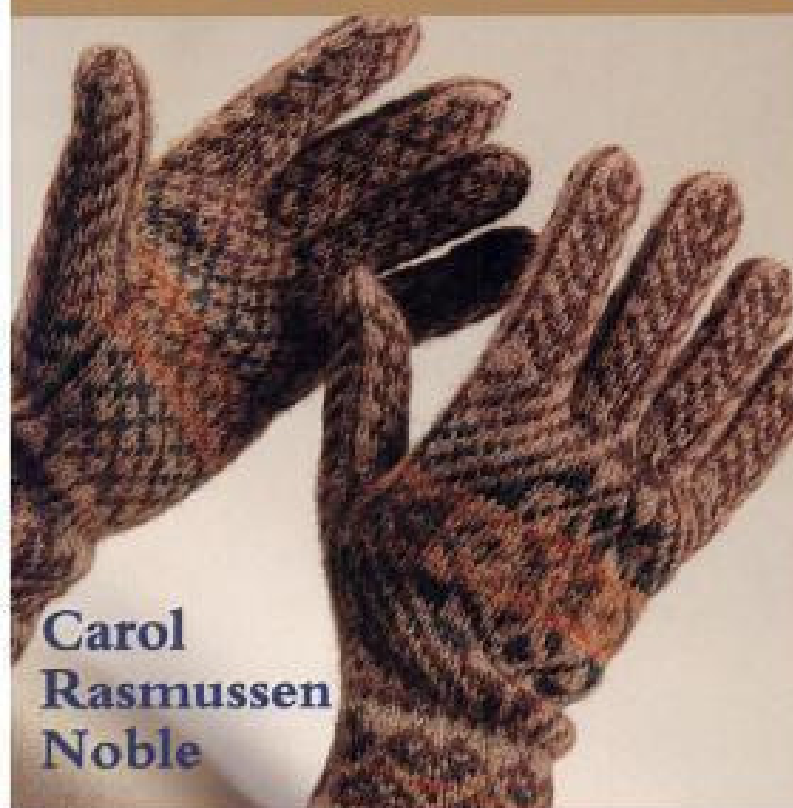


Knitting Fair Isle Mittens & Gloves

40 Great-Looking Designs



Carol Rasmussen Noble

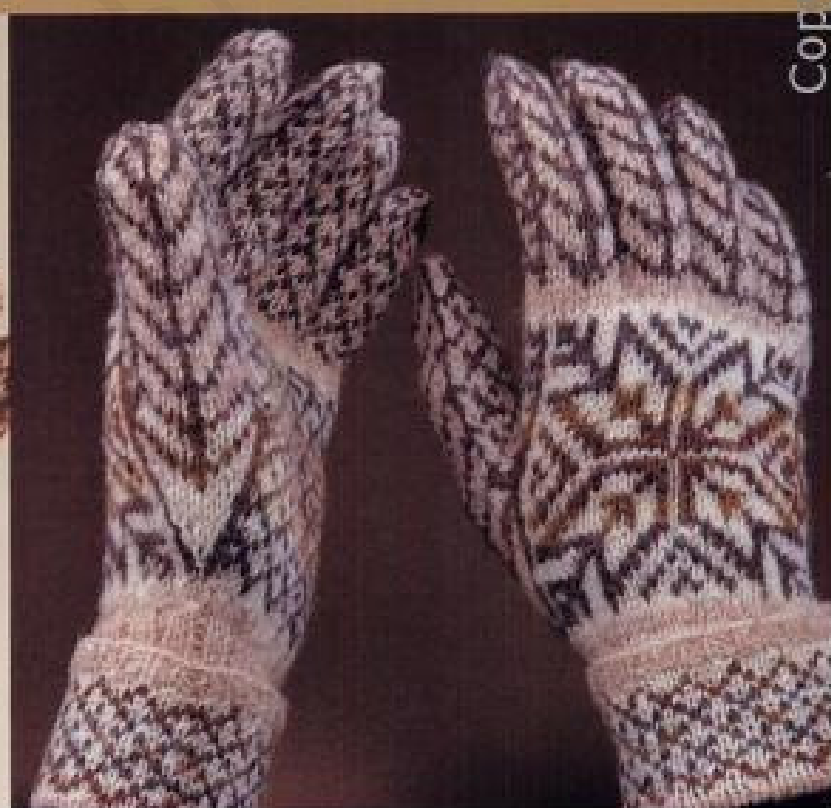


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BASIC WOMEN'S FAIR ISLE MITTENS

SIZE:

One size fits most.

FINISHED MEASUREMENT OF HAND:

Approximately 7 1/4 inches (19 cm) in circumference and 7 3/4 inches (19.7 cm) from bottom of cuff to top of mitten.

MATERIALS:

100% Shetland Wool. (1 ounce [56 g] = approximately 150 yards [137 m].) 1 ounce (56 g) Main Color and small quantities of Contrasting Colors for chosen Stitch Pattern.

NEEDLES:

Set of 5 double-pointed Size 1 (2.25–2.5 mm) *or size to obtain gauge.*

GAUGE:

32 stitches and 32 rounds = 4 inches (10 cm) using Size 1 needles in Fair Isle (stranded) **knitting**. *Take time to save time—check your gauge.*

STITCH PATTERNS:

See Charts.

Note 1: Stitch Pattern repeats vary; it may be necessary to adjust total number of stitches after the cuff to fit the chosen Stitch Pattern; check number of stitches needed before increasing.

Note 2: When chosen Chart(s) have been completed, continue with Main Color only for remainder of mitten.

CUFF:

Using Main Color, cast on 56 stitches, distributed evenly on 4 needles. Total: 14 stitches on each needle. Place marker for beginning of round. Join, being careful not to twist stitches. Work in knit 1, purl 1 ribbing for 3 inches, increasing for chosen Stitch Pattern, on last round, if necessary.

HAND:

Change to Circular Stockinette Stitch (knit every round), and Fair Isle Stitch Pattern of choice; work even in pattern established until piece measures 2 1/2 inches (6.4 cm) above cuff. **Thumb Opening, Right Mitten:** Continuing in pattern established, work across needles 1 and 2; from needle 3, knit 2, then

knit 10 with waste yarn; return these 10 stitches to needle 3 and knit 10 in pattern, knit 2; work across needle 4 in pattern. **Thumb Opening, Left Mitten:** Continuing in pattern established, work across needle 1; from needle 2, knit 2, then knit 10 with waste yarn; return these 10 stitches to needle 2, and knit 10 in pattern, knit 2; work across needles 3 and 4 in pattern.

When piece measures approximately 4 inches (10 cm) above waste yarn for thumb, (approximately 6 1/2 inches [16.5 cm] above cuff edge), begin shaping. (**Note:** Shaping will add approximately 1 1/4 inches [3.2 cm]; adjust length if desired). * Work from needles 1 and 3 as: Knit 1; decrease one stitch by working a right slanting decrease (knit 2 together); knit to end. Work from needles 2 and 4 as: Knit to last 3 stitches; decrease one stitch by working a left slanting decrease (slip slip knit); knit 1. Repeat from * **every** round 9 times. Total 16 stitches (8 stitches for palm, and 8 for back of hand). Break yarn, leaving a 16-inch (41 cm) tail; using tapestry needle and tail, weave remaining stitches together.

THUMB:

Remove waste yarn; with Main Color (or color of choice), pick up 10 stitches from top and 10 stitches from bottom of thumb opening and distribute evenly on double-pointed needles; pick up 1 stitch at each corner. Total: 22 stitches. Work even until thumb measures 2 inches (5 cm) or 1/4 inch (6.3 mm) less than desired length (thumb should reach to the middle of thumbnail before shaping). To shape thumb, work as for hand shaping, repeating from * 3 times. Break yarn, leaving a 12-inch (30.5 cm) tail; thread tail through remaining stitches, going through each stitch twice; gather stitches together and fasten off. Thumb measures approximately 2 1/4 inches (5.7 cm).

FINISHING:

Weave in ends neatly on reverse side. Steam block to even out stitches and obtain finished measurements.

Women's Fair Isle Mittens

Mittens for women in Shetland are a relatively new item of apparel. Traditionally, the women always wore gloves. It was during World War II that women's mittens were introduced into Shetland with the influx of Norwegian refugees. Norwegian people usually wear mittens with stars on them; gloves are less popular. Suddenly in Shetland, mitts became popular and have remained so.

Rather than making a mitten that really fits the hand well, Shetland knitters make them very long to accommodate their design preferences—they need more room on the mitts to include the double motif they're so fond of, for example, the three different star patterns we've included. With the double motif the knitters also pattern the area that connects the motifs, so there is a continuous pattern on the mitts.

To wear the mitts properly, you pull them down a ways on your arm, and they tend to flop a bit at your fingertips. Some of the patterns found on mitts today are a relatively new development. For example, the X's and O's pattern from the nineteenth century was traditionally found on sweaters. Today it's been sized down to make women's mitts as well.



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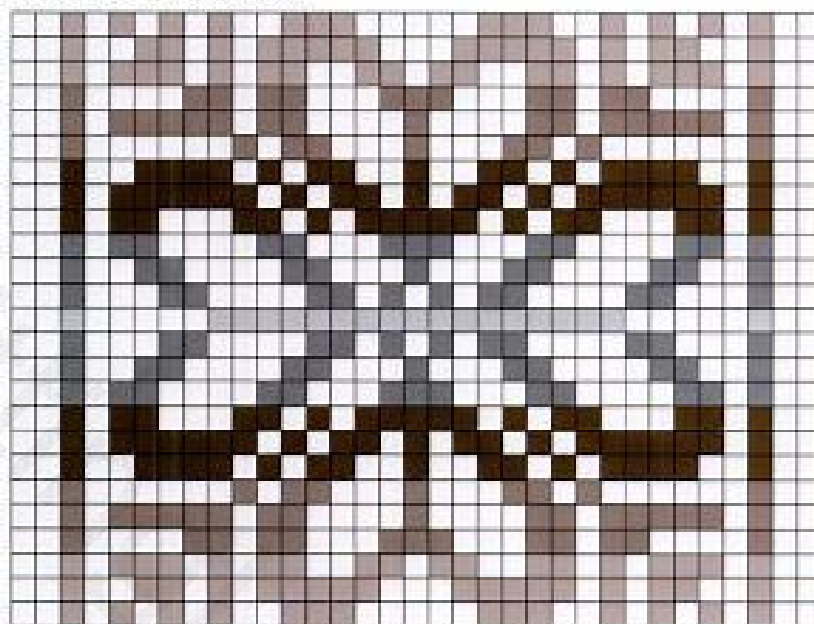
Unst Flowers Variation

MAKER UNKNOWN

Shetlanders call these natural colors "fauns." The flower star pattern is typical of designs from Unst, and shows Shetland shading and palm patterning, with a plain thumb and ribbing.

After ribbing, work Rounds 1- 4 of Chart C around entire mitten; work Rounds 1-25, then Rounds 2-25 of Chart A on back of hand while working Chart B on palm in colors indicated; work Rounds 4 - 1 of Chart C around entire mitten; continue with Main Color for length.

