

Double Thick Mittens

Designed by Gail Sundberg-Douse

This pattern is inspired by mittens purchased in 1978 in Sweden as a High School exchange student. During college one of the mittens began to fall apart. A friendly Yarn Shop employee in Greeley helped me re-create the pattern by frogging the mittens that were coming apart and I've been making them ever since (the yarn shop in Greeley has since closed).

Materials:

Yarn- At least 90 yards of any Super Bulky Yarn. Suggested yarns- Rasta by Malabrigo, Noro Kureyon Air (as shown in photo), Noble by Berroco (this lofty super bulky yarn should be held double for best results). You can also use Bulky Yarn and hold it double (you will need twice the yardage).

Notions – US 11 DPN (5) (Double Pointed Needle) or size to achieve gauge, Tapestry Needle, Sharp Yarn Darners (to weave in ends), 2 short stitch holders or safety pins.

Sizes: Adult SM – MED (LG)

Gauge: approximately 2.5 sts. per 1-inch & 7 rows per 2-inches



K = knit	P = purl	K2tog = Knit 2 stitches together
CO = cast on	sts = stitches	dec = decrease

Instructions:

You will be making the left-hand mitten first, starting at the cuff. CO 22 (24) sts onto one needle using long tail cast on. Divide sts evenly onto 3 needles. 7, 8, 7 (8, 8, 8) sts. Join, being careful not to twist yarn. Knit 8 rounds for the cuff, then create purl ridge for 1 round as follows:

1. Turn knitting inside out. Knit into the stitch you just finished knitting & knit all the way around.
2. At the end of the round, turn knitting right-side out again.
3. Knit into the stitch you just finished knitting. Knit all the way around.
4. When you get to the end of the round, there will be a hole.
5. Knit across it – on the next round. (the hole will be closed later with decorative ties)

K 7 more rounds (8 rounds complete in K st)

Left Hand Thumb Hole

Round 9 - First remove thumb hole sts by counting the stitches on your needles starting at the beginning of the round. Remove and place on stitch holder the following 4 sts: 13, 14, 15, 16 (14, 15, 16, 17). Knit round 9. When you get to the sts on the stitch holder CO 4 sts using Backward Loop Cast On & complete the round.

Round 10 – 24 -_Knit all sts. Redistribute sts. evenly among the 3 needles 7/8/7 or (8/8/8) on the needles) *after you get a couple rounds above the thumb hole cast on*, and before you begin the decrease. After round 24, try on the mitten. Mitten should cover the end of the wearer's index finger. Adjust rounds of knitting for mitten to reach proper length.

The Longmont Yarn Shoppe

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Decreasing for top of mitten

Once the mitten reaches the tip of your index finger begin decreasing as follows:

Round 1 - K2tog at the beginning & end of each needle. 22-6=16 sts (24 -6= 18 sts)

Round 2 - Knit without decreasing.

Round 3 - K2tog at the beginning & end of each needle. 16-6 = 10sts (18-6 =12 sts)

Round 4 -SM-MED mitten: K2tog at beginning only of the needles with 3 sts & at the beginning and end of the needle with 4 sts 10-4=6 sts remain. LG Mitten: K2tog at beginning & end of each needle 12 – 6= 6 sts remain.

Cut yarn leaving a 6 to 8-inch tail. Thread yarn through tapestry needle & slip remaining sts through needle, starting with next stitch you would have knitted. Draw in snugly to close top of mitten, and weave in ends inside of mitten (this is easier with a yarn darning needle. Split plys of yarn to reduce bulk when weaving in ends).

Right Hand Mitten is knit the same as left hand mitten up until the thumb hole instructions **EXCEPT use Right Hand Thumb Hole instructions below on round 9 of your 2nd mitten.**

Right Hand Thumb Hole

Round 9 - First remove thumb hole sts by counting the stitches on your needles starting at the beginning of the round. Remove and place on stitch holder the following 4 sts: 13, 14, 15, 16 (14, 15, 16, 17). Knit round 9, and when you get to the sts on the stitch holder CO 4 sts using Backward Loop Cast On & complete the round. Continue knitting mitten as above instructions for right hand mitten to finish the top of the mitten.

Thumbs

Position mitten so cuff is toward your body & finger area is away from your body.

You will be picking up 10 sts. total for around the thumb as follows:

4 from holder, 1 from each corner, 4 across top.

- Start by putting the sts. that are on the holder onto a needle & knit these 4 stitches.
- Then, pick up 1 st. from left side of thumb hole using a 2nd DPN.
- Use a 3rd DPN to pick-up 4 across the top of the thumb hole.
- Lastly, with 4th DPN pick up 1 st. from right side – 10 total sts.

Round 1 – K all sts.

Round 2 - dec. one st by knitting tog 2 of the sts. on the top needle; the needle closest to the fingertips of the mitten.

You will have 9 sts remaining.

Redistribute sts. so you have 3 on each needle.

- Knit in the round until the thumb of the mitten reaches just over the tip of the wearer's thumbnail.
- K2tog at the beginning of every needle for the next 2 rounds. You will have 3 sts remaining. Finish as you did for the top of the mitten.

Finishing

Weave in ends. Cut 2 - 18 inch lengths of extra yarn to create a tie. Run the tie through the hole on the purl ridge to close hole and braid. You can tie the 2 mittens together when not being worn.

Decorative stitching on cuff makes these mittens very cute. The original mittens had embroidered leaves and flowers on them, and I've seen them since with a variety of Scandinavian designs on the cuffs.

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