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Subway Academy II

IDC30 Basic Pattern

Simple Mittens (Worked Flat)



NOTE TO NON-STUDENTS:
this simple pattern was designed for students in a high school knitting course. It is vague about gauge and sizing, but is a useful exercise for beginner knitters who are comfortable with basic techniques.

DESCRIPTION: The construction of this knit follows a basic formula that can be used for many different mittens, with opportunities for adjusting vertical sizing as well as for working in a dash of texture or colour. Call it a vanilla pattern for a mitten that's worked flat, with room for your choice of

sprinkles or chocolate sauce. Once you have worked through it, you may also be able to see how to adjust the numbers used throughout the pattern in order to control width and proportion. Then you won't ever need a pattern to knit a pair of mittens that you like!

SIZE / FINISHED MEASUREMENTS: Will vary. If default yarn, needles and gauge are used, then the given M (L) size should result in a circumference of 7.25 (8.5) inches, and is likely to fit the average adult female (male) hand. See pattern schematic for more measurements, and see notes in individual projects on ravelry for ideas about what other combinations resulted in what sizes.

RECOMMENDED YARN: Your choice. As a default, use any dk (aran) weight wool yarn to fit most adult females (males). Switch to thinner (or thicker) yarns as desired to achieve smaller (or larger) sizes.

RECOMMENDED NEEDLES: straight needles, in whatever size is recommended on the ball band for your chosen yarn. As a default, use 4 mm (US 6) with dk and 5mm (US 8) needles with aran. Switch to thinner (or thicker) needles to achieve smaller (or larger) garment sizes.

OTHER MATERIALS NEEDED:

- ☐ 4 dpns in same size (or 24" circular for magic loop method)
- ☐ 2 stitch markers
- ☐ stitch holder or waste yarn
- ☐ tapestry needle

GAUGE: Will vary. As a default, aim for 22 sts = 30 rows = 4" (10cm) in dk weight stockinette, or 19 sts = 26 rows = 4" (10cm) in aran weight stockinette.

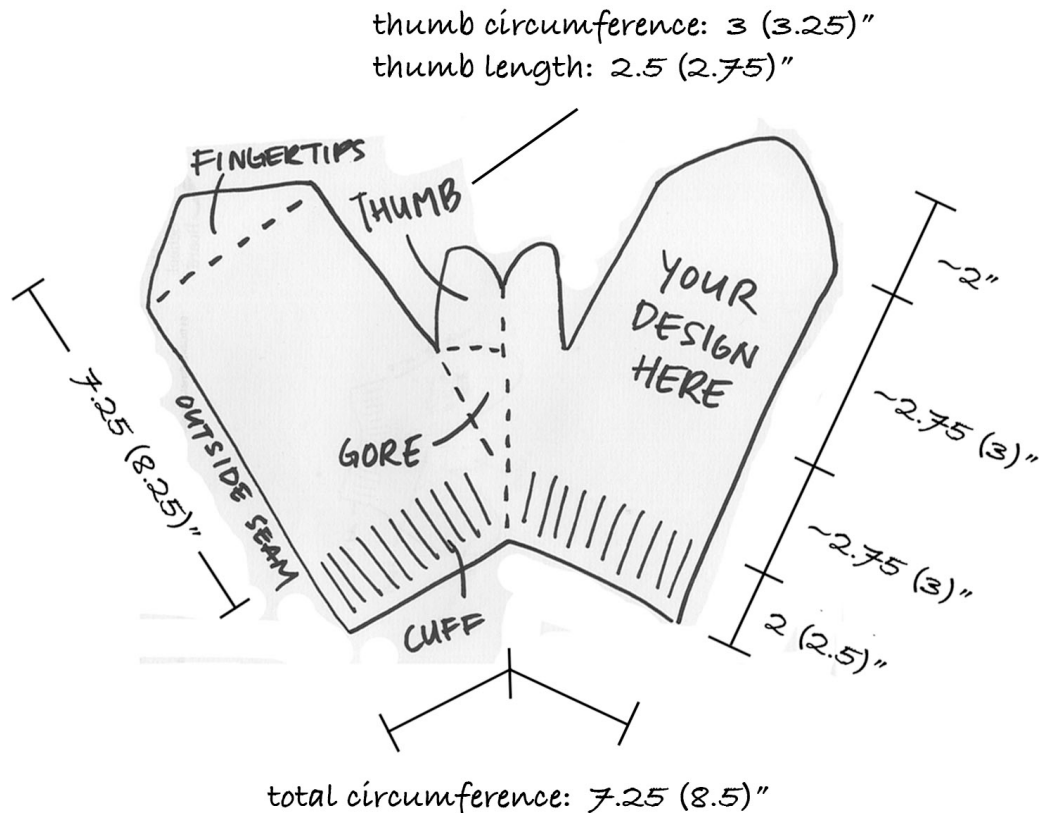
(If aiming for a specific garment size, work a gauge swatch and extrapolate.)

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SCHEMATIC:

Measurements are projected from default gauge(s); yours may vary.

Note that lengths can be easily adjusted with the addition or subtraction of rows.