CHART A Back of Hand



33 Stitch / 25 Round Repeat

KEY

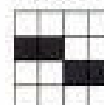
- ☐ Main Color - Natural
- ☒ Black
- ☐ White
- ☐ Taupe
- ☐ Brown
- ☒ Dark Brown
- ☐ Charcoal
- ☐ Grey
- ☒ Chart B - use Contrasting Color used on back of mitten.

CHART B Palm



2 Stitch / 2 Round Repeat

CHART C Borders



4 Stitch / 4 Round Repeat





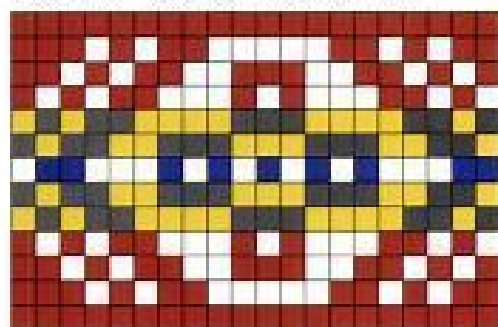
Lerwick X's & O's

MAKER UNKNOWN

The X's & O's pattern is the oldest Shetland knitting pattern, with roots in the mid-nineteenth century. From Lerwick, here's a mitten version in traditional colors. See the Traditional X's and O's glove pattern on page 62.

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CHART A Back of Hand and Palm

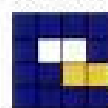


20 Stitch / 13 Round Repeat

KEY

- Main Color - Dk. Blue
- Dk. Red
- White
- Black
- Gold

CHART B
Borders



4 Stitch /
4 Round Repeat

Pattern is continuous around mitten. After ribbing, work Chart A, B, A, B, and A, then continue in Main Color for length.

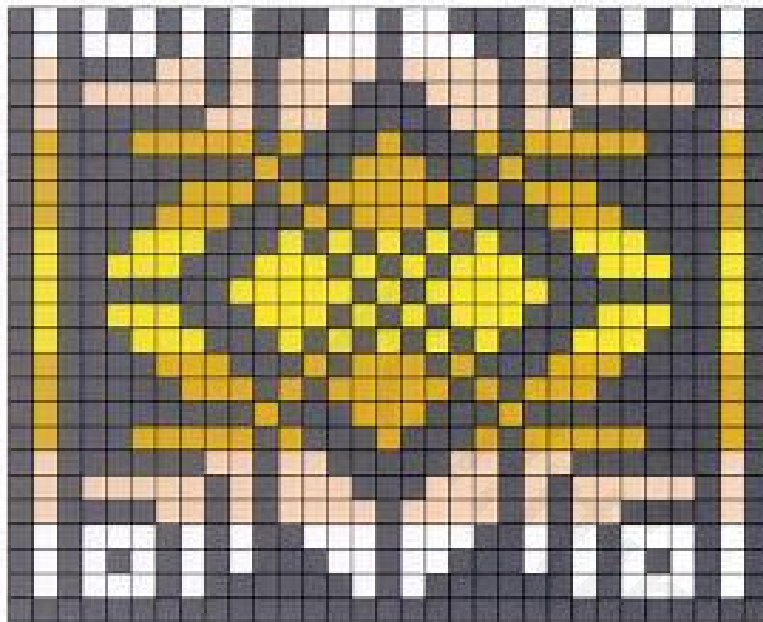


Diamonds Variation

MAKER UNKNOWN

This pair of exuberant mittens from Unst is a hybrid. Its creative pattern has elements from both a star and a diamond combined in a single pattern.

CHART A Back of Hand



31 Stitch / 25 Round Repeat

KEY

- Main Color - Grey
- White
- Peach
- Gold
- Yellow
- ⊗ Chart B - use Contrasting Color used on back of mitten.

CHART B Palm



4 Stitch / 4 Round Repeat

After ribbing, work round 1 of Chart A around entire mitten; repeat rounds 2-25 of Chart A twice on back of mitten while working Chart B on palm, in colors indicated; continue with Main Color for length. Work thumb with Main Color.

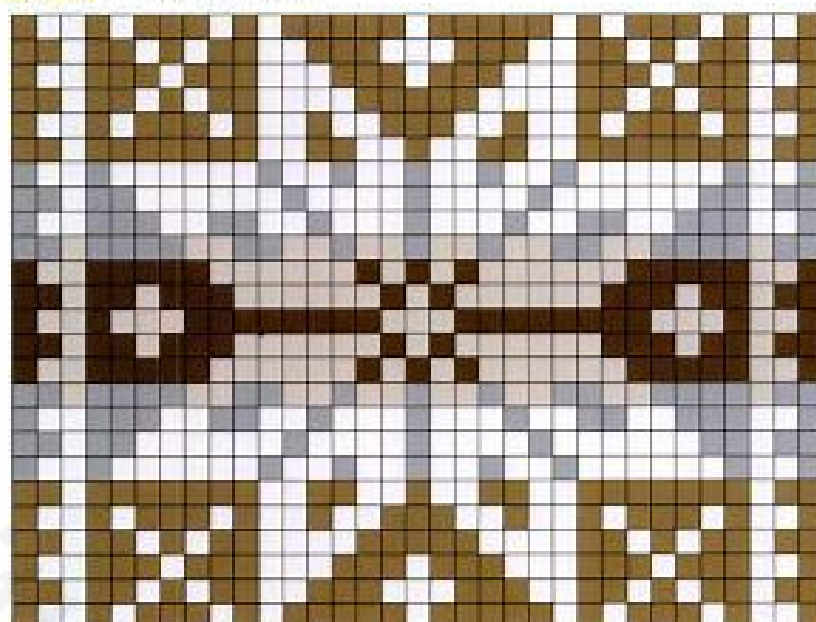
Norwegian Stars in Naturals

MAKER UNKNOWN

This pair of Unst mittens shows the traditional double pattern on the back with a Shetland geometric shaded palm. It has a predominately natural fauns color scheme but with high contrasts.

It has a predominately natural fauns color scheme but with high contrasts.

CHART A Back of Hand



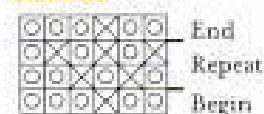
33 Stitch / 25 Round Repeat

After ribbing, work rounds 1-6 of **Chart C** around entire mitten; work rounds 1-25, then 2-25 of **Chart A** on back of mitten while working **Chart B** on palm in colors indicated. (begin round 1 of **Chart B**, repeat rounds 2 and 3 for length, end round 4); work rounds 6-1 of **Chart C** around entire mitten, then continue with Main Color for length.

KEY

- Main Color - Beige Heather
- Brown
- White
- Grey
- Dk. Brown
- Beige
- X
 Chart B - use Contrasting Color used on back of mitten.
- O
 Chart B - use Background Color used on back of mitten.

CHART B Palm



5 Stitch / 2 Round Repeat

CHART C Borders



2 Stitch / 6 Round Repeat

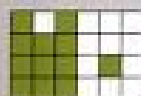


Fishermen's Mittens

MAKER: UNKNOWN

CHART A

Back of Hand and Palm



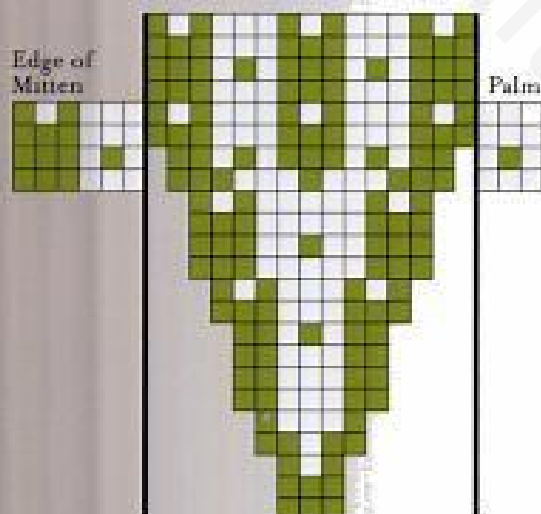
6 Stitch / 4 Round Repeat

KEY

■ Olive Green

□ White

CHART B Thumb Gusset

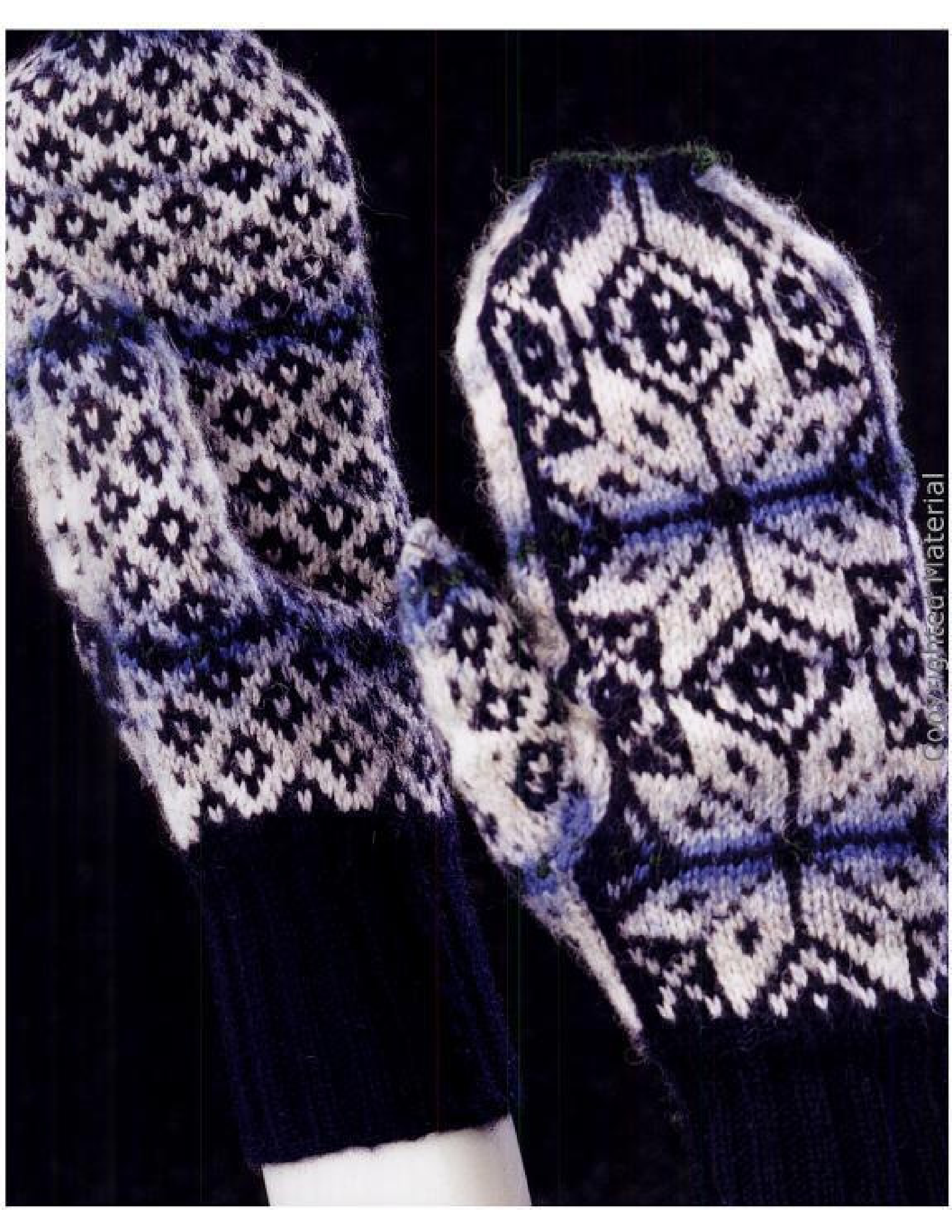


Ribbing: Work *4 rounds Olive, 4 rounds White; repeat from *twice, then work 4 rounds Olive. Begin Chart A with 5 White stripes/6 Olive stripes on back of mitten and 6 White/5 Dark on palm. Work thumb gusset as shown, inserting gusset in 2nd dark stripe on palm.

