

## How to Fix a Hole in Your Sock



by eHow Fashion, Style & Personal Care Editor

### Introduction

Carefully insert a lightbulb (or another round, smooth object) into the sock where the hole is. This will give you a smooth surface to work on.

### Instructions

**Difficulty:** Moderate

#### Steps

##### 1 Step One

Carefully insert a lightbulb (or another round, smooth object) into the sock where the hole is. This will give you a smooth surface to work on.

##### 2 Step Two

Thread a darning needle with thread that's similar in color and weight to the fabric of the sock. Don't knot the thread.

##### 3 Step Three

Trim the ragged threads around the edges of the sock hole, being careful not to make the hole any bigger.

##### 4 Step Four



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Imagine a circle (or oval) drawn around the hole in the sock, about 1/4 inch (6 mm) larger than the hole on every side. With your needle and thread, stitch around this circle using a simple running stitch, your needle piercing the fabric down, then up, about every 1/8 inch (3 mm). Complete the circle and add five more stitches (see A). Clip off the remaining thread.

##### 5 Step Five



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Rethread the darning needle with another length of thread (again, don't knot it). Starting at the top of the hole, just outside the circle you've stitched, make a series of vertical lines all the way across the hole. Where there is fabric, weave your needle through the fabric in a running stitch. Where there is no fabric, your thread will simply lie flat across the hole. Continue stitching parallel vertical lines all the way across the hole (see B).

##### 6 Step Six



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When you've covered the hole with vertical lines, make horizontal stitches, weaving your needle under and over the vertical lines you just made (see C).

##### 7 Step Seven

Once the entire area has been filled up, make another six or seven running stitches (simple up-and-down stitches) in the sock outside the darning area. This will hold the stitches in place.

##### 8 Step Eight

Clip off the remaining thread.

## Overall Tips & Warnings

The thread you usually use for sewing is probably too thin for this task. Look for embroidery cotton or wool-nylon thread, which is more likely to match the weight of the sock fabric.

For easier darning, do this repair when the sock begins to show wear but hasn't developed a hole yet.

Don't pull your stitches too tight or the fabric is likely to pucker.

## Overall Things You'll Need

Darning Needle

Thread

Scissors

Scissors

Lightbulb (or other smooth, round object)

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