

NORWEGIAN STAR MITTENS

A traditional design

Pattern prepared by Rhonda Stovin

Gauge: 27 stitches to 4 inches in stranded design for a large women's mitten -- adjust mitten size by using a tighter or looser gauge that gives your desired size.

Needles: Double pointed needles, two circular needles, or one long circular for Magic Loop in US4 or whatever size gives you your desired gauge, US3 for ribbing (or one size smaller than needle used for stranded portion of the pattern)

Yarn: The sample shown used Knit Picks Andean Treasure (sport weight alpaca) -- one ball of each colour.

N.B.: This pattern uses stranded knitting -- use a relaxed tension for floats to ensure the fabric won't pucker. Spread the knitting out on your right-hand needle as you change colours, to ensure the floats will be long enough. There are a few spots in this pattern where your floats will be carried for as many as 8 or 10 stitches -- you may want to twist the yarns at the halfway point of these sections, to tack the floats down on the inside of the mitten.

Mitten Directions:

Using smaller needles, cast on 50 stitches and work 1x1 ribbing until desired cuff length is reached.

Begin following the charts, using Mitten back then Mitten palm.

Thumb gusset increases are done by M1 stitch -- pick up a strand of the same colour from back of work and knit into the back of it. After completing row 15 with the final two increases, put the 14 thumb gusset stitches onto a piece of scrap yarn. You will cast on 10 new stitches (in pattern, preferably) across the gap when you come around for the next row on the mitten palm, then carry on, continuing to follow the charts.

Having completed the charts, and the final decreases at the top of the mitten, cut both threads and run one of them through the final 12 stitches, pulling it closed tightly, then weave in ends on the inside.

Put the 14 held stitches from the thumb gusset back onto your needle, and pick up 10 new stitches from the 10 you cast on while knitting the mitten palm. Begin knitting the thumb in the round, with the chevron pattern on the thumb back and continuing the dot pattern on the inner thumb. You will decrease one stitch (the one that alternated between blue and white in the first 15 rows of the thumb gusset) to close the gap at the side, by knitting two together with the adjacent stitch of the inner thumb. You may still have small holes on either side of the thumb, which you can sew closed, if need be, while weaving in the yarn ends.

At the completion of the thumb charts, you will have 8 stitches left. Cut both yarns and run one of them through the remaining eight stitches, pulling them tightly closed and weaving in ends.

Make the second mitten in the same manner, remembering to follow the opposite palm chart for proper thumb gusset placement.

Key:	
<div><div></div></div>	Knit k Knit
<div><div></div></div>	Knit 2 Together k2tog Knit 2 stitches together
<div><div></div></div>	Make One Knitwise m1 Make one by lifting strand in between stitch just worked and the next stitch, knit into back of this thread
<div><div></div></div>	Slip Slip Knit ssk slip, slip, knit slipped sts together
<div><div></div></div>	No Stitch x No Stitch







