

Dorothy Mittens

By: Bridget McKenzie



This is my Grandmother's famous mitten pattern that she knit every Christmas for her 5 Grandkids (me being the next to the youngest!) I know if she were alive today she would be very happy to know that others were sharing her pattern!

Materials Needed:

Worsted weight yarn, preferably 100% wool (*my Grandmother always knit with acrylic (which ended up sopping wet when used in the snow and our hands were freezing!!!), but I use wool to make them extra warm and water repellent (wool has natural lanolin!) since my kids use them while playing in the snow! When using wool, just make sure to knit a size or 2 larger to accommodate any shrinking that will occur when it felts! And remember, felting occurs lengthwise, not as much width-wise, so you'll want to make them a little longer at the tip than actual child's measurements!*)

4 double pointed needles

stitch holder

stitch marker

Sizing, Needles, and Cast On

sizes: 2 (4- 6 – 8 – 10)

needles size: 3 (3- 3 – 4 – 4)

cast on: 28 (30- 32 – 34 – 36)

The Pattern:

Divide stitches onto 3 needles and K1, P1 ribbing to desired length.

Knit 3 rounds even.

Thumb Gusset:

Inc. 1 stitch in 1st stitch and 2nd stitch. (Increase by knitting in the front and back of stitch before taking it off the needle) , place marker, and complete this round.

Knit 2 rounds even.

Continue by increasing 1 stitch in the first stitch on the “marker needle” and the last stitch before the marker.

Complete increase round and K 2 rounds even between each increase round until you have, up to the marker: 10 (10 – 10 – 12 – 12) stitches.

Finish the last increase round and K one round even.

Place on the holder:
10 (10 – 10 – 12 – 12) stitches.

Remove marker.

Cast on for back of thumb:
2 (2 – 2 – 2 – 2) stitches.

Body:

My Nana's Pattern says to knit even rounds for:

1 ½ (1 ½ – 2 – 3 – 3 ½) inches

BUT I always measure the child's hand from the inside of the thumb base up to a bit past the pinky to make sure the tip of the mitten will be a little roomy! (For instance, my 3.5 year old wears a size 4 mitten but instead of the 1.5 inches I knit hers 2 ¼ inches! And my 10 year old son wears a size 10 mitten but instead of the 3.5 inches, I knit his 4 inches!)

Tip Decrease:

K together every 3rd and 4th stitch. Knit 3 rounds even.

K tog. every 2nd and 3rd stitch. Knit 3 rounds even.

K 2 tog. all around.

Cut yarn, leaving several inches. Draw yarn through remaining stitches, pull together and fasten firmly.

Knitting the Thumb:

Pick up stitches on holder and the 2 cast on stitches for back of thumb.

Divide stitches onto 3 needles and “knit even rounds for”:

1 ¼ (1 ½ – 1 ½ – 2 – 2)

(I make sure to try the mittens on before doing the thumb decrease to make sure its long enough!)

Thumb decrease:

Simply K2 together all around, cut yarn (leaving several inches), pull snugly and weave in some yarn to secure it.

ALL DONE!!! ENJOY YOUR BEAUTIFUL MITTENS!!!

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