

Rosebud Knitted Booties



Soft garter soles • a shaped toe • a fold-over cuff

Make a matching pair using flat knitting, simple increases, a central toe section and a neat sole-and-back seam. All instructions use English knitting terminology.

Project: one approximate infant size, with a target sole length of 11-12 cm (4³/₈-4³/₄ in). Use actual foot measurements, not an age label, to judge fit.

Pattern status: an original, untested adaptation inspired by the supplied images. Stitch arithmetic has been checked; fit and finished dimensions require a knitted sample. The AI illustrations show the construction concept, not exact stitch counts.

Materials, size & gauge

Yarn: approximately 40-50 g (140-180 m / 153-197 yd) of smooth, washable sport-weight baby yarn for the pair. Allow extra yarn for the gauge swatch. Dusty rose highlights the stitch textures.

Tools: 3.0 mm (US 2½) needles as a starting point; use the size that gives gauge. A circular needle is convenient for holding the shaped fabric, but work back and forth, not in the round. Also gather two removable markers, a blunt tapestry needle, scissors and a tape measure.

Gauge after washing and drying: aim for 28 stitches and 40 rows per 10 cm (4 in) in stockinette. Garter stitch row gauge is different; expect roughly 48-56 rows per 10 cm. Measure both textures on your swatch.

Swatch first: cast on 34 stitches. Knit 4 rows, then work 24 rows with a 3-stitch garter border and stockinette in the middle; finish with 4 knit rows. Wash as you will wash the booties, dry flat and count stitches across the central 10 cm.

Fit targets: sole about 11-12 cm (4⅜-4¾ in), width about 5-6 cm (2-2⅜ in), ankle circumference about 12 cm (4¾ in) before seam take-up. The 34-stitch opening must stretch comfortably over the heel. These are design targets, not tested measurements.

Measure the foot: add about 0.5-1 cm (¼-⅜ in) to heel-to-longest-toe length. A bootie should stay on without squeezing. If this size is unsuitable, use a separately graded pattern; adding rows alone does not resize the whole bootie.

Your stitch key

k = knit: with yarn behind the work, insert the right needle through the front of the next loop from left to right, wrap yarn, pull a new loop through and release the old stitch.

p = purl: bring yarn forward, insert the right needle through the front of the next loop from right to left, wrap yarn, pull a loop through and release the old stitch.

m1 = make one: lift the strand between the needles from front to back with the left needle; knit through its back leg. This adds one stitch without deliberately making an eyelet. It does not use up an existing stitch.

k2tog = knit two together: knit through two stitches at once. Two stitches become one. **RS / WS** mean right side / wrong side. **st(s)** means stitch(es).

Garter stitch: knit every row when working flat; two rows create one ridge. **Stockinette:** knit RS rows and purl WS rows. Count rows, not ridges, when following the instructions.

Turn: reverse the work so the opposite side faces you. During toe shaping, leave the rest of the stitches unworked. No wrap-and-turn is needed because the edge stitches are joined by decreases.

Cast on and bind off: use a long-tail cast-on, leaving a 30 cm (12 in) tail for seaming. Bind off loosely in knit: knit two stitches, lift the first over the second, then repeat with each new knitted stitch.

Construction map: cast-on edge at the sole → increase for the sole → knit the sidewall → shape the central toe → work the ankle and cuff → seam the sole and back. Make both booties alike.

Build the foundation



Cast on 34 stitches. Row 1 (WS): knit all 34 stitches. Label the opposite face RS with a removable marker. Work every stitch at the edges; do not slip them.

Row 2 (RS): k1, m1, k15, m1, k2, m1, k15, m1, k1. **38 sts.**

Row 3: knit all 38 sts.

Row 4: k1, m1, k17, m1, k2, m1, k17, m1, k1. **42 sts.**

Row 5: knit all 42 sts.

Row 6: k1, m1, k19, m1, k2, m1, k19, m1, k1. **46 sts.**

Row 7: knit all 46 sts.

Row 8: k1, m1, k21, m1, k2, m1, k21, m1, k1. **50 sts.**

Row 9: knit all 50 sts.

Rows 10-17: knit every row, with no increases. You still have **50 stitches**. The fabric will be wider at the live edge, with a shallow garter sidewall. RS faces you for the next step.

Work the central toe



Divide the 50 stitches mentally into 20 | 10 | 20. The middle 10 make the garter toe. Each short row joins one side stitch to this central section. Mark the central section if useful; move or remove markers before a decrease.

Toe row 1 (RS): k29, k2tog, turn. Leave 19 stitches unworked on the far needle. You have 49 stitches total.

Toe row 2 (WS): k9, k2tog, turn. You have 48 stitches total.

Toe rows 3-16: repeat [k9, k2tog, turn] on every row, for 14 more rows. At every turn, work back across the same 10-stitch center and join the next side stitch. Do not knit to the far edge.

Count after each pair of toe rows: 48, 46, 44, 42, 40, 38, 36, **34**. After row 16, there are 12 side stitches, 10 center stitches and 12 side stitches. You have completed 8 decreases on each side.

Return to full-width knitting: with RS facing after the last turn, knit the 10 center stitches and the remaining 12 side stitches to the edge (22 stitches worked). Do not turn early. All 34 live stitches are ready for the ankle.

Create the folded edge



Ankle row 1 (WS): purl all 34 stitches.

Ankle row 2 (RS): knit all 34 stitches.

Repeat these two rows 5 more times: **12 full-width ankle rows** in total. At the stated stockinette gauge this is about 3 cm (1¼ in).

Cuff: knit all stitches for 16 rows, creating 8 garter ridges. Keep all 34 stitches throughout. Depending on your garter gauge, this adds about 3 cm (1¼ in) for folding.

Bind off loosely in knit. Cut yarn leaving about 40 cm (16 in) for the back seam. Gently stretch the opening: the bind-off edge should open as easily as the fabric. If it feels tight, undo it and bind off more loosely.

Before sewing: fold the piece with the two back edges aligned and check the opening and sole against the intended measurements. A folded cuff reduces the visible height; it does not shorten the foot. Make the second bootie with the same yarn, needle size and row counts.

Seam, wash & fit



Close the sole: fold the work so the back edges meet and the two halves of the cast-on edge align. With the bootie inside out, use the cast-on tail to sew the cast-on halves together from toe midpoint toward heel. Take small, shallow stitches through matching edge loops; avoid a bulky ridge.

Close the back: align the heel and ankle row for row. With the bootie right side out, use mattress stitch along the back edges up to the base of the garter cuff. For the cuff section, change the seam to the other face so it is hidden when the cuff folds outward. Secure the heel junction without a hard knot.

Finish: weave tails through the inside fabric in two directions. Wash according to the yarn label, shape gently and dry flat. Fold the cuff outward. Avoid buttons, beads, cords and loose decorations on baby items.

Check the pair: equal sole lengths; matching cuff heights; no open heel holes; no tight thread across the toe; an opening that passes over the heel without force. Rework a tight bind-off or seam. Booties are soft indoor footwear, not non-slip walking shoes.

About the final page: the supplied diagram is reproduced separately at your request. Its crochet-like symbols are not a validated knitting chart and do not encode the written pattern above. Use it only as a visual reference; follow the numbered knitting instructions and counts in this tutorial. Print on A4 at actual size; the diagram is not a scale template.

