

# handmade by florence

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## KITTEN CATCH MITTENS

The Kitten Catch Mittens are classic colourwork mittens with a cat-themed twist. They feature a corrugated rib cuff with Latvian braids and floral details.

*Sizes:* One size (fits a medium women's hand).

*Measurements:* Approximately 21cm in circumference around the fingers. The thumb increases offer some additional space at the widest point of the hand.

*Needles:* 2.5mm 80cm or 100cm circular needles for the hand.

2.25mm 80cm or 100cm circular needles for the cuff.

These mittens are knitted using the magic loop technique.

*Gauge:* Approximately 38 sts x 40 rows per 10cm x 10cm square in two-coloured stranded colourwork stockinette on 2.5mm needles.

*Yarn:* The samples are knitted in Jamieson's Shetland Spindrift. The brown (MC) is 107 Mogit and the white (CC) is 105 Eesit.

The pair of mittens requires about 180m MC, 150m CC.

*Suggestions for colourwork knitting:*

- You can knit the swatch in the round in order to get a better idea of gauge and avoid knitting colourwork flat. However, as the mitten is quite small anyway, you can start without swatching and wash the mitten while it's in progress to check the gauge.
- This pattern has some long floats. Consider catching floats so they are not longer than four stitches and try to avoid catching a float at the same point in two consecutive rounds.
- When knitting the colourwork, hold the CC as the dominant colour.

*Abbreviations:*

k	Knit
p	Purl
BOR	Beginning of round; this is where your row starts when you are knitting in the round on circular needles.
k2tog	Insert the right needle into the two stitches closest to the end of your left needle and knit them as if they are one stitch.
ssk	Insert the right needle into the stitch on your left needle as if to knit it, but instead of wrapping the yarn around it, just slip the stitch onto your right needle. Repeat with the next stitch. Then transfer these stitches back to your left needle and knit them together through the back loop.
st(s)	Stitch(es)
CO	Cast on
MC	Main colour
CC	Contrasting colour
yo	Yarn over
k tbl	Knit through the back loop
M1L	Increase by picking up the bar between the stitches from the front and knitting it through the back loop.
M1R	Increase by picking up the bar between the stitches from the back and knitting it normally.

*Overview of the pattern:*

The cuff of the mitten is knitted first with smaller needles, starting and ending with a Latvian braid. The main part of the mitten is then knitted on the larger needles, increasing to shape the thumb, and then thumb stitches are put on hold. The top of the mitten is shaped with decreases. Stitches are finally picked up for the thumb, which is knitted last.

*Which colour is MC and why?*

In this pattern, MC is the colour of that cat's face. In the samples, this is the darker colour. The CC is the lighter colour and held dominant.

This decision has been made to ensure the facial features on the cats show up clearly.

*Pattern begins here.*

### ***Cuff***

CO 68 sts on 2.25mm needles in MC using a long tail CO method. Join in the round and from here continue with the magic loop technique.

P two rounds.

Now work the first Latvian braid as follows. You can find a video showing how to knit the braid on YouTube here: <https://youtu.be/vViKSUCsIuA>

Join CC.

*Latvian braid starts here.*

Round 1: \*K1 in MC, k1 in CC\*, repeat \*-\* to end of round.

Round 2: Bring both strands of yarn to the front. \*P1 in MC, p1 in CC\*, repeat \*-\* to end of round but *carry the strands of yarn in front of the work to leave visible floats and always take the colours so they twist in a clockwise direction.*

Round 3: As round 2, but take the colours so the strands twist in an anticlockwise direction.

*The Latvian braid is now complete.*

Now work corrugated rib as follows.

Setup round: \*K2 in MC, k2 in CC\*, repeat \*-\* to end of round.

Rib round: \*K2 in MC, p2 in CC\*, repeat \*-\* to end of round.

Work the rib round a total of 15 times. Now add the second Latvian braid in the same way as the first.

### ***Hand***

Switch to 2.5mm needles.

Divide sts on the needles (as they are divided for magic loop) so there are 38 sts in the first section (back of hand sts) and 30 sts in the second section of the round (inside hand sts).

Now begin to follow the charts. Follow the main chart, but for the first 25 rounds follow Thumb Chart A instead when you reach the relevant thumb section (marked on the main chart, depending on whether you are knitting the left or right mitten). Continue with the main chart after the thumb section.

In round 26, when you reach the relevant thumb section, put the 25 thumb sts on hold on scrap yarn. CO 11 with the long tail CO method using the two colours as the two tails. There should now be 80 sts on the needles.

Continue to follow the main chart until the end.

Break both strands of yarn, thread them through the remaining 12 sts, pull tight and use a needle to pull it through to the inside of the mitten.

### ***Thumb (Right Mitten)***

This section is for the thumb of the right mitten only.

