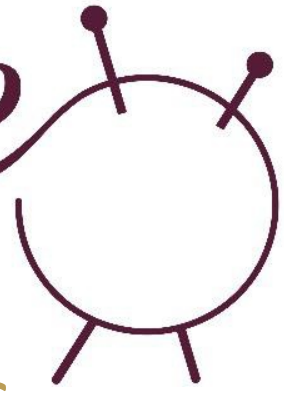


Knit Me

Rainbow Mittens



GLOSSARY

Cast on

Creating the initial stitches that you will use to make your mittens.

Kitchener stitch

An invisible bind off to close an end while knitting in the round.

Knitting in the round

Using two needles that are attached by a flexible cord, you will knit in one continuous circle.

Knit stitch

The basic stitch, indicated with a “k” in patterns.

Knit front and back

Knit into the stitch, then without dropping it off the needle, knit through the back loop to create an extra stitch. Indicated by “kfb” in patterns.

Knit through the back loop

A technique used to twist the knit stitch, indicated by “ktbl” in patterns.

Knit two together

A technique used to decrease the total number of stitches, indicated by “k2tog” in patterns.

Purl stitch

The reverse of the knit stitch, indicated with a “p” in patterns.

Slip one purlwise

Done by inserting the needle as if to purl and moving (slipping) the stitch to the right needle without working it, indicated by “s1pw” in patterns.

Thrums

A wisp of unspun wool (roving) used to insulate knitting projects.

WHAT YOU'LL NEED

- 100g worsted weight wool yarn
- Roving: 50 m (50g) in contrasting colour
- Needles: 4mm circulars long enough for working the magic loop or DPNs
- Scrap yarn or stitch holder
- Gauge: 20 st x 26r = 4" in stockinette stitch

NOTES

- This pattern is written for small (medium, large) sizes. Left and right mittens are worked the same way.
- The decreases are only at each side of the front and back, so each row has a total of 4 decreases stitches
- The most time-consuming part of thrummed mittens is pulling the roving. The best advice I can give is to set aside an evening with Netflix or an audiobook, and make up all your thrums in advance. You'll need approximately 250 for small, 280 for medium, 310 for large per mitt.
- Thrums should be approx 3" long with the middle twist being the same width of the yarn. It's very important that the thrums are not too thick!
- Thrums seem intimidating to lots of knitters, but they are far easier (and more fun) than they look! Pages 7-8 have detailed instructions for how to knit a thrum, and you can also check out YouTube for a ton of video walkthroughs.
- You can alternate your thrums in rainbow colours, or alternate by round to create stripes.
- Gently pull thrums tight after each round. If you pull one out, you can use a tapestry needle to weave it back in.
- This is a very basic mitten pattern in order to not overcomplicate the thrumming technique. But thrums can be used with just about any mitten pattern, so feel free to substitute your favourite!
- When using thrums with a pattern designed to fit the hand closely, always make sure to make extra increases or go a size up to leave room for the thrums padding.
- When you wash these, I'd recommend hand washing them in very cold water and using colour catchers.

CUFF

Cast on 36(40, 44) stitches.

R1: K2, P2 to end.

Repeat R1 until cuff measures 2.5" (or desired length).

Increase round (increase 8 st):

Size Small: k2, *k4, m1* to 2 st left, k2 [44st].

Size Medium: *k5,m1* to end [48 st].

Size Large: k2, *k5, m1* to 2 st left, k2 [52st].

NOTE

Here's a video for the long tail cast on:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sN9cNEozOLc>

PATTERN

R1: *thrum, k3* to end.

R2: *ktbl, k3* to end.

R3: k all.

R4: k2, *thrum, k3* to 2 st remaining, thrum, k.

R5: k2, *ktbl, k3* to 2 st remaining, ktbl, k.

R6: k all.

Repeat R1-6 two more times. Repeat R1-3.

THUMB

Starting R4, put the first 8 stitches on scrap yarn.

Using backward loop method to cast on 8 stitches onto your right hand needle. Complete round 4-6.

