Peterson's 1859 Crochet Slippers

Tutorial by: Jamie Quick



These are a really comfortable addition to an indoor wardrobe. The pattern does have sizing information. I made these slippers for myself and the kids, and didn't have any issues working it in different sizes. However, you will need to have a properly sized sole, before you start crocheting the upper portion. The sole is going to aid you, to determine how big you need to crochet your slipper, as will trying it on for fittings.

Material List:

- 3 oz Fingering weight yarn
- Small bone hook Size F (3.75 MM) approx.
- Leather, cork, or quilted sole

Step 1: Buy soles, or make your own. The original pattern called for a cork sole with a crochet piece inside. Looking at other period patterns, I've seen cork soles, leather soles, and mention of quilted soles, as well as patterns that do not specify.

I was making slippers for myself and two littles. I had wool Melton scraps laying around, so I traced out our feet. I cut two layers per foot, and sandwiched a crocheted sole inside. I buttonhole stitched around the Melton, and quilted the layers together. It seems pretty secure; we will see how long they last as my three-year old puts them to the test slipping around the kitchen floor.



Step 2 (Crochet): Make a chain of 14 stitches (Or, any even number, fourteen was great for a size 6 foot, if you have a wide foot or larger size, up the number)

Row 2: Single crochet across the chain, work 3sc into the center stitch. So, for chain 14, that would be stitch #7.

Row 3-24ish: Working in the back or front loop starting now, you want a ridged look on the outside of your slipper. This is a common crochet practice during the period, it creates a thinner and more elastic stitch. Sc across, and increase in the very center stitch, by working your 3sc.

The original pattern works 4 rows in one color, and swaps to color number two.

The original pattern works 24 rows. I found this to be a fine length, but I did stop increasing stitches around row 20. Put it on your foot, and see how the fit is. The little V at the front, gets sewn together to make the tip.

Sides: Now you need the sides. The original pattern calls for you to crochet the first 13 stitches on the side. I did 10 sc for the children, 13 for myself, and if I had a larger foot that number would have increased.

You will work this narrow strip, until it is the desired length to fit snuggly around your foot. I slip stitched it to the other side of the slipper to attach, but you can sew if you please.

Attach to the sole: Go ahead and sew the tip of the slipper. Pin slipper onto sole. Sew or crochet down.

The top: You will want to probably narrow the top of the shoe, so it doesn't slip off your foot. The original pattern does mention a drawl-string, or elastic cord. I did add a cord with two tassels. At first I didn't think it was necessary, but after some wear, the slipper did stretch.

I worked 3sc in each of the 4 rows of color, and I decreased 2 stitches on the side when it joins the V. My next two rows were worked in dc, (*2 dc, decrease*) I also continued to decrease up the side, I didn't work completely around, I turned at the V. Which, I found does not need any more stitches there, it looks pretty silly if you add stitches there! For the top row, I added a 5dc, or a sc, in every other stitch.



I hope you enjoy your slippers! ~ Jamie Quick

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TO CROCHET A TOILET SLIPPER.

BY MRS. JANE WRAVER.

We have designed this slipper expressly for; 3 stitches every row, placing the 3 stitches in the readers of "Peterson."

blue single zephyr, small bone crochet hook.

chain of 13 stitches.

working 3 stitches in seventh stitch.

the centre stitch of every row. Work 24 rows, MATERIALS .- 1 02. grey single zephyr, 1 02. alternate grey and blue 4 rows each. This completes the toe. For the heel. 25th row .-- Work Begin at the toe. With the grey wool make a in s c 18 stitches. Be careful not to widen. Crochet a piece long enough to fit the sole. Join 1st Row .- Work in single crochet. Widen by it to the other side of toe. Use a cork sole, sew the slipper to it with strong patent thread. Work 2nd Row .- Turn the work-crochet back, ob- 1 row double crochet around the upper part of serving to make the stitch in the under loop of the slipper. Edge with 1 row of shell stitch. chain formed by last row of work. This is done which is done by working 5 d c stitches in every to throw the ridge up on the right side. Widen alternate loop of last row with 1 se stitch be-



cord is used, trim the slipper with a bow of rib- to the foot. The colors may be varied to suit the bon.

tween each shell. Finish with cord and tassels Run the cord in the row of d c at top of slipper, made of zephyr, or with elastic cord. If elastic make it tight enough to confine the slipper closely