PATTERN NOTES AND SPECIAL STITCHES:

Since the body of the mitten is worked flat, you can easily incorporate colour striping in this pattern. If you are switching colours frequently, keep the unused colours running up one edge of the mitten hands and the insides of the thumbs to avoid weaving in lots of ends. It's also true that working the mittens flat lets you do intarsia colourwork within the stockinette areas. More experienced knitters may like to try fair isle knitting, or slip-stitch or mosaic knitting, taking into account how such techniques will affect their horizontal and vertical gauges.

Another way to change up the pattern is via texture. By default, this pattern is worked in stockinette stitch with a ribbed cuff. Experienced knitters will also realize opportunities for throwing in more ribbing, moss stitch, cables, etc. (and take into account the resulting changes in gauge).

A note to students: The italicized portions of this pattern indicate helpful notes that are not usually included in knitting patterns, which tend to assume that you have enough experience.

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INSTRUCTIONS: (repeat for each mitten)

This mitten is worked flat and then later folded in half and seamed to form a tube that encases the hand. While flat, sts are added in the middle to create a gore, or an extra space for the base of the thumb. These added sts worked in the round to create the thumb, and this is done separately from the rest of the mitten, which is still worked flat. Consequently, you may work the thumb and the rest of the mitten in any order, or even simultaneously.

CUFF:

CO 42 sts using any method onto straight needles. *(If your ribbing tends to be loose, try going down a needle size for the cuff.)*

Continue in 2x2 rib as follows:

row 1 (RS): k1, [k2, p2] to last st, k1.

row 2 (WS): p1, [p2, k2] to last st, p1.

Repeat above 2 rows 7 more times until 16 rows total, or until desired cuff length.

THUMB GORE:

Work 2 rows stockinette.

AT THE SAME TIME, start any colourwork or texture work as desired.

Work thumb gore increases as follows:

row 1 (RS): k20, m1, k2, m1, k20.

row 2 (WS): p all. (44 sts)

row 3 (RS): k21, pm, m1, k2, m1, pm, k21. (46 sts)

row 4 (WS): p all. *(Slip the st markers as you come to them.)*

row 5 (RS): k21, sl m, m1, k to last st before 2nd marker, m1, sl m, k21. (2 sts inc)



Repeat last 2 rows 5 more times until 16 sts sit btwn st markers. Work 3 more rows in stockinette, without increases.

Next row (RS): k21, sl m, transfer next 16 sts to waste yarn or st holder, remove 2nd marker, k21 directly from rem sts.

(42 sts on needles, 16 sts on waste yarn dangling from centre.)



MITTEN BODY & TIP:

Work 19 more rows flat in stockinette or until 14 rows (~2") short of desired overall length, ending just after a WS row.



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(The following section makes the mitten taper to its tip. If your mitten reaches a desired length before the end of these instructions, simply end just after a WS row and skip to the BO instructions. This will also give your mitten a less pointed tip.)

Work the following decrease row:

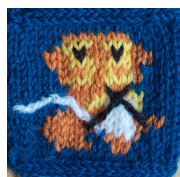
dec row (RS): k2, ssk, k to 3 sts before marker, k2tog, k1, sl m, k1, ssk, k to 4 sts before end, k2tog, k2.
(4 sts decreased)

Work 3 more rows in plain stockinette.
Then continue as follows:

row 1 (RS): work dec row. (36 sts)
row 2 (WS): p all.

Repeat above 2 rows 2 more times until 28 sts total. Continue as follows:

row 1 (RS): work dec row.
row 2 (WS): p2, p2tog, p to 3 sts before marker, ssp, p1, sl m, p1, p2tog, p to 4 sts before end, ssp, p2.
(4 sts decreased)



ABOUT THE DESIGNER: **Subway2** represents a gaggle of knitting students and teachers from a small alternative school in Toronto, Canada. In this case, a knitting teacher specially created these designs for use in the school's knitting course.

Repeat above 2 rows 1 more time until 12 sts total. BO as follows:

Work 6 sts into next row, then fold work lengthwise so mitten is inside-out and needles lie parallel with points in same direction. Work 3-needle BO. Cut yarn, leaving long enough tail to seam up side of mitten. Turn mitten back to right-side-out. Continue to thumb.

THUMB:

Transfer 16 sts from waste yarn onto dpns, distributing roughly evenly over 3 needles and arranging to work in round.

Leaving generous tail, join fresh yarn at point closest to body of mitten, where the crook between thumb and palm will form.

Work in stockinette in the round until just short of desired length from crook of thumb to thumb tip. (Recommended total thumb length is 2.5" for adult female, 2.75" for adult male.) To close thumb:

round 1: k1, then [k2tog, k1] all around.
round 2: [k2tog, k1] tightly all around.

Cut yarn. Thread tail through rem 8 sts and pull tight.

FINISHING:

Pull all ends to inside of mitten. Use generous tail from crook of thumb to sew across and cinch closed any hole that may have formed in that area. Weave in any ends that are more convenient to do while the body is still butterflied open. Then close side seam using mattress st and weave in any rem ends.

Your mitten is complete!