

AILI'S MITTENS



About the Design

Years ago, my DH's grandmother, Aili, got a pair of mittens as a Christmas gift. They were knitted in mosaic pattern in light blue and white, and I thought they were one of the prettiest mittens I had ever seen. I examined the mittens closely, and decided to knit them for myself. I knitted them in thicker yarn than the original mittens were, but I still think this pattern is rather lovely.

Modifying the pattern for your size is very easy, they knit up fast, they are really warm and practically every color combination works. The mosaic pattern looks like stranded knitting, but is in fact achieved by knitting every row with only one color and slipping stitches. This pattern is intended for all skill levels.

This pair was knitted with DK yarn, but by adjusting the number of pattern repeats, you can use any yarn weight for your pair. The pattern is for adult size mittens but you can use it to knit children's mittens too. Adjust the needle size and number of pattern repeats accordingly.

Size

One size, fits woman's medium/large hand.

Adjusting size: One pattern repeat is 4 stitches. Adjust the number of repeats for smaller/larger mittens.

Gauge

18 stitches and 26 rows = 10 cm /4".

Needles

DPNs 3,5 mm (US #3 or 4). Adjust needle size for your yarn, gauge and desired size.

Yarn

The yarn I used (Novita 7 veljestä) is approximately DK weight yarn. You will need yarn in two different colors. I didn't weigh my yarn when knitting, but 90 grams (3 oz) in total is usually enough. You can use any yarn you wish, but wool yarn might work the best. If you need to adjust the number of sts, note that the slipped garter stitch pattern is divisible by 4 sts.

The main color (MC) in this pattern is white and the contrasting color (CC) is red.

Right mitten

Using MC, cast on 44 s. Divide the stitches onto 4 needles. The beginning of each row is in the beginning of the I (first) needle, and the end of each row is in the end of the IV (fourth) needle.

R1: *k2, p2* to the end.

Repeat R1 until the cuff is 9 cm (3 3/4") long. If you don't want the k2, p2 ribbing in the cuff, twisted rib might also work: *k1 tbl, p1*, rpt *-.*.

Knit 1 row in CC. Purl 1 row and then begin the slipped garter stitch pattern:

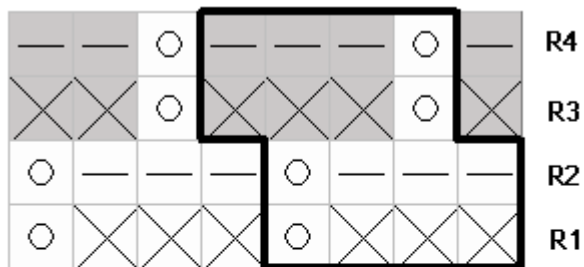
R1: In MC, *k3, sl1*, repeat *-* to end.

R2: In MC, *p3, sl1*, repeat *-* to end.

R3: in CC k1, *sl1, k3*, repeat *-*, sl1, k2.

R4: in CC p1, *p3, sl1* repeat *-*, sl1, p2.

In chart, the area marked with black indicates pattern repeat.



⊗ = k1 in MC

⊗ = k1 in CC

— = p1 in MC

— = p1 in CC

○ = sl st pwise

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Repeat R1-4 seven (7) times in total, or until the mitten reaches your thumb and you're ready to knit the provisional yarn for the afterthought thumb.

Preparing for the thumb: On the next row, knit on III needle 8 sts for the afterthought thumb using provisional yarn. Bring the stitches back to needle III and k9 in A, sl1, k1. Continue the slipped garter stitch pattern normally on needle IV.

Knit according to pattern until the mitten reaches desired length. (Usually a good rule of thumb is to start the decreases when the mitten covers the tip of your pinkie.) After the last repeat of the pattern, knit 1 row in CC and purl 1 row in CC. Knit 2 rows in MC and then begin the decreases.

R1: k1, k2togB, k16, k2tog, k2, k2togB, k16, k2tog, k1.

R2: k1, k2togB, k14, k2tog, k2, k2togB, k14, k2tog, k1.

R3: k1, k2togB, k12, k2tog, k2, k2togB, k12, k2tog, k1.

R4: k1, k2togB, k10, k2tog, k2, k2togB, k10, k2tog, k1.

Continue decreasing after k1 on the I and III needles and before k1 on the II and IV needles. Continue this until you have 2 stitches on each needle. Pull the yarn through all the stitches

Knit the left mitten as the right one, but knit the provisional yarn for the thumb on needle II.

Thumbs

Take out the provisional yarn carefully and pick up 18 s for the thumb. Knit all the stitches in CC until the thumb reaches desired length. Then divide all the stitches onto two needles and begin decreases: k2togB in the beginning of each needle and k2tog in the end of each needle. Repeat this until you have 2 stitches on both needles. Pull the yarn through all the stitches

Finishing

Weave in all the threads. Block lightly.

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If you have any questions or comments, see contact information below.

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