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## Anne's Flower



*In Norway there is a great knitting tradition and many fine traditional patterns. To preserve and hopefully develop this knitting tradition is my inspiration and motivation to design new patterns.*

*Since I also like geometric shapes and patterns, it is often a combination of these elements in my designs.*

*I have dedicated these mittens, Anne's Flower, to my good friend Anne. And it is her mittens, which she has knitted herself, that is pictured in this pattern.*

**Size:** 4 $\frac{1}{16}$  inches (10.5 cm) at there widest and 10 $\frac{1}{4}$  inches (27 cm) long from the bottom of the cuff to tip. That is a *medium woman's size*. If you want larger or smaller mittens it can easily be adjusted by choosing a different yarn, thicker or thinner needles. Take a look at the section "Customizing the size by the choice of yarn and needle size".

**Gauge:** 34 stitches x 38 rows = 10 x 10 cm (4 x 4 inches ). Mittens are knit with pretty tight gauge.

**Yarn:** Rauma 2-tr Gammelserie, ball each of the colors white #401(Main Color) and red #424 (Contrasting Color).

**Needles:** US 1 $\frac{1}{2}$  (2.5 mm) or the size you need to get the right gauge.

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## SOME ADVICE BEFORE YOU START KNITTING

### Read the pattern

Make it a habit to always read through the whole pattern before you begin to knit.

### Gauge

Gauge must be met to achieve the correct size. It is perhaps a little boring but experience shows that it is worth the effort to knit a swatch. So, if you have:

- ✿ too many stitches per 4 inches (10 cm) - knitting too tightly - try with thicker needles.
- ✿ too few stitches per 4 inches (10 cm) - you knit loosely - try with thinner needles.

### Customizing the size by the choice of yarn and needle size

The size of the mittens can be customized. The choice of yarn and knitting needles allows you to adjust the size. Below are some examples:

- ✿ Rauma Lamullgarn or Garnstudio DROPS Alpaca or any other light fingering weight yarn and knitting needles US 0 (2.0 mm) or US 1½ (2.5 mm) gives girl or small lady sized mittens.
- ✿ Rauma Finullgarn, Rauma (Per Tryving) PT2 or any other fingering weight yarn and knitting needles US 0 (2.0 mm) or US 1½ (2.5 mm) gives average sized lady mittens.
- ✿ Rauma 3-ply Strikkegarn or any other DK weight yarn and knitting needles US 1½ (2.5 mm) for medium sized men's mittens. Selecting knitting needles US 2½ (3.0 mm) gives you large sized men's mittens.

If you knit with a bit slippery yarn (for instance alpaca yarn), it is a good choice to use needles of bamboo or wood. You will experience a little better control of your knitting because it will be less slippery with this type of knitting needles.

### Stranded knitting and color dominance

In stranded knitting with two colors, you carry the strands of yarn at the back of your work, one strand will be carried below the other and the bottom strand of yarn will become slightly more prominent in the finished object. It is important that the strands always retain their position, otherwise the result will appear as uneven. Before you start knitting you must decide what color you want to be the most prominent (main color); this is the **dominant** color. When you look at the knitting chart you are going to follow, you will often be able to quickly determine what is natural to choose as the main color. The mittens on the front page picture has the white color as the main color. In some cases, where the chart/pattern has about the same number of stitches of both colors, you will have more of a choice when it comes to the so-called dominant color. It is wise to have the same color dominance on both sides of the mitten, the palm and back of the hand, otherwise it will quickly become confusing.

So, if you are a so called two-handed color knitter, the yarn held in your left hand will be dominant. If you hold both colors in your left hand, the dominant color (main color) should be at the front (closest to the knitting) and the contrasting color should be at the back (behind the main color). This means that the color that strands **BELOW** the other color will be more prominent (take a look on the reverse side of your knitting and you'll see that one color's floats will strand above or below the other). Continue in this manner throughout the work (do not switch how you are holding the yarns). If you are not consistent, it will appear as irregularities and the pattern will not come out as clear as it is supposed to do.