These fishermen's mittens from Yell are similar to Scandinavian fishermen's mittens, and have a long international history. This is a type of mitten Shetlanders knit for their own use, not for sale. They are meant for men, although this pair will fit a woman's hands. Usually these gloves were knit in black and white, so this color scheme is a bit unusual.



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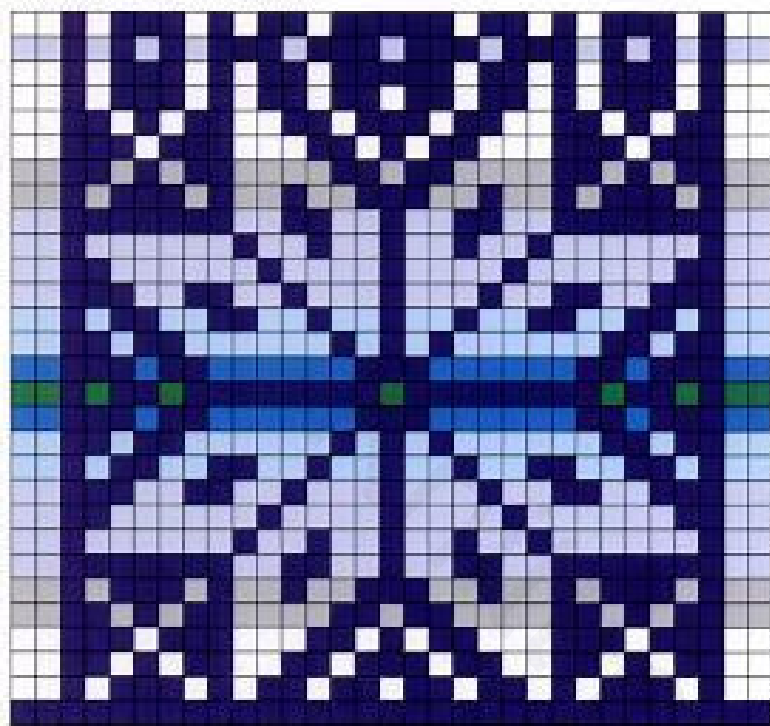
Norwegian Stars in Blue

KNIT BY
KATHLEEN SMITH

This is a classic
Shetland

Norwegian Star mitten,
with Shetland shading and
a Shetland palm. Shetland
mittens tend to be quite
long, flopping over a bit
at the fingertips, such as
this pair.

CHART A Back of Hand



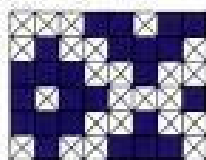
31 Stitch / 29 Round Repeat

After ribbing, work round 1 of Chart A around entire mitten;
repeat rounds 2-29 of Chart A twice on back of mitten while
working Chart B on palm, using colors indicated, for length.
Work thumb same as palm.

KEY

- Main Color - Navy
- White
- Silver
- Blue Heather
- Medium Blue
- Lt. Blue
- Green
- ⊗ Chart B - use Contrasting Color
used on back of mitten.

CHART B Palm and Thumb



8 Stitch / 6 Round Repeat

Women's Fair Isle Fingerless Gloves

Traditionally both men and women wore fingerless gloves. They were ideally suited to people who used their hands in their work. Homes in Shetland didn't have any central heating, just warmth from the hearth, so wintertime was often bitter cold, even indoors. The women wore fingerless gloves so they could continue to knit despite the cold. Fishermen wore fingerless gloves on the fishing boats to keep their fingers free for removing fish-hooks. Nowadays on Shetland, only women wear fingerless gloves, not the men. But they are growing in popularity among teenagers, who enjoy the warmth the glove offers while allowing dexterity of the fingers. Another reason for the fingerless glove's popularity is that it is much easier to knit than a glove with fingers. You don't have to worry too much about the fit of the glove and it takes a lot less time to complete.



BASIC WOMEN'S FAIR ISLE FINGERLESS GLOVES

SIZE:

One size fits most.

FINISHED MEASUREMENT:

Approximately 7 inches (17.8 cm) in circumference and 4 ½ inches (11.4 cm) from top of cuff to beginning of finger join.

MATERIALS:

100% Shetland Wool. (1 ounce [56 g] = approximately 150 yards [137 m]). 1 ounce (56 g) Main Color and small quantities of Contrasting Colors for chosen Stitch Pattern.

NEEDLES:

Set of 5 double-pointed needles Size 0 (2mm) *or size to obtain gauge.*

GAUGE:

36 stitches and 36 rounds = 4 inches (10 cm) using Size 0 needles in Fair Isle (stranded) knitting. *Take time to save time—check your gauge.*

STITCH PATTERNS:

See Charts.

Note 1: Stitch Pattern repeats vary. It may be necessary to adjust total number of stitches after the cuff to fit the chosen Stitch Pattern; check number of stitches needed before increasing.

Note 2: When chosen Chart(s) have been completed, continue with Main Color (or color of choice) for remainder of glove.

CUFF:

Using Main Color, cast on 54 stitches, distributed evenly on 4 needles; place marker for beginning of round. Join, being careful not to twist stitches. Work in knit 1, purl 1 ribbing for 2 ¾ inches (7 cm), increasing 8 stitches (or number for chosen Stitch pattern) evenly on last round. Total: 62 stitches (needles 1 and 3: 15 stitches; needles 2 and 4: 16 stitches).

HAND:

Change to Circular Stockinette stitch (knit every round), and Fair Isle Stitch Pattern of choice; work even in pattern established until piece measures 2 ½ inches (6.4 cm) above cuff. **Thumb Opening, Right**

Glove: Continuing in pattern established, work across needles 1 and 2; from needle 3, knit 2; then knit 10 with waste yarn; return these 10 stitches to needle 3, and knit 10 in pattern; knit 3; work across needle 4 in pattern. **Thumb Opening, Left Glove:** Continuing in pattern established, work across needle 1; from needle 2, knit 4; then knit 10 with waste yarn; return these 10 stitches to needle 2 and knit 10 in pattern; knit 2; work across needles 3 and 4 in pattern.

When piece measures 2 inches (5 cm) from waste yarn for thumb, (approximately 4 ½ inches [11.4 cm] above cuff), place all stitches on a circular stitch holder or waste yarn, keeping marker for beginning of round in place to separate back of hand from palm.

JOIN EDGE/FINGER SECTIONS:

Work knit 1, purl 1 ribbing for ½ (1.3 cm) to 1 inch (2.5 cm) to create finger sections as follows:

Little finger: With Main Color (or color of choice), pick up from holder and place on double pointed needles 7 stitches from back of hand and 7 stitches from palm. Total: 14 stitches. Work knit 1, purl 1 ribbing to desired length; bind off loosely in pattern.

Ring, Middle and Index Fingers: Working one finger at a time, pick up 8 stitches from back of hand and 8 stitches from palm for each finger. Work as for little finger.

THUMB:

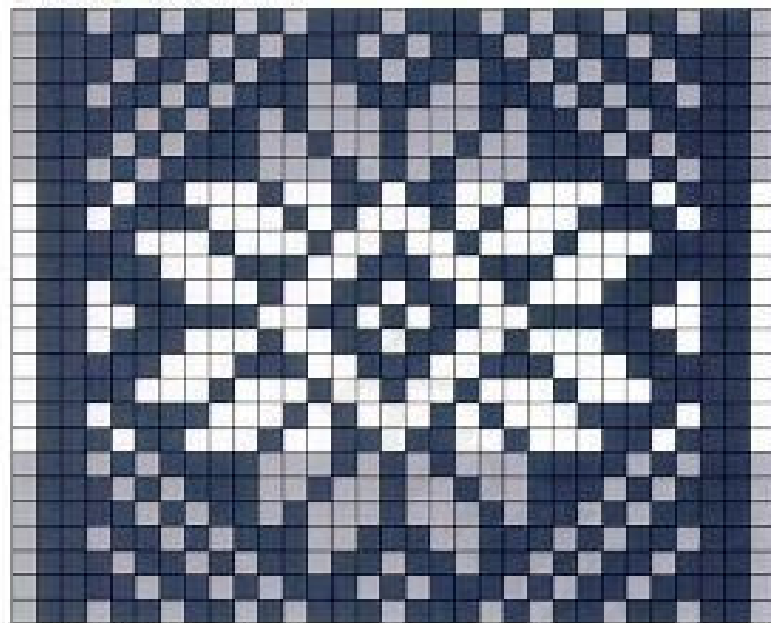
Remove waste yarn; with Main Color (or color of choice), pick up and place on double-pointed needles 10 stitches from top and 10 stitches from bottom of opening and distribute evenly on double-pointed needles; pick up one stitch at each corner. Total: 22 stitches. Work knit 1, purl 1 ribbing to desired length; bind off loosely in pattern.

FINISHING:

Weave in ends neatly on reverse side. Steam block to even out stitches and obtain finished measurements.



CHART A Back of Hand



31 Stitch / 25 Round Repeat

After working ribbing, work Chart D once around entire glove; work Chart A on back of hand while working Chart B on palm; work Chart C around entire glove.

KEY

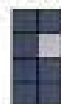
- Main Color - Dk. Grey
- White
- Silver
- ⊗ Chart B - work with Contrasting Color used on back of glove.

CHART B Palm



4 Stitch / 4 Round Repeat

CHART C Top Border



2 Stitch / 4 Round Repeat

CHART D Bottom Border



2 Stitch / 4 Round Repeat

Snowflake

MAKER UNKNOWN

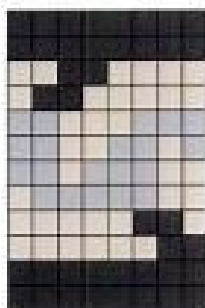
These fingerless gloves from Lerwick are highly unusual. The snowflake pattern is elongated, and the palm has a unique design. In addition, the all-natural grey shading with white is quite subtle and muted.

