.5 mm) or #5 (3.75 mm).

NOTIONS: Glass beads, crochet hook small enough to thread through bead.

Abbreviations & Techniques

- **rnd** round
- **sts** stitches
- **k** knit

p – purl

3-st dec – slip two stitches as if to knit two together, knit one, pass slipped stitches over; the center stitch lies on top of the other two

NOTE: For questions or corrections to this pattern, you are welcome to email katherine@atimetoknit.com

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Cast On

• Cast on 72 sts

Cuff

(Work Rounds 1-15 as shown on the chart on page 4, or follow the directions below for Rnd 1 - 15. The rounds begin and end at the back of the sock) RND I: Join and knit around RND 2: Purl around RND 3: Knit around RND 4: [k4, p4] 9 times RND 5: [p1, k4, p3] 9 times RND 6: [p2, k4, p2] 9 times RND 7: [p3, k4, p1] 9 times RND 8: [k3, p4, k1] 9 times RND 9: [k2, p4, k2] 9 times RND 10: [k1, p4, k3] 9 times RND II: [p4, k4] 9 times RND 12: Knit around RND 13: Purl around RND 14: Knit around RND 15: Purl around

Name /pace

Work 7 rounds of stockinette (or as many as needed to accomodate the name). The person's name or initials can be added in a number of ways:



- Apply glass beads to stitches with crochet hook.
- Work purl-stitch initials.
- Embroider lettering in duplicate stitch after knitting is finished.
- Have a brass plaque engraved with the name and attach it to the sock with a chain or ribbon.

Leg

Work the purl/knit pattern shown on the page-4 chart ending with round 105.

Heel ∫lot

The heel on this sock is knit last. To provide a way to pick up live stitches when it is time to knit the heel, a slot is created with waste yarn that will be removed. To create the slot:

- Knit 54 sts.
- Using waste yarn, knit 36 sts and then back up 36 sts to the 54-stitch point
- Knit with the regular yarn across the 36 scrap-yarn sts and on 54 more sts to the back of the sock.

Foot

Repeat the following 4 rnds 9 times — see page-4 chart: RND 1: Knit around RND 2: (k2, p2) 18 times RND 3: Knit around RND 4: (p2, k2) 18 times Then work the 6-round decorative band — see page-4 chart: RND 1: Knit around RND 2: Purl around RND 3: Knit around RND 4: (k2, p2) 18 times RND 2: Knit around RND 2: Knit around RND 2: Purl around

Toe (Heel) / haping

Τοε:

RND I: K16, 3-st dec, k33, 3-st dec, k17 RND 2 AND ALL EVEN RNDS THROUGH 24: Knit around RND 3: K15, 3-st dec, k31, 3-st dec, k16 RND 5: K14, 3-st dec, k29, 3-st dec, k15 RND 7: K13, 3-st dec, k27, 3-st dec, k14 RND 9: K12, 3-st dec, k25, 3-st dec, k13 RND II: K11, 3-st dec, k23, 3-st dec, k12 RND I3: K10, 3-st dec, k21, 3-st dec, k11 RND I5: K9, 3-st dec, k19, 3-st dec, k10 RND I7: K8, 3-st dec, k17, 3-st dec, k9 RND I9: K7, 3-st dec, k13, 3-st dec, k8 RND 21: K6, 3-st dec, k13, 3-st dec, k7 RND 23: K5, 3-st dec, k9, 3-st dec

Distribute the last 5 sts along with the first 4 sts and one 3-st decrease onto one needle (10 sts). Distribute next 10 sts onto a second needle. Weave the front and back sts together using Kitchener technique. Heel:

Remove the waste yarn from the heel slot placing the live sts onto sock needles. There should be 72 sts. Attach yarn at center back. This is the beginning of the round. Shape the heel like the toe as follows:

RND 1: K16, 3-st dec, k33, 3-st dec, k17

RND 2 AND ALL EVEN RNDS THROUGH 24: Knit around

RND 3: K15, 3-st dec, k31, 3-st dec, k16

RND 5: K14, 3-st dec, k29, 3-st dec, k15

RND 7: K13, 3-st dec, k27, 3-st dec, k14

RND 9: K12, 3-st dec, k25, 3-st dec, k13

RND II: K11, 3-st dec, k23, 3-st dec, k12 RND 13: K10, 3-st dec, k21, 3-st dec, k11

RND 15: K9, 3-st dec, k19, 3-st dec, k10

RND 17: K8, 3-st dec, k17, 3-st dec, k9

RND 19: K7, 3-st dec, k15, 3-st dec, k8

Toe & Heel / haping

RND 21: K6, 3-st dec, k13, 3-st dec, k7 RND 23: K5, 3-st dec, k11, 3-st dec, k6 RND 25: K4, 3-st dec, k9, 3-st dec

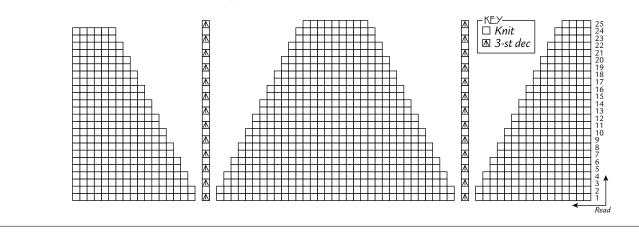
Distribute the last 5 sts along with the first 4 sts and one 3-st decrease onto one needle (10 sts). Distribute next 10 sts onto a second needle. Weave the front and back sts together using Kitchner technique.

NOTE: If there are unwanted holes on each side at the beginning of the heel decreases, close them with yarn on the wrong side.

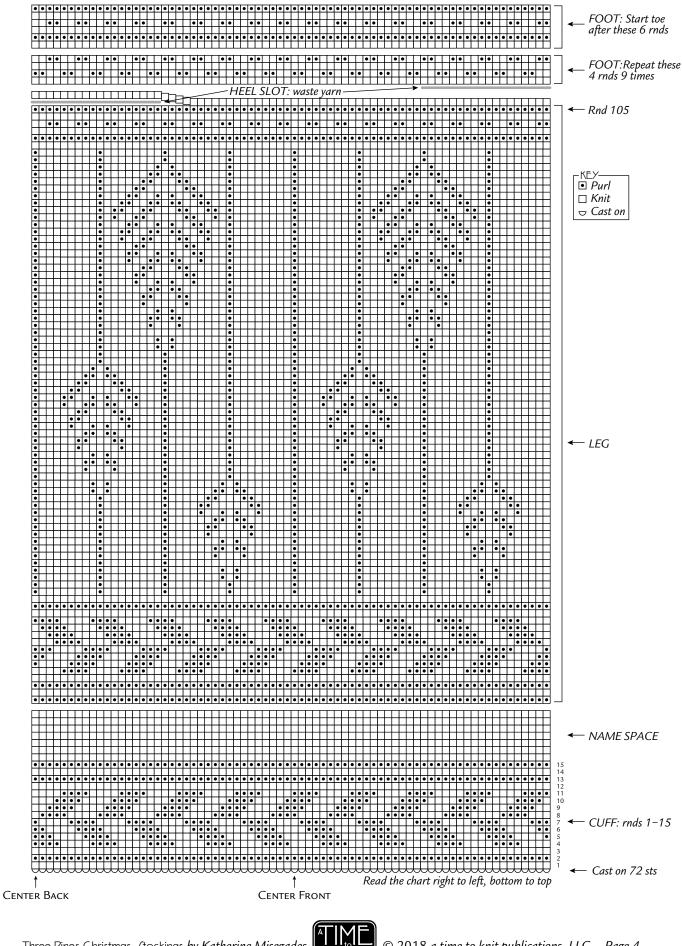
Finishing

Work in yarn ends and block. Make a hanger at the back of the cuff using I-cord, gold braid, ribbon or the chain of a name tag.

For knitters who prefer reading charts, this represents the decrease rounds used to shape the toe and heel. The beginning of each round is at the numbers on the right.



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