Continue thrum pattern until mitten covers the top of your middle finger, ending on round 3. (If you need to end on row 6, adjust your thrums to continue in pattern).

NOTE

Putting stitches on a holder leaves you free to knit the hand of the mitt, and then go back and complete the thumb later. On the next round, you will cast on the same number of stitches to create the top of the thumb hole, and keep your mitten size consistent.

Here's a helpful video for the backwards loop cast on:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iRIU1mXoZrg>



SHAPING

SHAPING

Put stitches from holder back onto needle.

R1: *thrum, k3* to end.

R2 *Ktbl, k2tog, k1* to end [33(36, 39)st].

R3 K all stitches.

R4 *K2, thrum* to end.

R5 *K2, ktbl * to end.

R6 *K2tog, K1* to end [22(24,26)st].

R7 *thrum, k2* to end.

R8 *ktbl, k2tog* to end [11(12,13)st].

Bind off with Kitchener Stitch. Weave in ends.

Note: for the small and large size, you'll have an uneven number of stitches. Put the extra stitch on your front needle.

When you get to that one stitch remaining, insert the darning needle knit wise and slide it off your needle.

THUMB

Put stitches from holder back onto needle.

Pick up 2 sts on each side, and 8 across the top for thumb [12 stitches].

Knit in pattern until thumb is long enough to cover your thumb when worn, ending round 4. (if you end on round 1, adjust to ktbl thrum).

R1: *k2tog, k1, Ktbl* repeat to end.

R2: k all.

R3: *K2tog, k1* repeat.

Cut yarn, and feed tail through remaining stitches. Pull tight to close. Weave in and push yarn to the inside.

Repeat for your other mitten.

How to Prepare Thrums

- Start at one end and gently untwist and pull the roving apart horizontally to loosen the roving. (see image 1)
- Hold the roving 3-4" from the top, and gently tug out a wisp. The wisp should be roughly the same thickness as your yarn when folded in half.
- Bring the ends of the wisp together to form a loop.
- Pinch the middle of the loop to form a figure eight.
- Twist the figure eight tightly, and rub it between your fingers to encourage the fibers to stick together.
- It will untwist a little when you put the finished thrum down, but it should maintain the basic shape.



How to Knit with Thrums

- Insert your needle into the stitch you are going to thrum, and put the twisted part of the thrum over your needle after the stitch.
- Knit the stitch normally, working both your working yarn and the thrum together as one. The knit stitch will sit to the left of the thrum.
- Your thrum will sit on the needle next to the stitch it was worked with.
- On the next round, when you come to a thrummed stitch, knit the thrum and the stitch together **through the back loop**.
- Gently tug the ends of the thrum to pull it in tight.



How to Knit Two Together

- Start with the working yarn (the yarn attached to the ball) held to the front of the needles.
- Insert the right needle from front to back under the left needle and through the front loop of the stitch of the first **two stitches**.
- Bring the working yarn under, around, then over the tip of the right needle.
- With the point of the right needle, draw the yarn through both stitches on the left needle to create a new loop over the right needle.
- Slide the stitches off the left needle, and let them drop. This should leave the new stitch on the right needle.
- Gently tug the working yarn to keep the new stitch snug (**but not tight**).



How to Make the Kitchener Stitch

- Thread the tail into a darning needle, and pass the needle through the first stitch on the front DPN as if to purl, leaving the stitch on the DPN.
- Pass the needle through the first stitch on the back DPN as if to knit, leaving the stitch on the DPN.
- Pass the needle through the first stitch on the front DPN as if to knit, and slide it off the DPN.
- Pass the needle through the next stitch on the front DPN as if to purl, and leave it on the DPN.
- Pass the needle through the first stitch on the back DPN as if to purl, and slide it off the DPN.
- Pass the needle through the next stitch on the back DPN as if to knit, and leave it on the DPN.
- Repeat these last 4 steps until there is 1 stitch left on each DPN, then repeat the entire process with the remaining stitches on the circular needle.
- Tie off and weave in ends.