Celtic Knotwork

KNIT BY BARBARA ISBISTER

Shetland had no Celtic settlements, so the Celtic knot isn't a traditional Shetland motif. And yet, even with an asymmetrical format, the design of these gloves has transformed the Celtic knot into a very typical Shetland fingerless glove, in a traditional natural color scheme.

CHART A Pattern Band #1

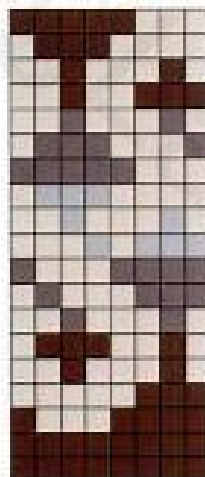


8 Stitch / 12 Round Repeat

KEY

- Brown - Main Color
- Black
- Beige
- Taupe
- Grey

CHART B Pattern Band #2



8 Stitch / 19 Round Repeat

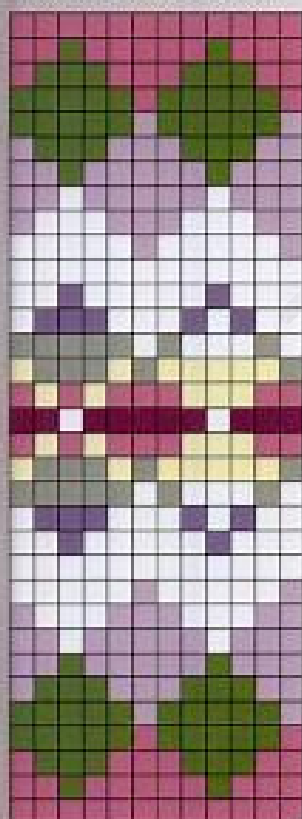
Pattern is continuous around glove. After ribbing, work Chart A, then Chart B; work remainder of glove with Main Color.



Tartan

MAKER UNKNOWN

CHART A
Back of Hand and Palm



12 Stitch / 33 Round Repeat

KEY

- White
- Pale Yellow
- Grey-Green
- Purple-Red
- Purple Heather
- Maroon
- Lilac
- Loden green

Work Chart A around entire glove.



Although done up in bright colors, these fingerless gloves from Lerwick have a dainty, conservative look. The pattern of interlocking diamonds was developed in the 1950s on Shetland. It can now be found on a variety of garments, but its home remains the fingerless glove.

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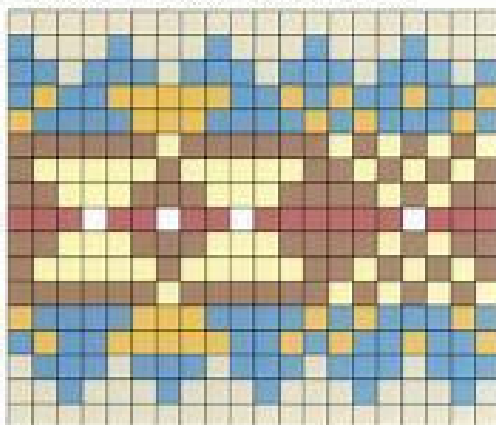
Cross & Crown

MAKER UNKNOWN

This is the first pair of gloves I bought in Shetland, at the Old Haa Museum on the Island of Yell. It was 1995, the weather was miserable, my hands were terribly cold, and these gloves were a godsend. I didn't know it at the time, but it turns out all the patterns and colors are traditional.

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CHART A Back of Hand and Palm

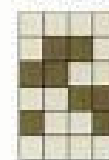


20 Stitch / 17 Round Repeat

KEY

- White
- Turquoise
- Pale Yellow
- Yellow Orange
- Brown
- Dk. Red
- Dk. Brown
- Beige

CHART B Border



4 Stitch / 6 Round Repeat

After ribbing, work Chart A, then Chart B, then Chart A around entire glove.

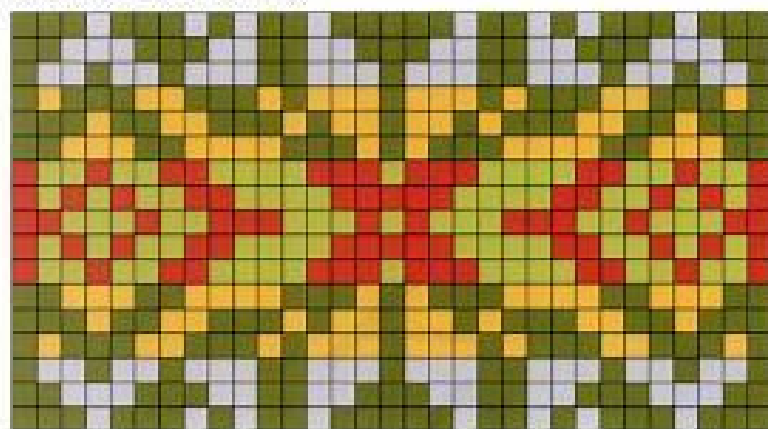


Banded Christmas Star

DESIGNED BY
WILMA MALCOLMSON

This is a typical design by Wilma Malcolmson, with one pattern band on the back only and the other pattern going around the glove. More colorful than many of Wilma's gloves, it reminds me of Christmas, so that's what I named it.

CHART A Back of Hand



31 Stitch / 17 Round Repeat

KEY

- Dk. Loden Green - Main Color
- Dk. Brown
- Red
- Silver Grey
- Gold
- Yellow Green
- Chart B - Use Contrasting Color used on back of glove.
- Chart B- use Background Color used on back of glove.

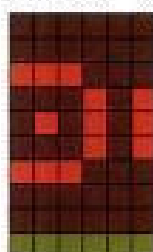
After working ribbing, work Chart C around entire glove. Work Chart A on back of glove while working Chart B on palm in colors indicated; repeat Chart C around entire glove; work remainder of glove in Main Color.

CHART B Palm



2 Stitch / 2 Round Repeat

CHART C Borders



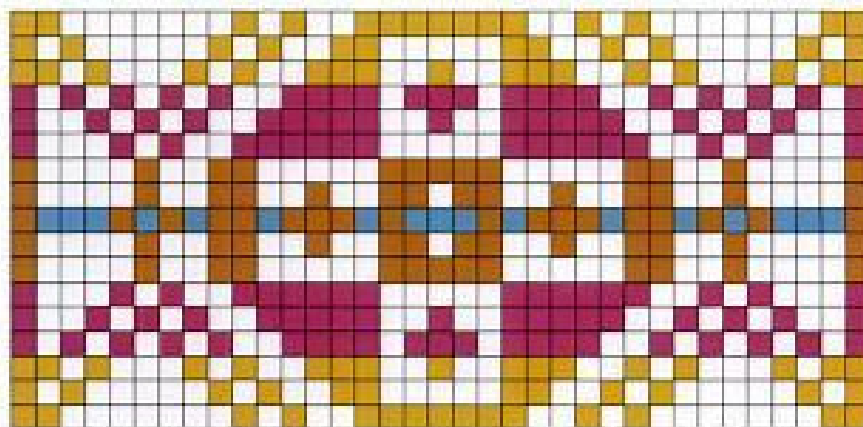
6 Stitch / 10 Round Repeat

Medallions in Aurora

DESIGNED BY
WILMA MALCOLMSON

Heathers abound in the unusual low-contrast color scheme of these fingerless gloves. Designer Wilma Malcolmson of Cunningsburgh, Mainland, often uses colors much closer in shade than ordinarily found in a typical Shetland glove. For very different versions of the medallion pattern see two projects for full-fingered women's gloves, Open Medallions in Orange on page 80 and Filled Medallions in Bright Colors on page 82.

CHART A Back of Hand



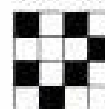
35 Stitch / 17 Round Repeat

KEY

- *Maroon - background
- Magenta
- Yellow-Orange
- Red-Orange
- Turquoise

*Background Maroon color shown as White for clarity.

CHART B Palm

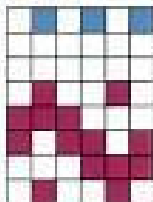


- *Maroon
- Contrasting Color

4 Stitch / 4 Round Repeat

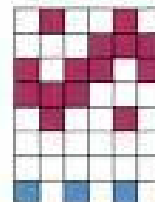
Work Chart D around glove; then work Chart B on palm, while working Chart A on back of hand; work Chart C around glove.

CHART C Top Border



6 Stitch / 8 Round Repeat

CHART D Bottom Border



6 Stitch / 8 Round Repeat



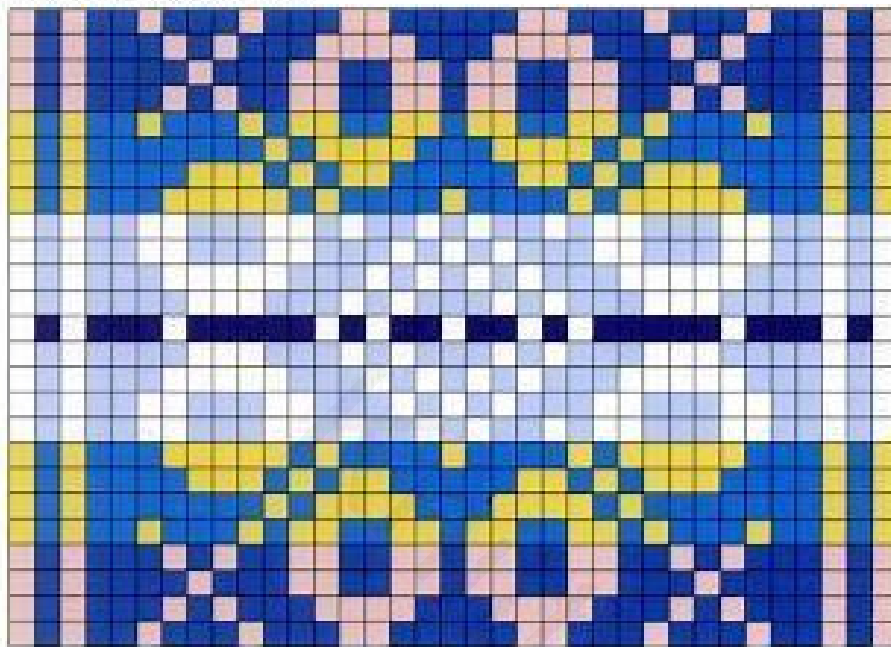


Fingerless Fishermen's Gloves

MAKER UNKNOWN

These gloves from Unst show a highly creative pattern in a traditional style. Although this pair is sized for a woman's hands, such gloves used to be made only for men working on fishing boats. The extra-long fingers were fashioned so that the men's fingertips were free to remove fishhooks.

CHART A Back of Hand



35 Stitch / 25 Round Repeat

After working ribbing, work rounds 1-5 of Chart C around entire glove; work Chart A on back of glove while working Chart B on palm in colors indicated; work rounds 5-1 of Chart C around entire glove; work remainder of glove in Main Color.