Put the 25 thumb sts that were left on hold onto 2.5mm needles. Pick up and knit 15 sts along the other side of the thumb opening according to the first 15 sts of round 1 of thumb chart B (right mitten). This is equivalent to picking up 1 st in each of the 11 CO sts plus two extras on either side to avoid leaving gaps.

Work the thumb sts left on hold according to the remaining 25 sts of round 1 of thumb chart B. You are now at the BOR.

Continue to knit the rest of the thumb according to round 2 onwards of thumb chart B (right mitten).

Break both strands of yarn, thread them through the remaining 8 sts, pull tight and use a needle to pull them through to the inside of the thumb.

### ***Thumb (Left Mitten)***

This section is for the thumb of the left mitten only.

Put the 25 thumb sts that were left on hold onto 2.5mm needles. Pick up and knit 15 sts along the other side of the thumb opening according to st 26 onwards on the first row of thumb chart B (left mitten). This is equivalent to picking up 1 st in each of the 11 CO sts plus two extras on either side to avoid leaving gaps.

You are now at the BOR.

Continue to knit the rest of the thumb according to round 2 onwards of thumb chart B (left mitten).

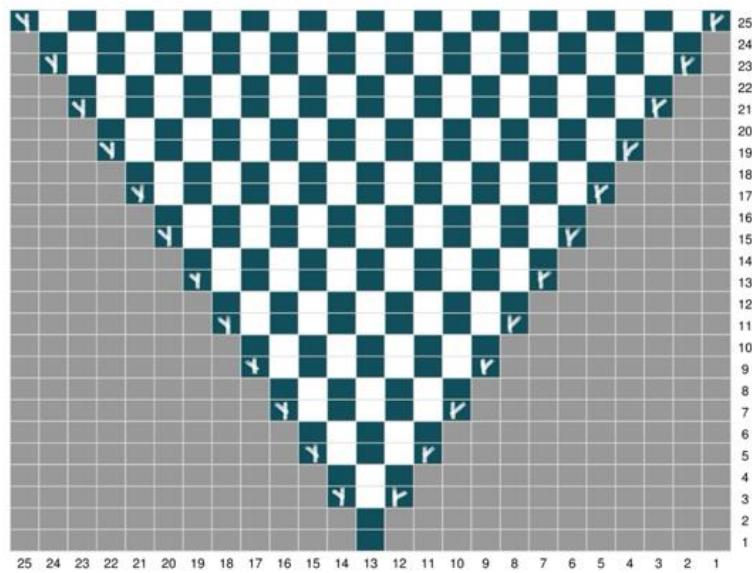
Break both strands of yarn, thread them through the remaining 8 sts, pull tight and use a needle to pull them through to the inside of the thumb.

### ***Finishing***

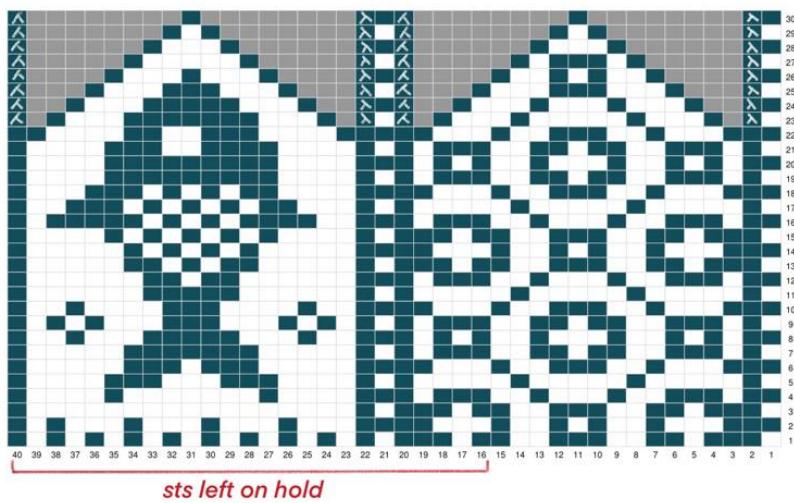
Wash and block the mitten and dry it flat. Weave in all ends.

Make the second mitten the same way, but putting the thumb in the other position and following the instructions for completing the other thumb.

