



outfoxed mitts

The Outfoxed Mitts pattern depicts an attentive Red Fox pausing to peer out from a gap in the reeds, her rusty coat accented by white fur on her chest and ears. Her white-tipped tail wraps around the outside of the hand, resting on the palm side of each mitt. Curious, intelligent, and often elusive, the fox is a common archetype appearing in fables and folklore throughout the world.

This pattern is recommended for knitters who have experience with stranded knitting, reading charts, and knitting in the round. The sample was knit with Magpie Fibers Solo Fingering (100% superwash Merino) in colorways Spicy Beaver and Stagbunny.

Materials

- Approximately 110 yards or 28g of Main Color (fox, Spicy Beaver colorway) in Magpie Fibers Solo Fingering, or fingering/sock weight yarn of your choice
- Approximately 110 yards or 28g of Contrast Color (background, Stagbunny colorway) in Magpie Fibers Solo Fingering, or fingering/sock weight yarn of your choice
- US size 1 (2.25mm) DPNs or circular needle for Magic Loop method or size required to get gauge
- Darning needle and waste yarn
- Optional stitch marker

Size and finished measurements: Women's size medium, approximately 8 inches (20cm) long and 7 inches (18cm) in circumference after blocking.

Gauge: 36 stitches and 36 rows = 4 inches (10cm) in stranded pattern, knit in the round, and blocked. Knitting to the correct gauge is important to achieve the finished measurements noted above. Adjusting gauge will alter the size of your mitts as well as yarn requirements.

Please read through the entire pattern before beginning your project.

Abbreviations & Techniques

MC - Main color

CC - Contrast color

K - Knit

P - Purl

Ktb - Knit through the back loop

St st - Stockinette stitch

M - Make one stitch. (Insert left needle under the bar between the stitches from front to back, lifting it onto the left needle. Knit this bar through the back loop.)

Instructions

Right Mitt

Begin the first mitt by casting on 64 stitches in MC, using the long-tail cast on. Divide the stitches on your needles and join for knitting in the round, being careful not to twist stitches. You may choose to use a stitch marker to indicate the beginning of each round.

Knit 6 rounds of (Ktb1, P1) ribbing in MC. Then knit 4 rounds St st in MC.

Next, knit 1 round St st in CC, followed by 1 round St st in MC.

Stranded Chart

Turn to the Right Mitt chart on page 4. You will knit this stranded section using MC and CC as indicated by the Chart Key, reading each row from right to left. The rows are numbered on each side of the chart; this is simply to aid you in keeping track of each row as you knit. You will also notice that the back panel of the mitt is 35 stitches wide, while the palm panel is narrower, at 29 stitches wide.

While knitting the stranded portions of the mitts, remember to keep floats loose to prevent the fabric from puckering. It is recommended that you catch floats longer than five or six stitches, to prevent the finished mitts from catching on fingers and/or jewelry.

When you reach row 17 of the chart, you will begin increasing stitches for the thumb gusset. Two stitches are created in each increase row, and these stitches are marked with an “M” on the chart. Please note that the Chart Key specifies whether each increase stitch is created with MC or CC, and there is always one stitch between increases.

When you reach row 44, you will slip the 18 thumb stitches (indicated in blue) to waste yarn, and resume following the chart.

Ribbing and Bind Off

When you have completed the stranded chart, knit 4 rounds St st in CC.

Knit 6 rounds of (Ktb1, P1) ribbing in CC.

Bind off as desired. The original mitts feature a basic knit bind off using medium tension - not too tight and not too loose! Alternatively, you may choose to use a stretchy bind off technique for greater elasticity (See “Video Tutorials” below for links to other bind off techniques).

Thumb

Pick up the 18 stitches from waste yarn, and then pick up 4 extra stitches on the inside of the thumb, to avoid creating a gap between the thumb and hand.

Knit 2 rounds St st in CC.

Knit 4 rounds of (Ktb1, P1) ribbing in CC, and bind off as desired. Weave in ends.

Left Mitt

Repeat all written instructions for the Right Mitt on page 2, using the Left Mitt chart on page 5. Weave in all remaining ends.

Wet blocking is recommended to even out the stranded stitches. You may choose to use mitten blockers, or lay the mitts flat to dry.

Enjoy!