KEY

- Dk. Brown - Main Color
- Salmon
- Blue
- Yellow
- Sky Blue
- Pale Blue
- White
- Navy Blue
- X
 Chart B - Use Contrasting Color used on back of glove.
- O
 Chart B- use Background Color used on back of glove.

CHART B Palm



6 Stitch / 2 Round Repeat

CHART C
Borders



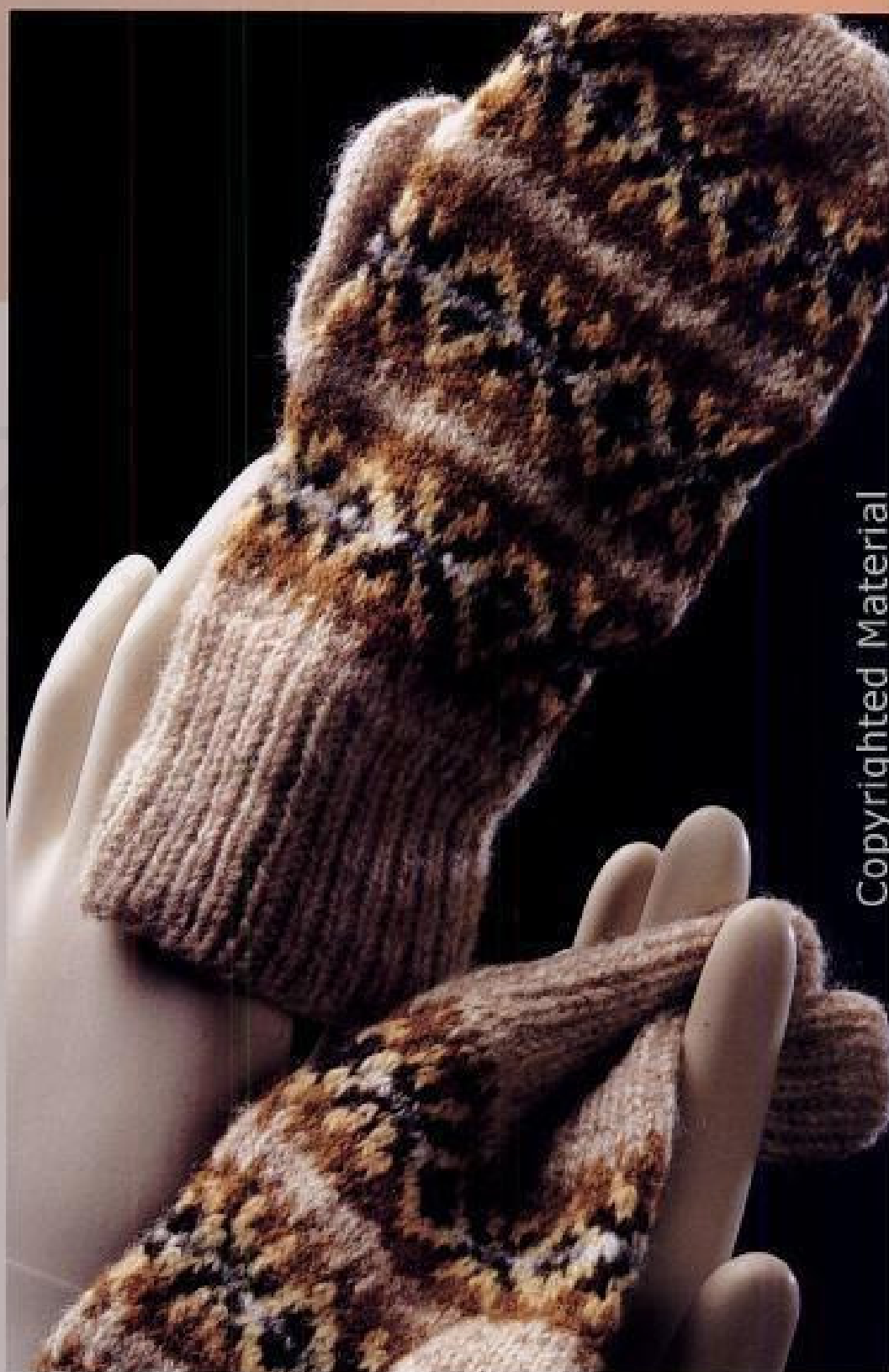
2 Stitch /
5 Round Repeat

Bairns' Fair Isle Gloves & Mitts

Unlike gloves and mitts for adults, those for children are bright and cheerful. Toddlers, about age two to three years, wear mitts with two bands of color. The older children of school age wear larger mitts, with three bands of color.

It's very unusual to find bairns' gloves, such as the pair in this section, because children in Shetland usually wear mittens. Mitts, of course, are easier to knit, and more practical than gloves since kids outgrow them quickly.

My friend, knitter Margaret Peterson of Unst, obtained the projects in this section for me. Alas, the makers are unknown.



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BASIC CHILDREN'S FAIR ISLE MITTENS

SIZE:

One size fits most.

FINISHED MEASUREMENT OF HAND:

Approximately 7 ½ inches (19 cm) in circumference and 6 inches (15.2 cm) long.

MATERIALS:

100% Shetland Wool. (1 ounce [56 g] = approximately 150 yards [137 m].) 1 ounce (56 g) Main Color and small quantities of Contrasting Colors for chosen Stitch Pattern.

NEEDLES:

Set of 5 double-pointed Size 0 (2 mm) *or size to obtain gauge.*

GAUGE:

36 stitches and 36 rounds = 4 inches (10 cm) using Size 0 needles in Fair Isle (stranded) knitting. *Take time to save time—check your gauge.*

STITCH PATTERNS:

See Charts.

Note 1: Stitch Pattern repeats vary. It may be necessary to adjust total number of stitches after the cuff to fit the chosen Stitch Pattern; check number of stitches needed before increasing.

Note 2: When chosen Chart(s) have been completed, continue with Main Color only for remainder of mitten.

CUFF:

Using Main Color, cast on 50 stitches, distributed as follows: needles 1 and 3: 12 stitches; needles 2 and 4: 13 stitches. Place marker for beginning of round. Join, being careful not to twist stitches. Work in knit 1, purl 1 ribbing for 2 ¼ inches (5.7 cm), increasing 10 stitches (or number for chosen Stitch Pattern), evenly on last round. Total: 60 stitches, 15 on each needle.

HAND:

Change to Circular Stockinette stitch (knit every round), and Fair Isle Stitch Pattern of choice; work even in pattern established until piece measures 1 ¾ inches (4.4 cm) above cuff. **Thumb Opening, Right Mitten:** Continuing in pattern established, work

across needles 1 and 2; from needle 3, knit 9 with waste yarn; return these 9 stitches to needle 3, and knit 9 in pattern; knit 6; work across needle 4 in pattern. **Thumb Opening, Left Mitten:** Continue in pattern established, work across needle 1; from needle 2, knit 6; then knit 9 with waste yarn, return these 9 stitches to needle 2, and knit 9 in pattern; work across needles 3 and 4 in pattern established.

When piece measures 3 inches (7.6 cm) above waste yarn for thumb, (approximately 4 ¾ inches [12.1 cm] above cuff edge), begin shaping. Shaping will add approximately 1 ¼ inches (3.2 cm); adjust length if desired. *Work from needles 1 and 3 as: Knit 1; decrease one stitch by working a right slanting decrease (knit 2 together); knit to end. Work from needles 2 and 4 as: Knit to last 3 stitches; decrease one stitch by working a left slanting decrease (slip slip knit); knit 1. Repeat from *every round 10 times. Total: 16 stitches (8 stitches for palm, and 8 for back of hand). Break yarn, leaving a 16-inch (40.6 cm) tail; using tapestry needle and tail, weave remaining stitches together.

THUMB:

Remove waste yarn; with Main Color (or color of choice), pick up 9 stitches from top and 9 stitches from bottom of thumb opening, and distribute evenly on double-pointed needles; pick up one stitch at each corner. Total: 20 stitches for thumb. Work even until thumb measures 2 inches (5 cm) or ¼ inch (6.35 mm) less than desired length. Thumb should reach middle of thumbnail before shaping. To shape thumb, (Knit 2 together around) twice. Total: 5 stitches remaining. Break yarn, leaving a 12-inch (30.5 cm) tail; thread tail through remaining stitches, going through each stitch twice; gather stitches together and fasten off. Thumb measures approximately 2 ¼ inches (5.7 cm).

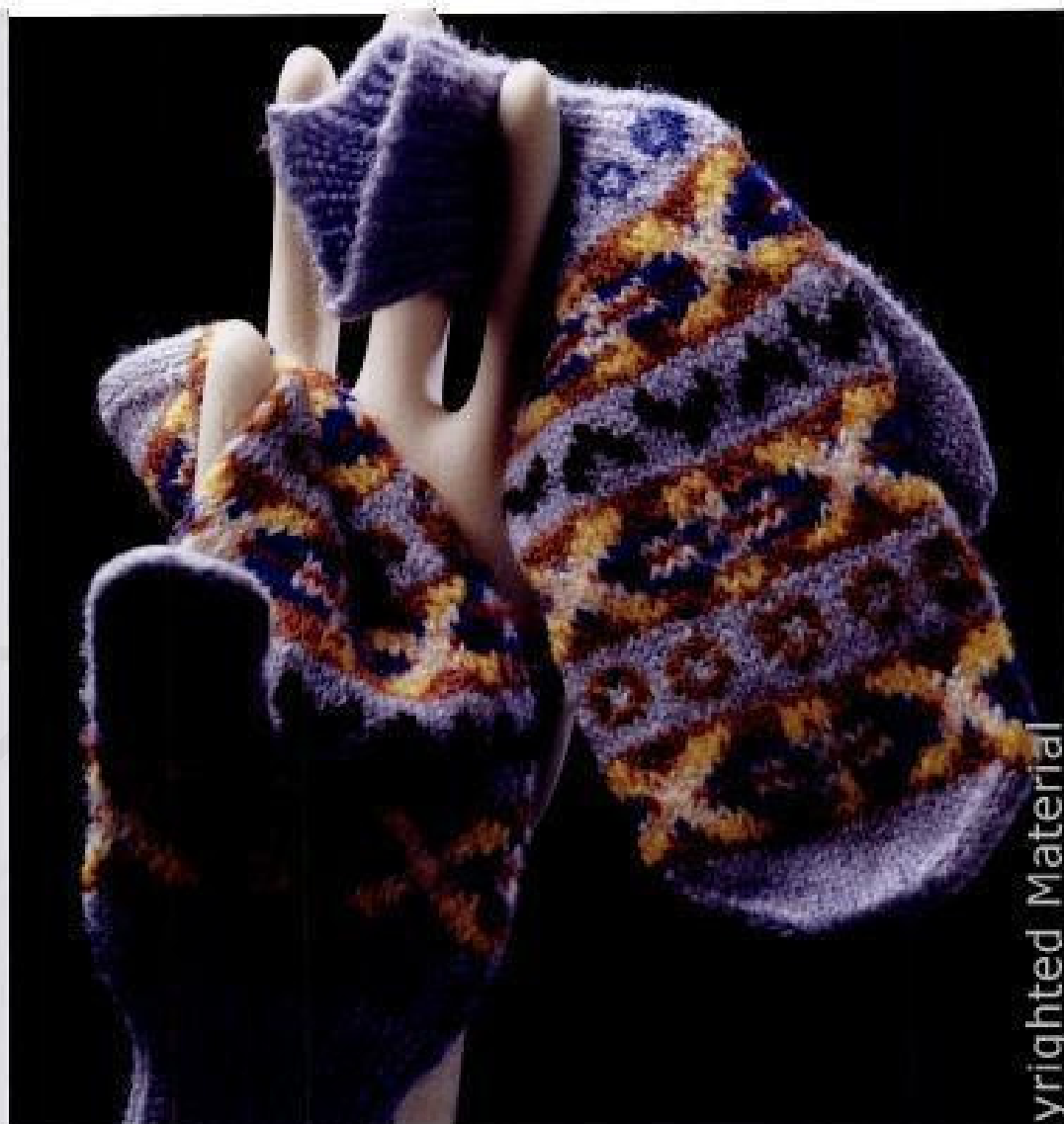
FINISHING:

Weave in ends neatly on reverse side. Steam block to even out stitches and obtain finished measurements.