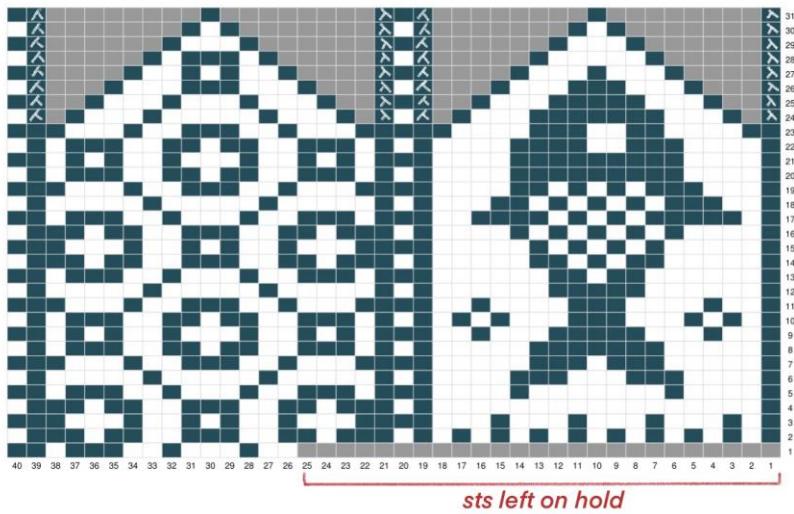
### Thumb Chart A:



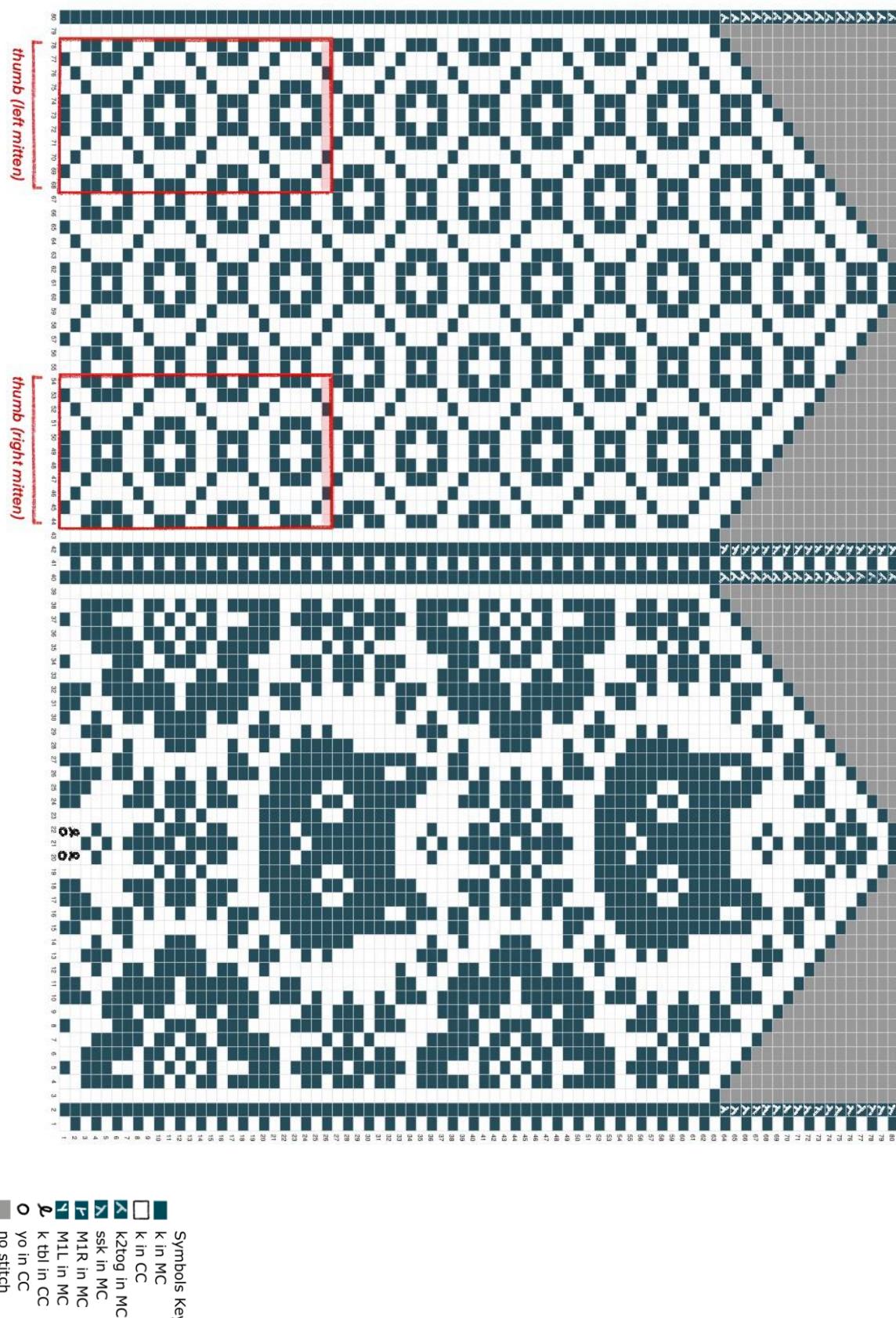
### Thumb Chart B (Right Mitten):



### Thumb Chart B (Left Mitten):



## Main Chart:





I'd be really happy to see any finished mittens shared on Instagram under  
#kittencatchmittens

Thanks,  
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