

Plait Cable Mittens



The pattern as given is for a woman's size large. For size medium and small, skip the Body Increase round. For size small, try using a finer yarn and smaller needles. If you are new to cables, practice the cable pattern a few times on a gauge swatch. It's an easy 4-row pattern of 6 stitches and it will be referred to in the mitten pattern as [Little Plait Cable Pattern]. This means to follow the cable pattern as established.

Materials: worsted weight wool; #8 dpns (4); cable needle or extra dpn for cables; stitch holder for thumb stitches. I used less than 1 skein of Patons Classic Merino, "Natural Mix" to make the mittens pictured.

Gauge: 4 stitches per inch

Note: M1 = knit into right side of stitch below next stitch

Little Plait Cable Pattern:

R1: K6

R2: CF2 K2 KCF K2

R3: K6

R4: K2 CB2 K2 KCB

CF2 = move 2 stitches to dpn or cable needle and hold in front; KCF = knit held stitches on front needle; CB2 = move 2 stitches to dpn or cable needle and hold in back; KCB = knit held stitches on back needle

Cast On: 36 stitches, distributing stitches evenly over 3 dpns (12 per needle)

Cuff Round:

Needle 1: *K2 P2

Needle 2: *K2 P2

Needle 3: [Little Plait Cable Pattern] P2 K2 P2

Knit the first cuff round with R1 of the Little Plait Cable Pattern. Repeat this round, using R1 of the Little Plait Cable Pattern again and then knit three more cuff rounds using R2, R3 and R4 of the Little Plait Cable Pattern. You should now have 5 cuff rounds and 1 complete plait pattern. Knit 16 more rounds (4 more complete patterns). Continue the 4-row plait pattern as established for the rest of the mitten.

Body Increase Round:

Needle 1: K1 M1, K to end

Needle 2: K5 M1 K2 M1, K to 2 stitches from end, P2

Needle 3: [Little Plait Cable Pattern] P2 K to 1 stitch from end, M1 K1

There should now be 40 stitches (13, 14, 13).

Body Round:

Needle 1: K

Needle 2: K to 2 stitches from end, P2

Needle 3: [Little Plait Cable Pattern] P2 K to end

Knit Body Round a total of 6 times.

Left Thumb Increase Round 1:

Needle 1: K

Needle 2: K3 M1, K to 9 stitches from end, M1 K7 P2

Needle 3: [Little Plait Cable Pattern] P2 K to end

Left Thumb Increase Round 2:

Needle 1: K

Needle 2: K to 2 stitches from end, P2

Needle 3: [Little Plait Cable Pattern] P2 K to end

Knit Left Thumb Increase Round 1 and Left Thumb Increase Round 2 four times (total of 8 rows)

Left Thumb Row:

Needle 1: K

Needle 2: K4, put 8 stitches on stitch holder, K to 2 stitches from end, P2

Needle 3: [Little Plait Cable Pattern] P2 K to end

Body:

Return to working Body Rounds as above until mitten reaches end of little finger (approximately 20 more rows).

Prepare for hand decrease by moving the last 7 stitches from needle 2 to needle 3 and the last 3 stitches from needle 1 to needle 2. There should now be 20 stitches on needle 3 with the plait cable in the center, and 10 stitches on each of the other two needles. (10, 10, 20)

Hand Decrease Round 1:

Needle 1: K1 K2TOG, K to end

Needle 2: K to 3 from end, SSK K1

Needle 3: K1 K2TOG, maintain established pattern to 3 from end, SSK K1

Hand Decrease Round 2:

Needles 1, 2: K

Needle 3: maintain established pattern, K all other stitches

Knit Hand Decrease Round 1 and Hand Decrease Round 2 three times (total of 6 rounds). There should be 28 stitches remaining. Knit around 5 more times, decreasing as in Hand Decrease Round 1 every round (abandon established pattern). There should be 8 stitches remaining. Cut yarn, thread through remaining stitches and pull tight through hole in center.

Thumb:

Put the 8 stitches on the stitch holder onto 2 dpns (4 each). Knit these stitches and then, adding a third needle, pick up 4 stitches from mitten body. K 10 rounds.

Thumb decrease:

For 2 rounds, K2TOG (3 stitches remaining). Cut yarn, thread through remaining stitches and pull tight through hole in center.

Finish mitten by weaving in all loose ends.

Second Mitten

Repeat pattern for second mitten using the following instructions for the right thumb increase. To finish the right thumb, work Thumb and Thumb decrease as described above.

Right Thumb Increase Round 1:

Needle 1: K3 M1, K to 8 stitches from end M1, K to end

Needle 2: K to 2 stitches from end, P2

Needle 3: [Little Plait Cable Pattern] P2 K to end

Right Thumb Increase Round 2:

Needle 1: K

Needle 2: K to 2 stitches from end, P2

Needle 3: [Little Plait Cable Pattern] P2 K to end

Knit Left Thumb Increase Round 1 and Left Thumb Increase Round 2 four times (total of 8 rows)

Right Thumb Row:

Needle 1: K4, put 8 stitches on stitch holder, K to end

Needle 2: K to 2 stitches from end, P2

Needle 3: [Little Plait Cable Pattern] P2 K to end

October 30, 2008: I was advised of an error in this pattern and have corrected it (the stitches in RED were originally omitted). I'm sorry for any inconvenience this may have caused you!

(This is an original copyrighted pattern, published October 2007 by Katherine E. Fagan. It may be used for personal or charity purposes but it should not be reproduced in any print or electronic publication without permission.)