X and Cross

MAKER UNKNOWN

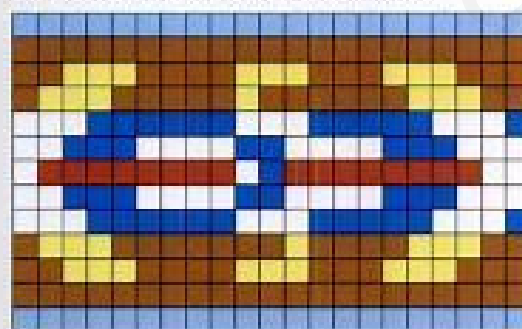
I have never seen anything even similar to this pair of children's mitts from Unst. It is probably a rare and very old pattern. Like all mitts for older children, this one has three pattern bands.



KEY

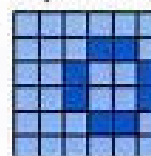
- Main Color
- Blue
- Medium Brown
- Pale Yellow
- White
- Cranberry
- Black

CHART A Back of Hand and Palm



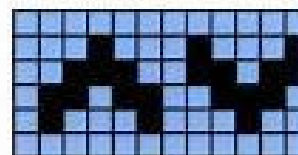
21 Stitch / 13 Round Repeat

CHART B Top and Bottom Borders



6 Stitch / 6 Round Repeat

CHART C Middle Borders



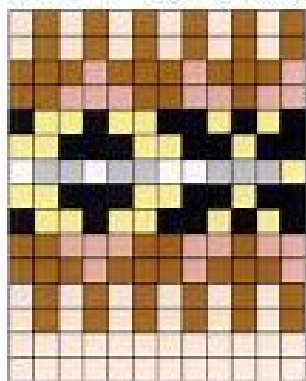
12 Stitch / 6 Round Repeat

Stripe Sequence: Work Chart B, Chart A, Chart C, Chart A; work Chart B using Medium Brown as Contrasting Color; then repeat Chart A.

MAKER UNKNOWN

For a child's mitten, this color scheme is subdued. This pattern is a hybrid of diamonds, deriving from the old X's & O's pattern of two centuries ago. (See the women's glove version on page 62.)

CHART A Back of Hand and Palm



12 Stitch / 15 Round Repeat
Work Chart A 3 times.

KEY

-  Main Color
-  Mahogany
-  Peach
-  Black
-  Lt. Yellow
-  White
-  Grey

Small Diamonds



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BASIC TODDLER'S FAIR ISLE MITTENS

SIZE:

One size fits most.

FINISHED MEASUREMENT OF HAND:

Approximately 5 inches (12.7 cm) in circumference and 4½ inches (11.4 cm) long.

MATERIALS:

100% Shetland Wool. (1 ounce [56 g] = approximately 150 yards [137 m].) 1 ounce (56 g) Main Color and small quantities of Contrasting Colors for chosen Stitch Pattern.

NEEDLES:

Set of 5 double-pointed Size 0 (2 mm) *or size to obtain gauge.*

GAUGE:

36 stitches and 36 rounds = 4 inches (10 cm) using Size 0 needles in Fair Isle (stranded) **knitting**. *Take time to save time—check your gauge.*

STITCH PATTERNS:

See Charts.

Note 1: Stitch Pattern repeats vary. It may be necessary to adjust total number of stitches after the cuff to fit the chosen Stitch Pattern; check number of stitches needed before increasing.

Note 2: When chosen Chart(s) have been completed, continue with Main Color only for remainder of mitten.

CUFF:

Using Main Color, cast on 52 stitches, distributed evenly on 4 needles. Total: 13 stitches on each needle. Place marker for beginning of round. Join, being careful not to twist stitches. Work in knit 2, purl 2 ribbing for 2¼ inches (5.7 cm), increasing for chosen Stitch Pattern on last round, if necessary.

HAND:

Change to Circular Stockinette Stitch (knit every round), and Fair Isle Stitch. Work even in pattern established until piece measures 1¼ inches (6.4 cm) above cuff. **Thumb Opening, Right Mitten:** Continuing in pattern established, work across needles 1 and 2; from needle 3, knit 8 with waste yarn; return these 8 stitches to needle 3 and knit 8 in pattern; knit 5; work across needle 4 in pattern.

Thumb Opening, Left Mitten: Continuing in pattern established, work across needle 1; from needle 2, knit 5; then knit 8 with waste yarn; return these 8 stitches to needle 2 and knit 8 in pattern; work across needles 3 and 4 in pattern.

When piece measures 1¼ inches (6.4 cm) from waste yarn for thumb (approximately 3½ inches [8.9 cm] above cuff edge), begin shaping. Shaping will add approximately 1¼ inches (3.2 cm), adjust length if desired. * Work from needles 1 and 3 as: Knit 1; decrease one stitch by working a right slanting decrease (knit 2 together); knit to end. Work from needles 2 and 4 as: Knit to last 3 stitches; decrease one stitch by working a left slanting decrease (slip slip knit); knit 1. Repeat from * every round 9 times. Total: 12 stitches (6 stitches for palm, and 6 for back of hand). Break yarn, leaving a 16-inch (40.6 cm) tail; using tapestry needle and tail, weave remaining stitches together.

THUMB: Remove waste yarn; using Main Color (or color of choice), pick up 8 stitches from top and 8 stitches from bottom of thumb opening and distribute evenly on double pointed needles; pick up 1 stitch at each corner. Total: 18 stitches for thumb. Work even until thumb measures 1¼ inches (3.2 cm) or ¼ inch (6.35 mm) less than desired length. Thumb should reach middle of thumbnail before shaping. To shape thumb: Knit 2 together around twice. Break yarn, leaving a 12-inch (30.5 cm) tail; thread tail through remaining stitches, going through each stitch twice; gather stitches together and fasten off. Thumb measures approximately 1½ inches (3.8 cm).

FINISHING:

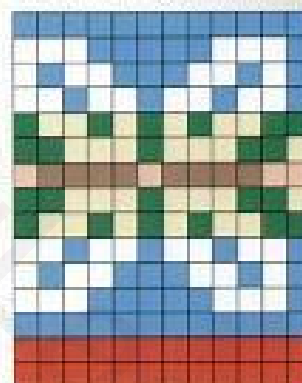
Weave in ends neatly on reverse side. Steam block to even out stitches and obtain finished measurements.

Butterflies for Bairns

MAKER UNKNOWN

This eye-dazzling mitten from Unst has a butterfly pattern that just seems to want to fly away. Bairns' mittens typically have very bright colors. (See the women's glove version on page 89.)

CHART A Back of Hand and Palm



12 Stitch / 15 Round Repeat

CHART B Border



2 Stitch /
4 Round Repeat

KEY

- Main Color-Red
- Aqua
- White
- Jade Green
- Pale Dull Yellow
- Peach
- Brown
- Butter Yellow

Stripe sequence:
Work 15 rounds
Chart A;
4 rounds Chart B;
15 rounds Chart A.

BASIC TODDLER'S FAIR ISLE GLOVES

SIZE:

One size fits most.

FINISHED MEASUREMENTS:

Approximately 5 1/4 inches (13.3 cm) in circumference and 3 inches (7.6 cm) long from cuff to beginning of fingers.

MATERIALS:

100% Shetland Wool. (1 ounce [56 g] = approximately 150 yards [137 m].) 1 ounce (56 g) Main Color and small quantities of Contrasting Colors for chosen Stitch Pattern.

NEEDLES:

Set of 5 double pointed Size 0 (2 mm) *or size to obtain gauge.*

GAUGE:

36 stitches and 36 rounds = 4 inches (10 cm) using Size 0 needles in Fair Isle (stranded) knitting. *Take time to save time—check your gauge.*

STITCH PATTERNS:

See Charts.

Note 1: Stitch pattern repeats vary; it may be necessary to adjust total number of stitches after the cuff to fit the chosen Stitch Pattern; check number of stitches needed before increasing.

Note 2: When chosen Chart(s) have been completed, continue with Main Color (or color of choice) for remainder of glove.

CUFF:

Using Main Color, cast on 36 stitches, distributed evenly on 4 needles; place marker for beginning of round. Join, being careful not to twist stitches. Work in knit 1, purl 1 ribbing for 1 3/4 inches (4.4 cm), increasing 12 stitches (or number for chosen Stitch Pattern), evenly on last round. Total: 48 stitches, 12 on each needle.

HAND:

Change to Circular Stockinette Stitch (knit every round) and Fair Isle Stitch Pattern of choice. Work even in pattern established until piece measures 1 1/2 inches (3.8 cm) above cuff. **Thumb Opening, Right Glove:** Continuing in pattern established, work across needles 1 and 2; from needle 3, knit 8 with waste yarn; return these 8 stitches to needle 3; knit 8 in pattern; knit 4; work across needle 4 in pattern. **Thumb Opening, Left Glove:** Continuing in pattern

established, work across needle 1; from needle 2, knit 4; then knit 8 with waste yarn; return these 8 stitches to needle 2 and knit 8 in pattern; work across needles 3 and 4 in pattern.

When piece measures 1 1/2 inches (3.8 cm) from waste yarn for thumb (approximately 3 inches [7.6 cm] above cuff edge), place all stitches on a circular stitch holder or waste yarn, keeping marker for beginning of round in place to separate back of hand from palm.

FINGERS:

Little finger: With Main Color (or color of choice), pick up from holder and place on double-pointed needles 6 stitches from back of hand, and 6 stitches from palm. Increase one stitch on inside of finger to join. Total: 13 stitches. Work even until little finger measures 1 1/4 inches (3.2 cm) or 1/4 inch (6.3 mm) less than desired length. Finger should reach middle of fingernail before shaping. To shape fingertip: (Knit 2 together around) twice. Break yarn, leaving a 12-inch (30.5 cm) tail; thread tail through remaining stitches, going through each stitch twice; gather stitches together and fasten off. Little finger measures approximately 1 1/2 inches (3.8 cm).