### Avoid long floats inside the mitten

It is very inconvenient with long floats on the reverse side of a knitted garment. Therefore, when too many stitches (for instance 6-7 or more stitches) of the same color appear after



each other in the pattern, wrap the strand at the back of the work. Wrap the strand in the opposite direction next time in order to avoid tangling your yarns. Make sure it is not too loose between the two stitches where the yarn is wrapped as this will show through on the front of the work. Also, do not wrap a float exactly above where you did a wrap in the previous round (this will definitely show through the front). Be careful to keep an even tension in your floats.

### Abbreviations

k	knit
p	purl
k1b	knit through the back loop
k2tog	knit 2 sts together
yo	yarn over
MC	Main Color
CC	Contrasting Color



### Decreasing the top of the mitten and the thumb

**Right-leaning decrease also known as K2tog (knit two together)** Knit the two stitches to be decreased together: insert the right-hand needle into the first two stitches as if to knit, knit both stitches together and slip off needle.

**Left-leaning decrease** is as the name implies, a type of decrease that leans from right to left. There are several methods of knitting it. Below two methods are described. They look almost identical but it is best to choose one of them and use it consistently in a single pair of mittens.

**SSK (slip, slip, knit)** Slip two stitches as if to knit, one at a time to the right-hand needle, insert the left-hand needle into the two stitches from left to right, knit the two stitches together and drop them off the needle.

**S1-K1-PSSO (slip one, knit one, pass slipped stitch over)** This results in a similar look to the SSK but can appear less tidy. Slip next stitch to the right-hand needle as if to knit, knit next stitch, pass slipped stitch over knit stitch.

**Double Left-leaning Decrease (sl 1, k2tog, pssso)** When there are 3 stitches left on both the front and the back (not including the side stitches), each set of these three stitches are to be decreased as follows: slip next stitch to the right-hand needle as if to knit, knit next 2 stitches together, pass slipped stitch over.

### Increasing at the thumb gusset

Increasing at the thumb gusset is always done after the first stitch and before the last stitch in the gusset. It will look best if the increases lean towards the right on the right side and towards the left side of the gusset.

**Make 1 Left leaning (M1L):** With tip of left needle, lift strand between needles from front to back. Knit the lifted loop through the back loop to twist the stitch.

**Make 1 Right leaning (M1R):** With the tip of the left needle, lift strand between needles from back to front. Knit the lifted loop through the front to twist the stitch.







## PATTERN

### Left mitten

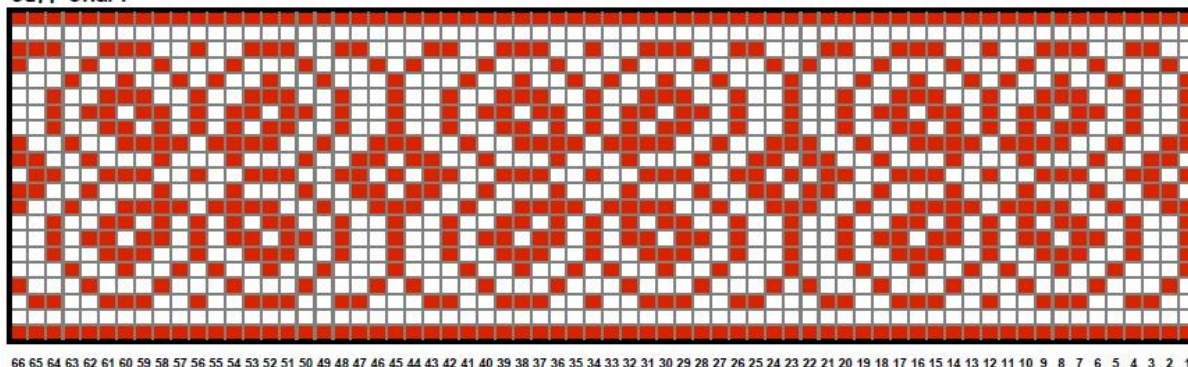
The mittens are knit in the round. The charts are to be read from right to left.

With Main Color (MC) cast on 66 sts using your preferred type of cast on method.

Divide sts evenly among your needles. Join to knit in the round.