Video Tutorials

Invisible Ribbed Bind Off by KNITFreedom: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=23uJSGokBDA>

Extra Stretchy, No Flare Bind Off by Lorraine L.: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rWS77BKk5NQ>

Erica Heusser is a visual artist and avid knitter in the greater Philadelphia area. She draws inspiration from art, architecture, and the natural world.

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RIGHT MITT

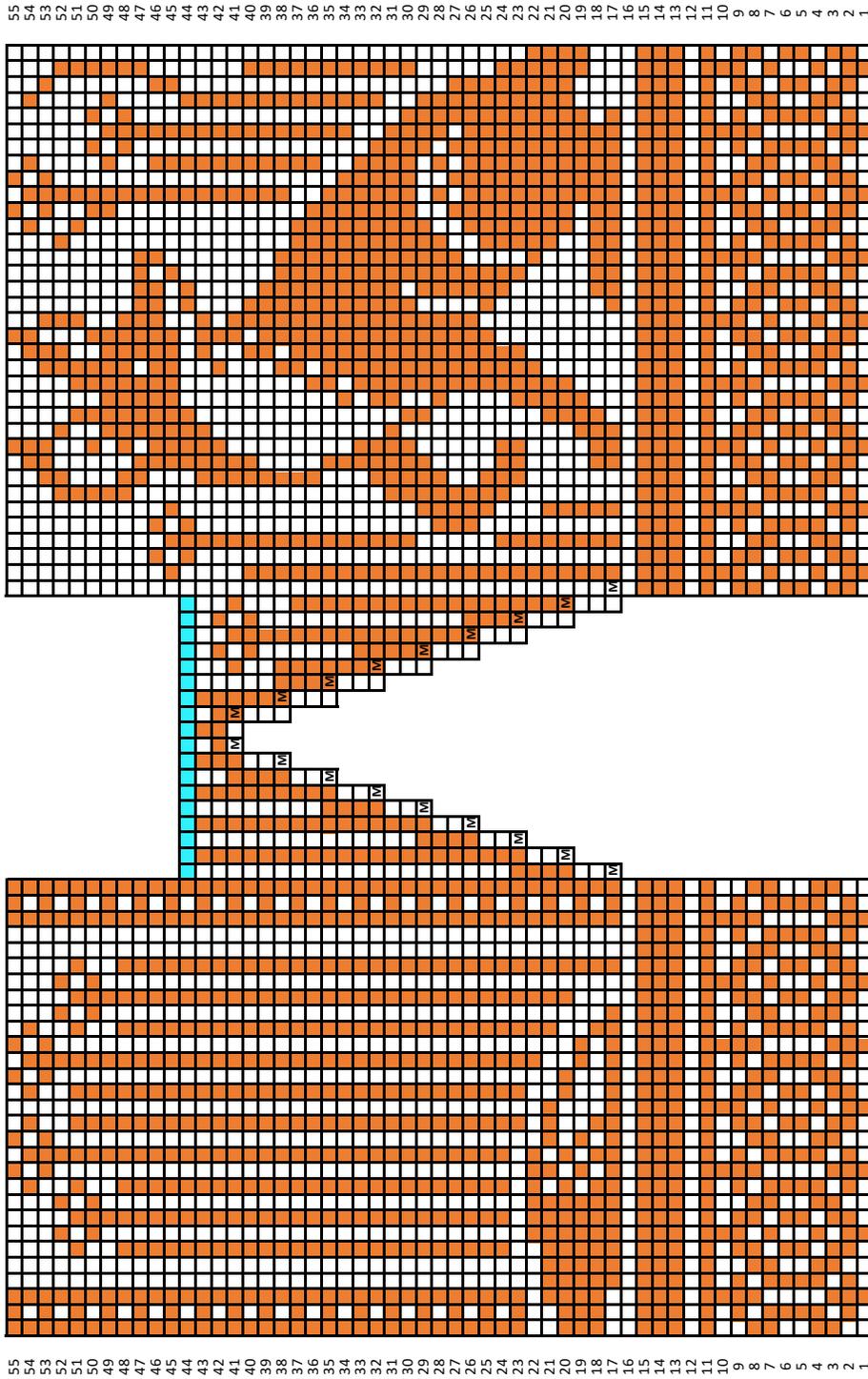


CHART KEY

- Knit MC
- Knit CC
- Slip stitch to scrap yarn
- Make 1 in MC
- Make 1 in CC

LEFT MITT

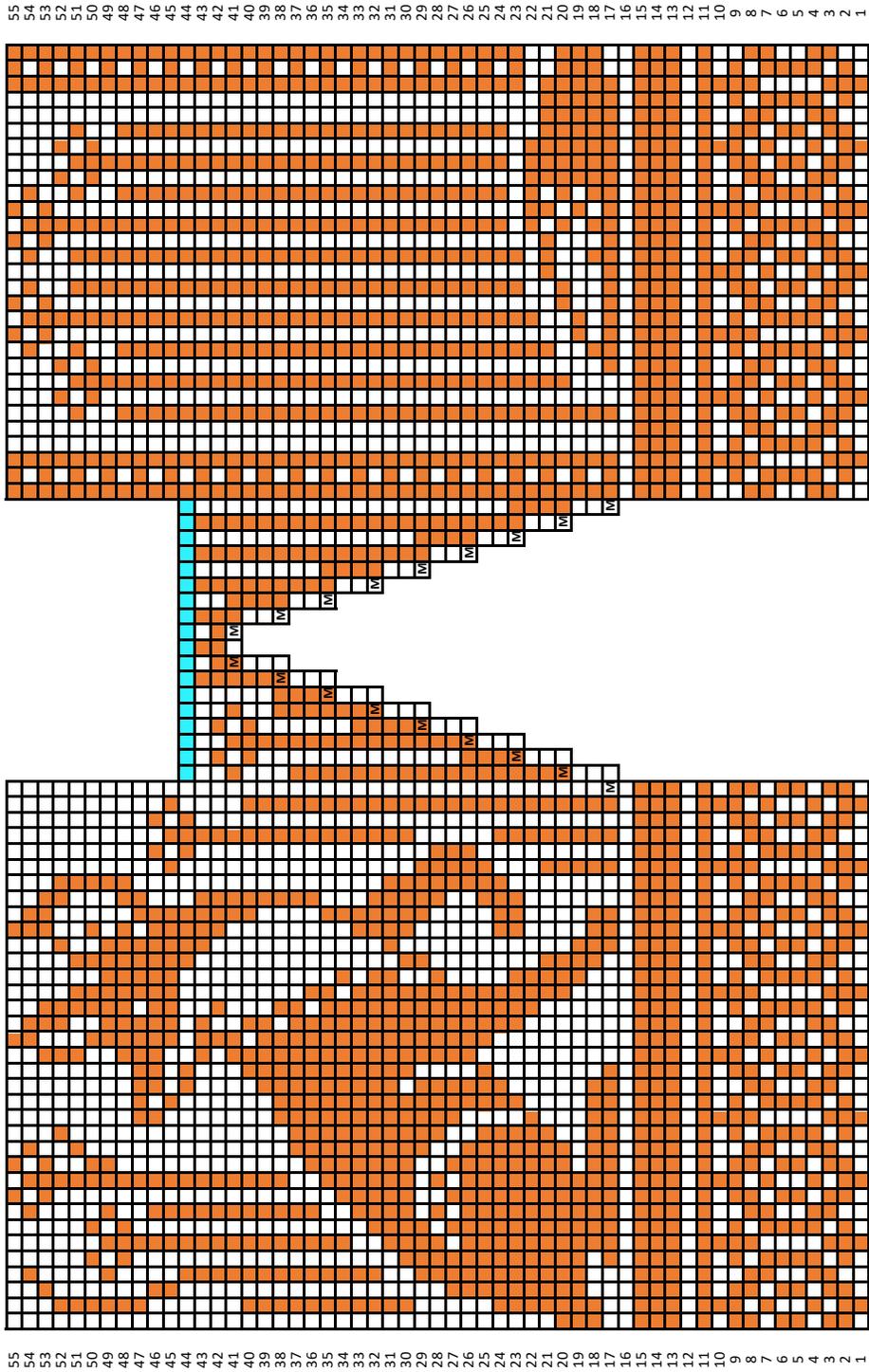


CHART KEY

- Knit MC
- Knit CC
- Slip stitch to scrap yarn
- M Make 1 in MC
- M Make 1 in CC