Ring finger: Working as for little finger, pick up next 6 stitches from back of hand and 6 stitches from palm. Increase one stitch at inside of finger and pick up one stitch between ring finger and little finger. Total: 14 stitches. Work as for little finger until finger measures 1 3/4 inches (4.4 cm) or 1/4 inch (6.3 mm) less than desired length. Finger should reach middle of fingernail before shaping. Shape fingertip as for little finger. Finger measures approximately 2 inches (5 cm).

Middle and Index fingers: Work as for ring finger, omitting increase at outside of index finger.

THUMB:

Remove waste yarn; with Main Color (or color of choice), pick up 8 stitches from top and 8 stitches from bottom of opening and distribute evenly on double-pointed needles; pick up one stitch at each corner. Total: 18 stitches for thumb. Work even until thumb measures 1 1/4 inches (3.2 cm) or 1/4 inch (6.3 mm) less than desired length. Shape as for fingers. Thumb measures approximately 1 1/2 inches (3.8 cm).

FINISHING:

Weave in ends neatly on reverse side. Steam block to even out stitches and obtain finished measurements.

Peerie Hearts for Bairns

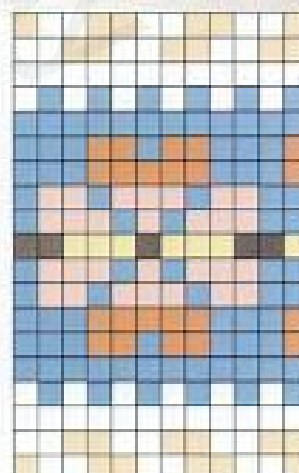
MAKER UNKNOWN

This charming peerie glove for bairns from Unst has a color scheme that literally brings it to life on a toddler's hands. (See the women's glove variation of this pattern on page 88.)

KEY

- Main Color
- Beige
- Aqua
- Tangerine
- Peach
- Pale Yellow
- Brown

CHART A: Back of Hand and Palm



Work 12
stitch/19
round repeat
around glove
once.

12 Stitch / 19 Round Repeat

Cunningsburgh Star

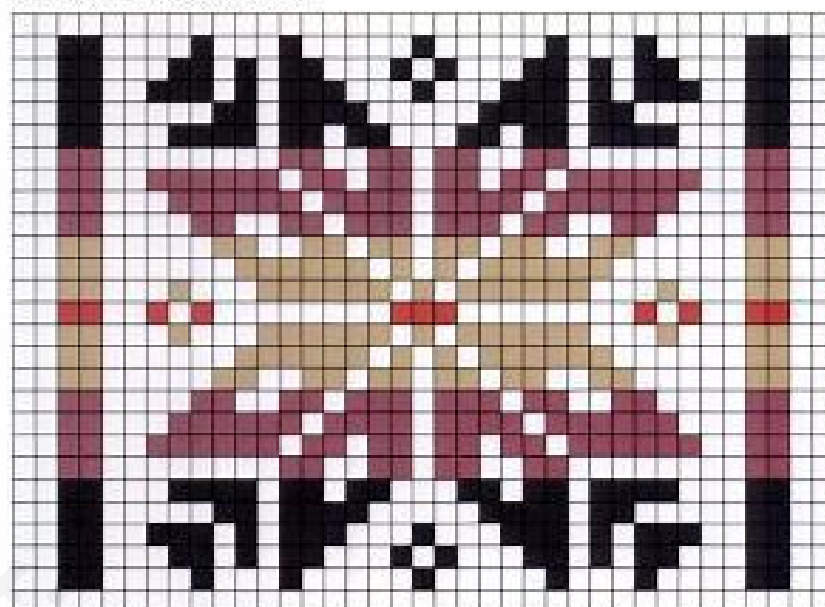
MAKER UNKNOWN

Here is a traditional Cunningsburgh Star—patterned cuff, fingers, and thumb with a star motif on the back—in a variation featuring a naturals color scheme with red highlights that really shine. The cuff has a snowflake pattern. I found this pretty pair in a shop in Cunningsburgh, Mainland.

KEY

- Main Color - Maroon Heather
- Maroon Heather - Purl on right side
- White
- Black
- Beige
- Red
- X
 Chart B - work with Contrasting Color used on back of glove.
- O
 Chart B - work with Background Color used on back of glove.

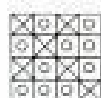
CHART A Back of Hand



37 Stitch / 27 Round Repeat

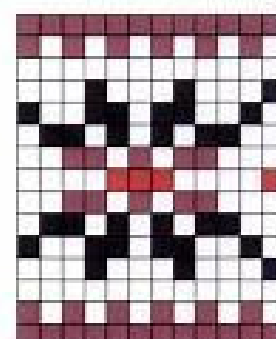
Work Chart C (cuff); work Chart E (ribbing) for 2 inches; turn piece in-side out so that cuff will face right side when glove is completed; work rounds 1-5 of Chart D around entire glove; work Chart A on back of glove while working Chart B on palm; work rounds 5-1 of Chart D around entire glove. Follow finger/thumb Charts F and G for patterns and decreases.

CHART B Palm



4 Stitch / 4 Round Repeat

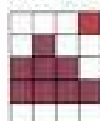
CHART C Cuff



12 Stitch / 15 Round Repeat

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CHART D Borders



4 Stitch / 5
Round Repeat

CHART E Ribbing

Ribbing

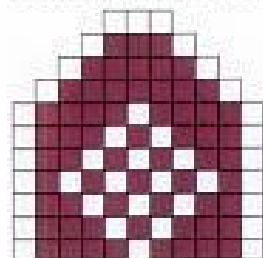


—Repeat this row
for length.