Start to work a short 1X1 ribbing: \* k1, p1; repeat from \* to the end of rnd. Repeat this rnd 5 times more = 6 rnds of 1X1 ribbing. With MC knit 1 rnd more. Now, work the Cuff Chart (below).

Cuff Chart



After the Cuff Chart is finished, knit 1 rnd, and at the same time decrease 4 sts. However, to get the stitch pattern on the cuff positioned properly in relation to the pattern on the upper side of the mitten, work the decreases as follows:

k10, k2tog, k10, k2tog, k20, k2tog, k15, k2tog, k3, a total of 62 sts.

Work hand and thumb, following the chart on **page 6**. Make sure you are consistent with the color dominance (see the section above concerning "Stranded knitting and color dominance").

For the left mitten the position of the thumb is marked with **a green border** in the chart.

**Thumb gusset starts with 3 sts** (as shown in the chart) Begin increasing for thumb gusset as charted (first increase on rnd 4, see "Increases at the thumb gusset" above). The chart for the thumb and thumb gusset is placed outside the main mitten chart to make the chart more clear. When the thumb gusset is completed (on rnd 20) there should be 15 sts for the thumb. On next rnd (on rnd 21), when you reach the thumb gusset, set aside these **15 sts** onto a waste yarn and cast on **13 sts** for the thumb hole using your preferred method. For a neat result cast on sts using the color corresponding to the sts in the chart.

Continue working the mitten chart. When you reach the decreases work these as shown in the chart. When the last decreases are made, break off yarn and pull through the remaining 8 sts.

### Thumb

Place 15 sts from waste yarn onto a needle, pick up 13 stitches from the cast on edge for the thumb hole (using the color corresponding to the cast on sts) and 1 st on either side of the thumb, a total of 30 sts for the thumb. Divide sts evenly among your needles. Work the thumb following the chart. If it is not desirable to knit the year on the back of the left thumb, you could just use the chart for the back of the right thumb. Or, on page 5, you find two alternative charts where you can add something else, for instance a name, initials a small symbol or the like.



Work the decreases at the tip of the thumb in the same manner as at the tip of the mitten. Break off yarn and pull thread through remaining 6 sts.

## Right mitten

Cast on and knit as for left mitten following the chart on **page 6**. Pay special attention to the placement of the thumb. For the right mitten the position of the thumb gusset is marked with **a blue border** in the chart. This means that the pattern for the back of hand is mirrored, the thumb gusset is "moved" to the blue-marked field.

When knitting the right thumb; for the back of the thumb follow the chart labeled *Back of right thumb*. Or, as mentioned for the left thumb, use the alternative charts (see below) to add something else, for instance a name, initials a small symbol or the like.

## Finishing the mittens

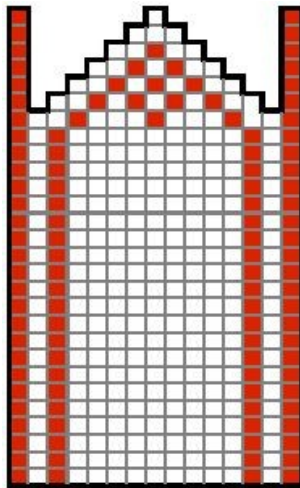
Weave in all ends and block the mittens.

 **Happy knitting** 

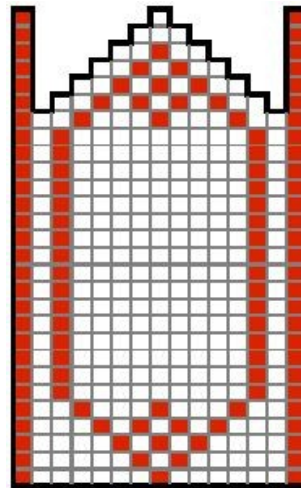
## Optional:

### Alternative charts for the back of the thumbs

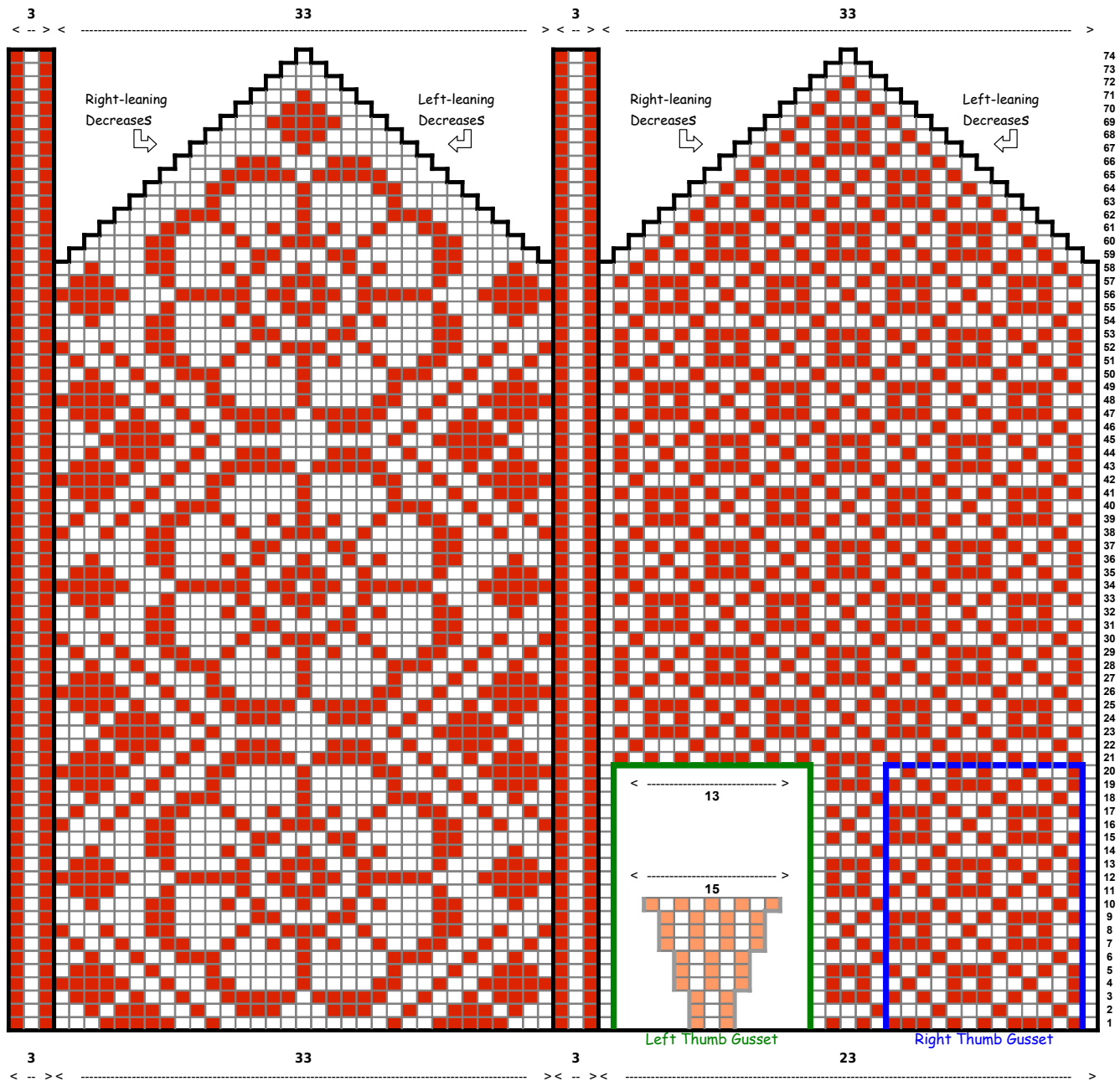
If you want your mittens to be personal and unique, you can add your name, initials, symbols or something else of your choice, in the blank fields in the chart(s) below.



Alternative 1, back of thumb



Alternative 2, back of thumb



## Page 6 (6)

**NB!**

When *thumb gusset* is completed (rnd. 20) there should be 15 sts for the thumb. Next rnd. (rnd. 21) set aside these 15 sts onto a waste yarn and cast on 13 sts for the thumb hole.

Front, right and left thumb

