

Borgo de'Pazzi®

F I R E N Z E

NERA SIGNORA

di Alice Twain

Balliamo balliamo, la nera signora

Balliamo balliamo, è venuta la sera (Mauro Ermanno Giovanardi).

Mauro Ermanno Giovanardi is probably the most elegant of the Italian songwriters of his generation. *Nera signora* is a song from his first album as La Crus with Cesare Malfatti. These socks, that combine the simplicity of stockinette stitch and the elegance of a delicate and no-nonsense lace pattern that travels down the side of the leg and the front of the foot, remind me of his songwriting that is elegant without unnecessary fuss.

Nera signora are knitted in Bice, a delicately variegated, durable sock yarn. The semisolid coloring of the yarn makes it perfect for both plain and lacy socks and adds interest to the fabric, while the classic blend is reliably long-lasting.





Materials

- **Borgo de' Pazzi Bice:** 75% virgin wool, 25% polyamide; 100 g (3.5 oz) = 420 m (460 yds); 1 skein, col. 325.
- 1 set of 4 DPNs, size 2.75 mm (US 2).
- Scissors and tapestry needles.
- 2-4 stitch markers (optional).

Size and measures

Measures: S (shoes size EU 36-37/US 6.5-7/UK 4) L (shoes size EU 38-39/US 7.5-8.5/UK 5).

Foot circumference: 17 (19) cm (6½", 7½").

Leg length (excluding heel): 20 (22) cm (7¾", 8½").

Foot length (including heel): 21 (24) cm (8¼", 9½").

Gauge: 17 sts = 5 cm (2").

Special stitches

Kitchener stitch: youtu.be/W7i5JwEReW0.

Instructions

Border

C.o. 58 (64) sts.

Distribute over 3 needles as follows:
n1+2: 19 (21); *n3:* 20 (22).

Join in the round and start working in rib pattern.

Rd 1: *n1:* *k1, p1* 4 (5) times, k1, PM, *p1, k2* 3 times, p1; *n2:* *k1, p1* to 1 st bef end, k1; *n3:* *p1, k2* 3 times, p1, PM, *k1, p1* to end.

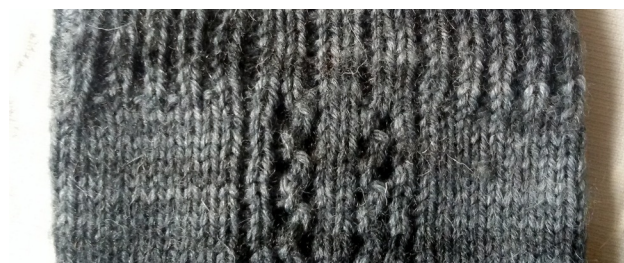
Work this round for 24 times.

Leg

Setup row SMALL size: *n1:* k1, m1, k to last 10 sts, p1, k8, p1; *n2:* k9, m1, k to end; *n3:* p1, k8, p1, k to end. You will now have 60.

Setup row LARGE size: *n1:* k8, m1, k1, k to last 10 sts, p1, k8, p1; *n2:* k1, m1, k to 1 st bef end, m1, k1; *n3:* p1, k8, p1, k 1, m1, k to end. You will now have (68) sts.

Next row: *n1:* k to last 10 sts, work Chart 1; *n2:* k; *n3:* work Chart 1, k to end.



Continue working according to pattern until completing 13 (15) repetitions of Chart 1.

Heel

The heel is worked back and forth on half the total stitches.

Setup row 1: k 15 (17), turn.

Setup row 2: sl 1, p 14 (15), p 14 (16), k1 from n3.

Distribute the remaining 30 (34) sts over 2 needles and leave aside.

Row 1: *sl 1, k1* to end.

Row 2: sl 1, p to 1 st bef end, k1.



Work rows 1 and 2 for 13 (15) times tot, then work row 1 once again.

Turn the heel.

Row 3: sl 1, p 18 (19), p2tog.

Row 4: sl 1, k 8 (10), ssk.

Row 5: sl 1, p 8 (10), p2tog.

Continue working rows 4 and 5 until you are left with 11 (13) sts.

Resume working in the round.

Next rd: *n1*: sl 1, k 8, ssk, then pick up 15 (17) sts along the side of the heel flap plus 1 from the gap between the needles; *n2*: work Chart 2, k to last 5 sts, work Chart 3 across top of the foot transferring the sts from the two needle on a single needle; *n3*: pick up 1 from the gap between the needles and 15 (17) along the side of the heel flap, k 5 (6) from *n1*.

You will now have 72 (82) sts tot: 21 (24) sts on needles 1 and 3 and 30 (34) sts on needle 2.

Foot

Rd 1: *n1*: k to last 2 sts, k2tog; *n2*: work Chart 2, k to last 5 sts, work Chart 3; *n3*: ssk, k to end.

Rd 2: *n1+3*: k; *n2*: work Chart 2, k to last 5 sts, work Chart 3.

Rd 3: *n1+3*: k; *n2*: work Chart 2, ssk, k to last 7 sts, k2tog, work Chart 3.

Rd 4: *n1+3*: k; *n2*: work Chart 2, k to last 5 sts, k2tog, work Chart 3.

Work rds 3 and 4 for 5 (6) times total. You will not have 60 (68) sts once again: 20 (22) sts on needles 1 and 3, and 22 (24) sts on needle 2.

Continue working in pattern until sock measures 18 (20) cm (7", 7¾") from the heel or to the base of the toes, ending with row 4 of Charts 2 and 3. There will be a total of 14 (16) repetitions of charts 2 and 3 along the foot.

Continue working in stockinette stitch. Redistribute sts again, moving 5 (5) sts from each of needles 1 and 3 to needle 2, and complete this round knitting to the end of needle 1 once again.

Toe

On the toe the start of the round placement changes from the bottom of the foot to the side of the foot where you are right now. Needle 2 (which holds most of the stitches) is now the begin of the round, followed by needles 1 and 3.

Decrease round: *n2*: k1, ssk, k to last 3 sts, k2tog, k1; *n3*: k1, ssk, k to end; *n1*: k to last 3 sts, k2tog, k1.

Work this round every 3rd round for 3 (4) times, every other round for 4 (5) times, than work dec rd only for 4 times. You will have 16 sts left: 8 on needle 2 and 4 each on each of the other 2 needles.



Transfer the sts on needle 1 to needle 3 and discard.

Break yarn leaving a long tail and graft toe.

Work second sock in the same way.

Finishing

Wash both socks in tepid water with a small amount of a delicate detergent, rinse if required, drain well without wringing, roll in a clean towel to remove all excessive water.

Dry flat or on sock blockers.

Weave yarn tails in the back and trim.

Chart 1/Grafico 1

●								●	4
●		↘	○			○	↗	●	3
●								●	2
●		○	↗			↘	○	●	1

Stitches






	k
	p
	yo
	k2tog
	ssk

Chart 2/Grafico 2

				●	4
	○	↗		●	3
				●	2
	↘	○		●	1

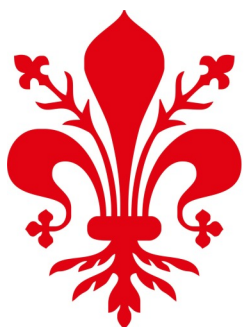
Chart 3/Grafico 3

●					4
●		↘	○		3
●					2
●		○	↗		1

This pattern uses the abbreviations available at the Craft Yarn Council (<https://www.craftyarnCouncil.com/standards/knitting-abbreviations>).

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All Alice Twain's models are available at
<http://www.ravelry.com/designers/alice-twain>.



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