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## Easy Mittens with Thrums (Women's Medium/Large)

Designed by Debi Wilbur Spinsagoodyarn

### Materials:

100 grams/3.5 oz. ball of worsted weight wool (app. 220 yards)  
50 grams wool roving, divided into two halves for the two mittens  
US size 6 (4.0 mm) set of five DPNs (or the size needles required to get gauge, probably the size recommended on ball band)  
Locking stitch markers  
Ruler/measuring tape  
Scissors  
Darning needle  
10" piece of cotton yarn/waste yarn to use as stitch holder

**Gauge:** 18 stitches over 4" in thrummed stockinette stitch

### Abbreviations:

M1R – (Make one right increase) Pick up the strand between stitches from back to front and knit into the front of the loop on the needle.  
Ktbl – knit through the back loop

### How to Make Thrums:

Pull a 5" section from roving. Pull narrow 1/4" lengths off the side of the roving and lay onto flat surface. Lengthen each piece into a thin strip and wrap around two fingers to make a circle. Pinch the circle between your fingers and twist into a figure 8 shape. Roll the center of the figure 8 between finger and thumb to create a flat area about 1/2" long between ends.

To knit the thrum, place the knitting needle into the stitch that is to be thrummed. Place the center flattened part of the thrum around the knitting needle with the ends to the *inside* of the mitten and hold in place with your left fingers, then knit stitch as usual, pulling both the thrum and yarn through stitch. On the following round, knit through the back loop of each thrum (together with its yarn strand).



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## Thrum Mittens

### Instructions:

#### Cuff:

Cast on 40 stitches using a twisted German cast-on or other stretchy cast-on. Join to knit in the round, being careful not to twist stitches. Knit 2 x 2 ribbing for 3”.

#### Base of Hand:

Knit 2 rounds in plain stockinette.

Increase Round: (K5, M1R) across round (increased to 48 stitches, 12 stitches per needle)

#### Begin Thrum Pattern: (6 round repeat)

1. K2, (*thrum*, K3) across round, ending with K1.
2. Knit each stitch, knitting each thrum through the back loop (be sure to catch both the thrum and the yarn). Tighten the thrums on the inside of the mitten after the round is finished.
3. Knit each stitch.
4. (*Thrum*, K3) across round.
5. Knit each stitch, knitting each thrum through the back loop.
6. Knit each stitch.

Repeat Thrum Pattern rounds 1-6 until the mitten is 5 ½” from the cast-on edge of the bottom of cuff. (I had three repeats of the 6 round pattern = 18 rounds, but your mitten may be different)

#### Divide For Thumb:

On the next round (Round 1 of Thrum Pattern), slip the next 8 stitches onto waste yarn stitch holder, then using an e-wrap cast-on, cast on 8 stitches over hole, keeping stitches tight, then K2, *thrum* and K1. Finish round, adding thrums according to pattern.

Knit Round 2, knitting through the back loops of the thrums. *Do not add thrums over cast-on stitches for the thumb, but make sure to keep those stitches tight.*



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### Hand:

Continue following the 6 round Thrum pattern (starting with round #3) until mitten is 9 ¼" tall or you reach the top of the middle finger. End with a thrum round. (I knitted 4 repeats of the 6 round pattern, then rounds 1 – 4 again.)

### Decrease for Top of Hand:

Round 5: (Ktbl, k2tog, k1) across round. (36 stitches)

Round 6: K all stitches.

Round 1: (K2, *thrum*) across round.

Round 2: (K2, ktbl) across round.

Round 3: (K2tog, K1) across round. (24 stitches)

Round 4: K2, *thrum*, (K3, *thrum*) across round, ending with a K1. Unknit this last stitch and slip it onto the 1st needle.

Round 5: (K2tog, K1, ktbl) across round. (18 stitches)

Round 6: Knit. Unknit the last stitch and slip it onto 1st needle.

Round 7: (K2tog) across round. (9 stitches)

Round 8: K2tog x 2, K1. (5 stitches)

Cut yarn and pull through remaining stitches, tighten and weave in end.

### Thumb:

With the thumbhole of the mitten facing you, place the 8 stitches on the waste yarn stitch holder back on needles, then pick up and knit with new strand of yarn 2 stitches in first corner, 8 stitches in cast-on edge and 2 stitches in second corner. Place marker to indicate beginning of round. (20 stitches, 5 per needle)

Beginning with Round 1 of Thrum Pattern, continue in Thrum Pattern until it reaches the top of the thumb. (I knitted 2 full repeats, then knit Round 1 again.)

Round 2: (K2tog, ktbl, K1) across round. (15 stitches)

Round 3: Knit each stitch.

Round 4: (*Thrum*, K2) across round.

Round 5: (Ktbl, K2tog) across round. (10 stitches)

Round 6: (K2tog) across round. (5 stitches)

Cut yarn and pull through remaining stitches, tighten and weave in ends.



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## Thrum Mittens

### Tips:

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- Lotion helps keep your fingers from sticking to the roving while making the thrums.
- Make lots and lots of thrums *before* you start the hand section. LOTS!!!
- You can use smaller needles for the ribbed cuffs if you want them tighter.
- Keep your left index finger between your stitches and the thrums on the inside of the mitten to keep the needles from catching on the thrums.
- Pull your stitches tight after knitting second stitch on needle to limit laddering between the needles.
- To make a larger or smaller size, add or subtract stitches in multiples of 4.



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