

Charlie**KNITS**

Charlie's 50th Birthday

Fingerless top-down mitts

These cosy mitts are knit top-down so that you can make the most efficient use of your yarn. If yardage is tight, you can split each yarn into two equal size balls and work each colour for each mitt until you run out.



Yarn

Skein Queen Skinny Voluptuous in three colours:

23 metres (25 yards) colour A (teal)

50 metres (55 yards) colour B (brown)

83 metres (91 yards) colour C (taupe)

Or a total of 160 metres (175 yards) of any other heavy sock/light sport weight yarn which knits to gauge.

Gauge

26 stitches x 36 rows to 4 inches on 3mm needles



Sizes

Medium (Large)

Notions

3mm needles (I use an 80cm circular)

3 stitch markers

Oddments of smooth yarn (to hold stitches)

Abbreviations and terms

cast on use long-tail cast on (or your preferred method for a stretchy edge)

bind off k1, *k1, k stitches on right hand needle together tbl, repeat from * to last stitch, cut yarn and pull end through loop

pm place marker

sm slip marker

ssk sl1 knitwise, sl1 knitwise, knit these two stitches together tbl

k2tog knit two stitches together as if they were one

sl1 slip 1 stitch from left needle to right needle with yarn in back

tbl through back of loop



Instructions

The instructions for the two mitts are almost identical; the only difference being the positioning of the thumb. The reason for this is to place the start of round at the outside edge of each hand where it will be noticed least.

Right mitt

Thumb

Cast on 20 stitches in yarn B, pm and join in the round.

Knit 12 rounds and cut yarn B leaving an 8" tail.

Transfer these stitches onto the smooth yarn to hold them for later.

Fingers

Cast on 44 (50) stitches in yarn A, pm and join in the round.

Knit 8 rounds then cut yarn A.

Join in yarn B and knit 12 rounds.

Join in thumb

Knit to 6 stitches before the half-way point of round and put the next 3 stitches on hold.

Leave first 3 stitches of thumb on hold. pm, knit remaining thumb stitches, pm, and knit to end of round.

Thumb gusset

Knit 2 rounds straight.

Decrease round: knit to marker, sm, k2tog, k to 2 stitches before marker, ssk, sm, k to end of round.

Knit 2 rounds straight then cut yarn B.

Join in yarn C and repeat decrease round.

Knit 2 rounds straight.

Repeat decrease round

Repeat previous 3 rounds 3 more times (6 decrease rounds in total).

Wrist

Knit 20 rounds straight or to required length.

Bind off.

Finish

Graft hole between thumb and fingers using tail from thumb.

Sew in ends and block.

Left mitt

Work as for Right mitt except join in thumb as follows:

Join in thumb

Knit to 3 stitches past the half-way point of round and put the next 3 stitches on hold.

Leave first 3 stitches of thumb on hold.

pm, knit remaining thumb stitches, pm,

and knit to end of round.



Several ways that this pattern could be adapted...

The mitts could be knit in one main colour with a few random narrow stripes in a contrast colour. The stripes could even be different on each mitt.

The mitts could be made from a selection of leftovers of your favourite precious yarns. These mitts would be pure luxury made from Posh Yarn Sophia 4ply.

The mitts could be made as long as your yarn will allow (elbow length gloves may need a few increases added between the wrist and the elbow).

A note on substituting a different yarn...

If your yarn has a significantly different row gauge (this can be checked once the fingers are complete so there's no need to swatch), will need a different rate of decrease for the thumb gusset. More rows per inch will require more rows between increases and fewer rows per inch will require fewer rows between increases.

A selection of finished projects...

This pattern was originally created as part of a kit which I gave to all the guests at my 50th birthday party in December 2013. Here are a few of the resulting finished projects.



by fourchette on ravelry



by jolakey on ravelry



by ElaineZoe on ravelry

People liked it so much that I decided to make the pattern available for anyone who would like to knit it.

If you have enjoyed knitting this pattern, please consider donating £1 (or more) to Cancer Research UK at the link below or to a similar cancer charity in your own country.

<http://www.cancerresearchuk.org/support-us/donate/donate-money>

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If you find any errors on this pattern, please contact me at info@charlieknits.co.uk