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Fast and Fearless Fingerless Mitts

By Ellen Rodgers



Have just a little time? That's just a little problem! These mitts work up quickly! When you finish knitting the mitts, look at the outside of the thumbs and see the tulip motif created by the gusset shaping. That's a reminder that spring is coming!

Materials: 80 yds chunky weight yarn, five double pointed needles (DPNs) in size 10 US (or size needed to get gauge), two stitch markers, scrap yarn, seaming needle.

Gauge: 18 sts x 20 rows = 4" x 4" in K1P1 ribbing (unstretched)

Dimensions: 7.5" tall, 3.25" wide across palm (unstretched), up to 5.5" (stretched).

Note: Right and left mitts are the same. Make two mitts with pattern.

Key to terms and abbreviations:

Cable Cast On = insert right needle <u>between</u> first two sts on left needle, wrap yarn around right needle and pull loop through (as if to knit). Pull loop toward you and place loop over the left needle, then tighten, creating one st.

CO = Cast on

K1P1 = Knit one st, purl one st (=rib stitch)

KFB = Knit into first st but leave it on left needle. Pivot right needle around to the back of the st, knit into the back of the st on the left needle, and slip both sts to right needle.

M1L = Make One Left increase: With point of left needle, lift bar between st on right needle and st on left needle (lifting bar from front to back), then knit it through the back. M1R = Make One Right increase: With left needle, lift bar between st on right needle and st on left needle (lifting bar from back to front), then knit it through the front.

- PM = Place marker
- SM = Slip marker
- Rnd = Round (row)
- RM = Remove marker
- RS = Right side
- WS = Wrong side

p. **1 of 2** Purple mitts in photo were made with Malabrigo Chunky in Cuarzo. Green mitts were made with Malabrigo Worsted (holding two strands of yarn together) in Apple Green. For smaller, denser mitts, use about 100 yds of chunky yarn and size 9 US needles at a gauge of 20 sts over 4" in KIPI rib, and add 4 rows to cuff AND hand before/after gusset shaping, respectively.

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Cuff:

CO 28 sts and divide over four DPNs as follows: 6 sts on 1st and 3rd DPNs, 8 sts on 2nd and 4th DPNs. (This will enable you to start with a K st on each needle.) PM to designate where rnd begins. Join work, being careful not to twist the sts. Rnd 1: [K1, P1] to end of rnd. Continue in [K1,P1] rib pattern for 2.5" (about 13 rnds).

Thumb Gusset:

Rnd 1: [SM, M1R, K1, M1L, PM] for gusset. P1, then [K1,P1] to end of rnd. (30 sts) Rnd 2: [SM, K3, SM] for gusset. P1, then [K1,P1] to end of rnd. Rnd 3: [SM, K3, SM] for gusset. P1, then [K1,P1] to end of rnd. Rnd 4: [SM, KFB, KFB, K1, SM] for gusset. P1, then [K1,P1] to end of rnd. (32 sts) Rnd 5: [SM, K1, P1, K1, P1, K1, SM] for gusset. P1, then [K1,P1] to end of rnd. Rnd 6: [SM, K1, P1, K1, P1, K1, SM] for gusset. P1, then [K1,P1] to end of rnd. Rnd 7: [SM, KFB, P1, KFB, P1, K1, SM] for gusset. P1, then [K1,P1] to end of rnd. (34 sts) Rnd 8: [SM, K1, P1, M1R, P1, K1, P1, M1L, P1, K1, SM] for gusset. P1, then [K1,P1] to end of rnd.

Rnds 9-13: [K1,P1] to end of rnd.

Divide for Thumb:

RM, place 9 sts between markers on scrap yarn, RM.

Hand:

Bridge gap between thumb and hand by casting on sts as follows:

Turn work (WS facing). Using Cable Cast On method, CO 2 sts, PM, CO 1 st, P1 (to join work). Introduce new DPN and [K1,P1] next 6 sts. Continue with [K1,P1] rib to marker, SM, K1, P1. (30 sts on DPNs)

With marker designating beginning of round, work next 10 rnds (2 inches) in [K1,P1] rib. <u>OR, if you'd like the mitts to be more snug around your fingers, work 6 rnds in [K1,P1]</u> <u>rib, and then 4 rnds in [K1,P1] rib WORKING P STS THROUGH THE BACK OF THE</u> <u>LOOP. (This twists the sts at the base and results in a tighter fabric.)</u>

Bind off sts in pattern (i.e., knit the knits, purl the purls, binding off as you go.) Leaving a 6" tail, break yarn and secure tail.

Thumb:

Place 9 sts from scrap yarn onto two DPNs (e.g., 4 sts on first DPN, 5 sts on second DPN). Attach new yarn at base of last st, leaving a 6" tail.

With third DPN, and using newly attached yarn, pick up 3 sts along cable cast-on edge. (12 sts total).

Rnds 1-6: [K1,P1] to end of rnd. (Thumb will be slightly more than 1.25" from where you picked up thumb sts.)

Rnd 7: Bind off in pattern.

Leaving a 6" tail, break yarn and secure tail. Turn mitt inside out and weave in all ends, closing up any holes at base of thumb. Trim remaining tails.

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