4 Stitch /
1 Round Repeat

CHART F Thumb and Finger Fronts and Decreases

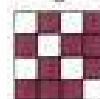
Thumb and Finger
Fronts and Decreases



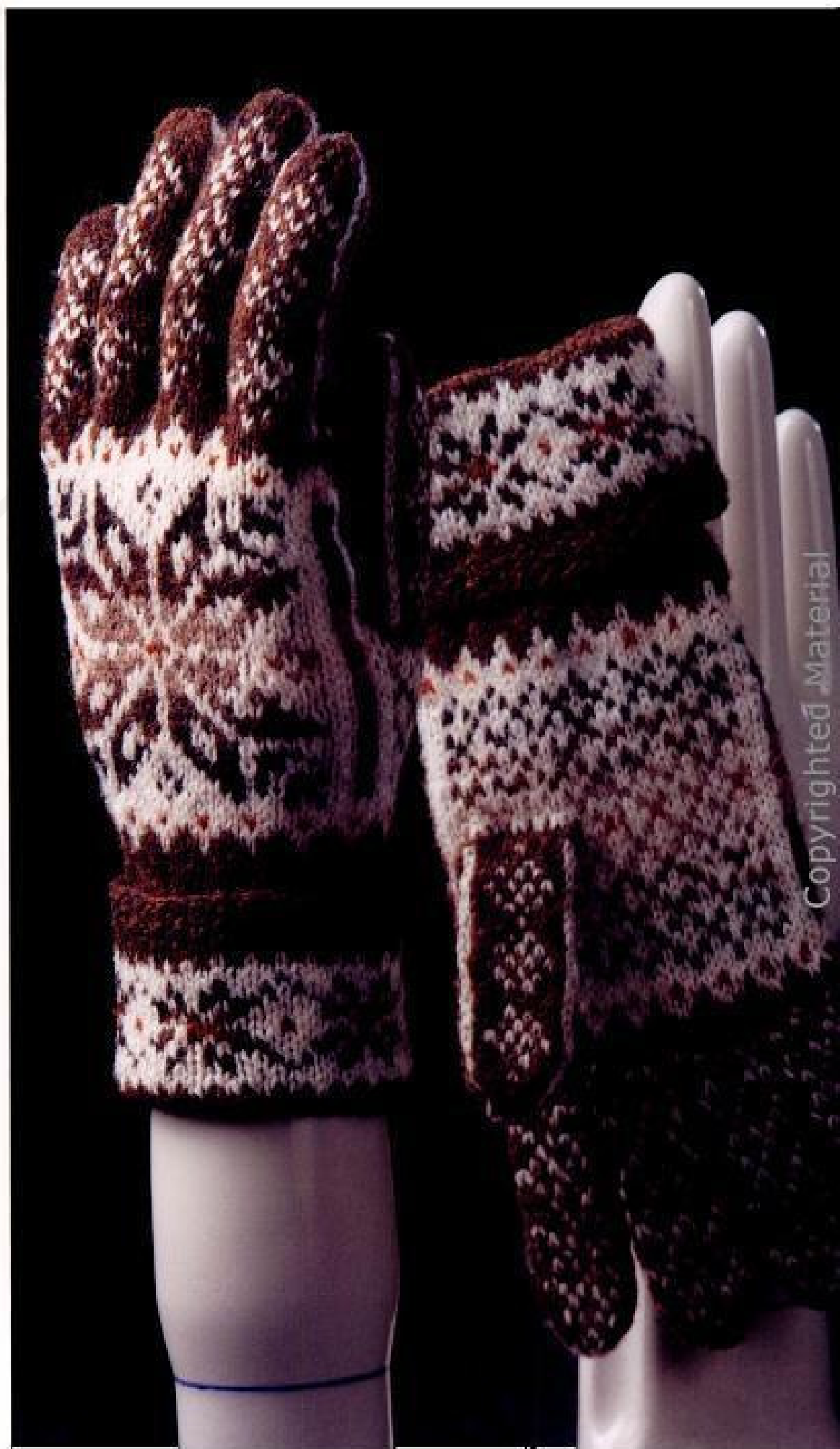
12 Stitch / 6 Round Repeat

CHART G Thumb and Finger Backs

Thumb and
Finger Backs



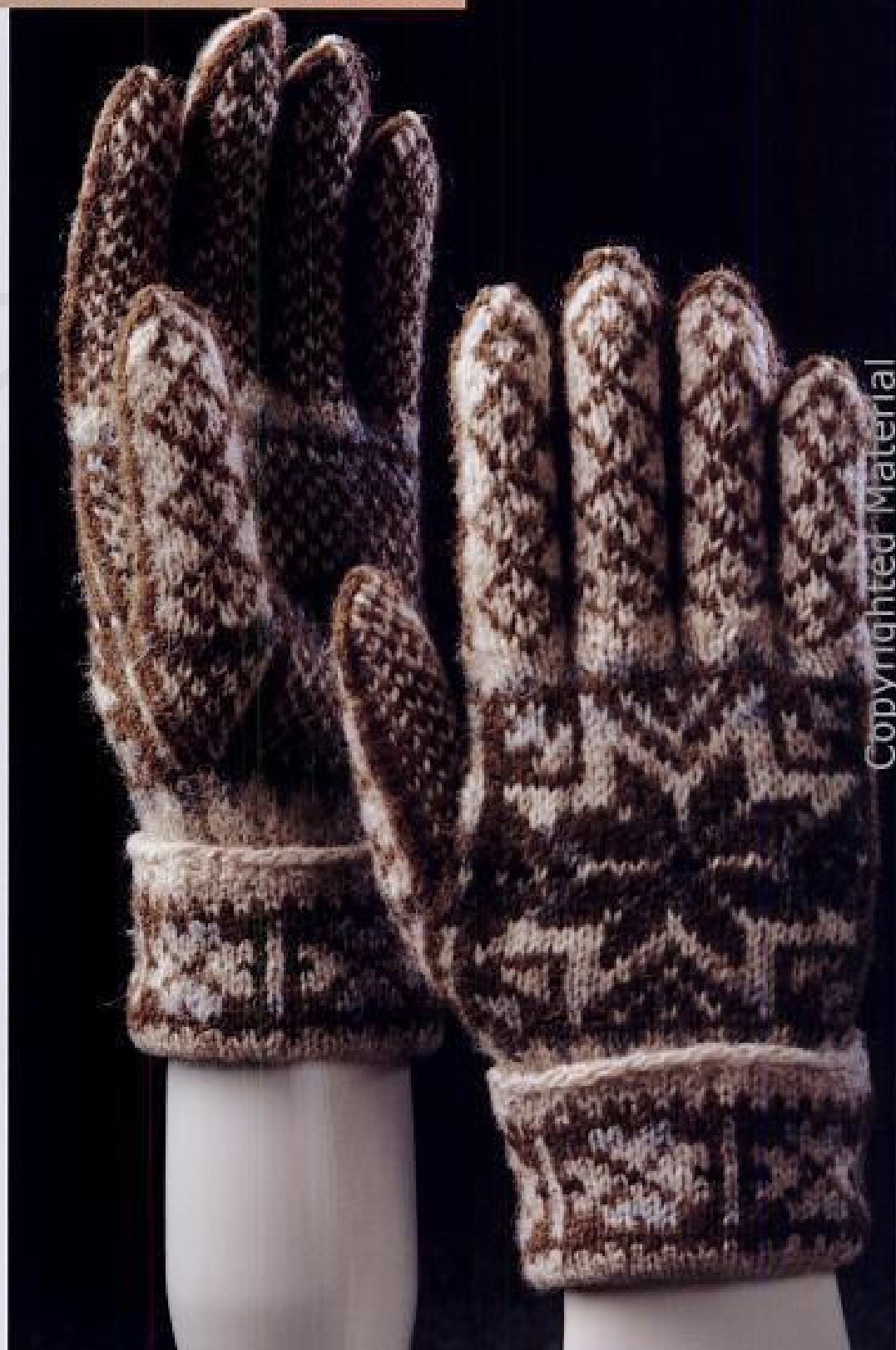
4 Stitch / 4
Round Repeat



Cunningsburgh Star in Naturals with Hearts Gauntlets

MAKER UNKNOWN

This is a true Cunningsburgh Star glove with all naturals colors made with yarn from undyed fleece. It shows fine contrast between light and dark in a mixture of greys and browns. The cuffs, or gauntlets, as they are known in Shetland, have a peerie hearts pattern.



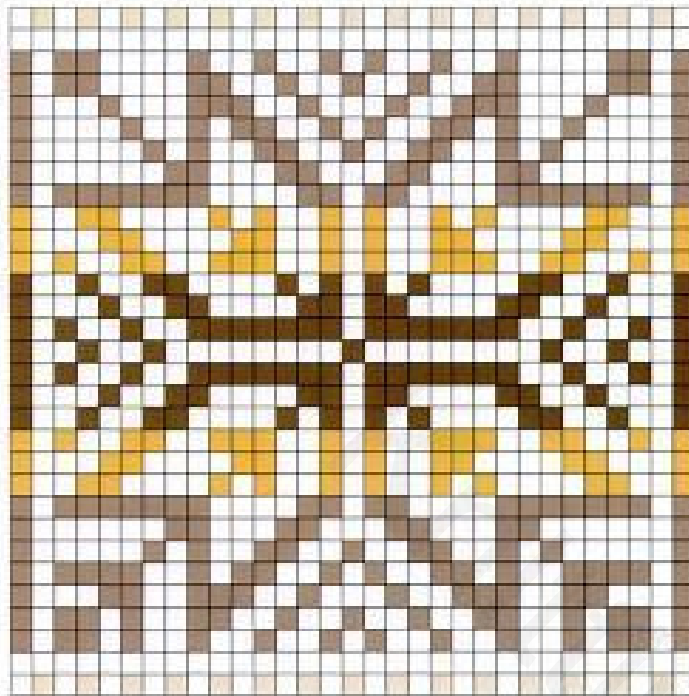
Cunningburgh Star Outline Variation

MAKER UNKNOWN

This variation of the Cunningburgh Star pattern is the only one I've ever seen and I quickly snapped it up when I found it in a shop in Cunningburgh. It features a simple color scheme and a spacious geometric look. What makes it so unique is that it's an outline-type glove filled in with lines instead of a solid color. Also the background color has taken the place of the pattern color.



CHART A Back of Hand

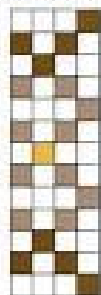


31 Stitch / 31 Round Repeat

After ribbing, work Chart A on back of hand while working Chart B on palm in colors indicated. Work fingers and thumb from Charts F and G as indicated.

Cuff

CHART C



4 Stitch / 4 Round Repeat

CHART D

Border Ribbing



2 Stitch / 3 Round Repeat

CHART E

Middle Ribbing



3 Stitch / 1 Round Repeat

CUFF: Begin with Chart D, then Chart C. Turn inside out so cuff will face right side when glove is completed. Work Chart E for 2 inches.

KEY

- Main Color - Beige
- Beige - Purl on Right Side
- White
- Taupe
- Gold
- Brown
- X
 Chart B - use Contrasting Color used on back of glove.

CHART B Palm



4 Stitch / 4 Round Repeat

Fingers and Thumb

CHART G Shaping

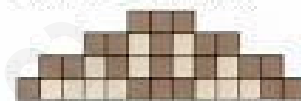
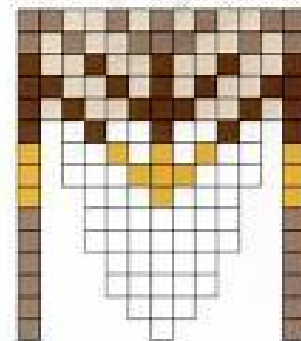


CHART F Thumb Gusset

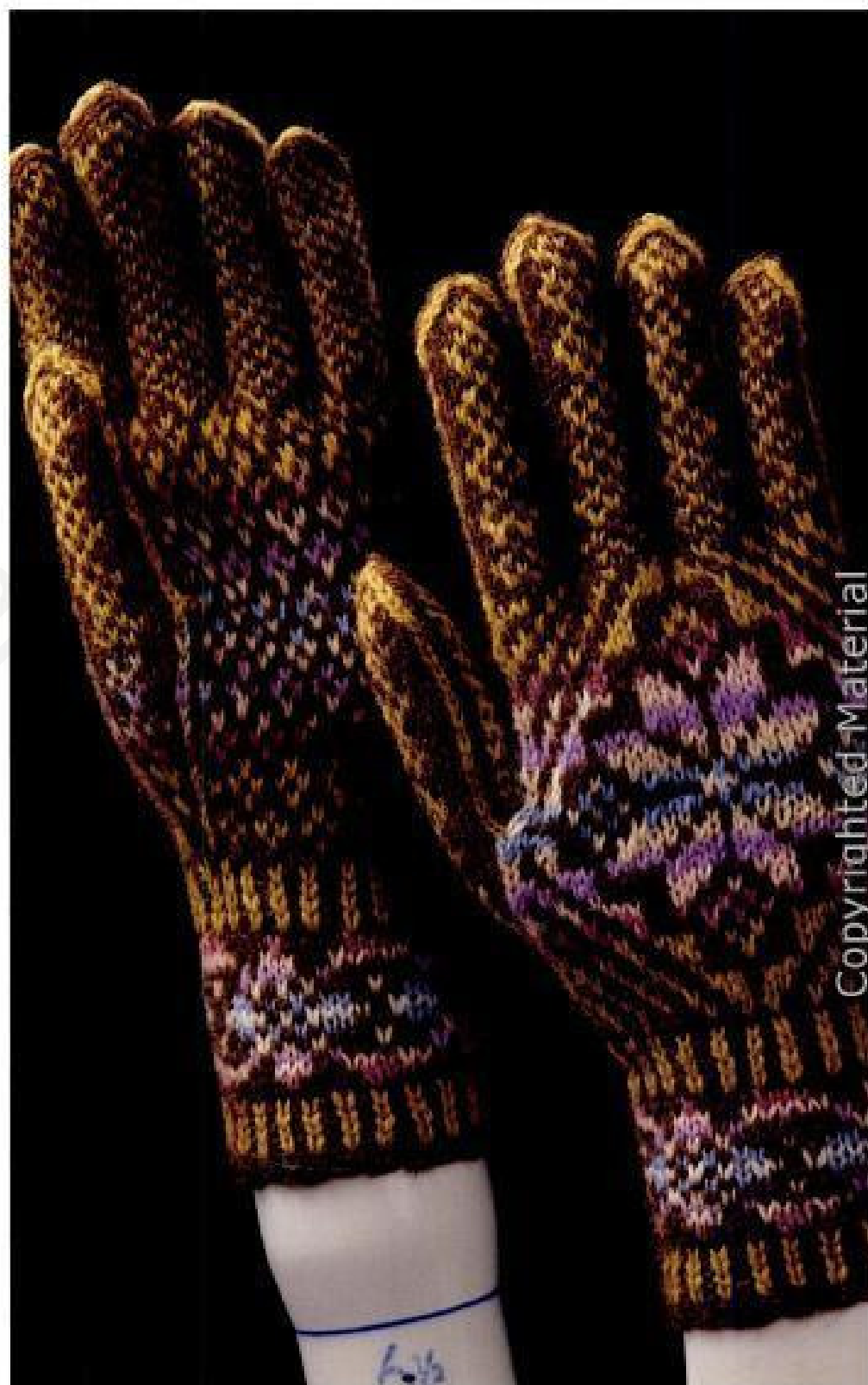


Using Taupe/Beige only, work finger front same as the thumb and work Chart B on back.

Traditional Allover

MAKER UNKNOWN

These specialty gloves from Mainland, called alloverers, have been knit in the same design for at least fifty years, and are specific to Shetland. They are usually knit in very bright colors, such as this pair in yellow and brown. It's a difficult pattern to knit because of all the color changes, which requires very detailed stitching. See another version in the next project, Earth-tones Allover Variation.



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STACK:

KnittingLady