

Scrappy Stripey Gloves by Lesley Smith



I designed these gloves as the perfect way to use up small amounts of left over yarn. I like to knit them from small quantities of hand spun. The left and right hands are knit identically as the thumb is placed on the side of the hand. The gloves can be tried on for size as you knit and can be modified in loads of ways e.g. different types of cast on edge, purl stripes, half fingers or no fingers at all!

Glove Size - Ladies Medium – Hand circumference = 8"/20cm & total length = 9"/23cm.

Yarn – 4 Ply fingering weight or equivalent. I used 50g of the main colour for full fingers & 38g of the main for half fingers. Both pairs used 28g for the contrast (white).

Needles – 1.75mm for cast on and finger ribs if knitting the fingerless version & 2mm for everything else.

Notions – Tapestry needle, scissors and waste yarn, 3 stitch markers.

Gauge – with 2mm needle on stocking stitch 4"/10cm = 30 stitches & 40 rounds.

Notes – Both gloves are knit the same.

I used magic loop but you can use sock or short double pointed needles.

The thumb is shaped by increasing up the side of the hand. I used right and left leaning backward loops to increase but any method is fine.

The fingers are worked starting with the little finger which is knit slightly lower than the rest of the fingers.

Leave a long tail of yarn when starting a new finger to close any holes between fingers at the end.

For a slightly bigger size change the gauge by going up a needle size.

For half fingers just follow the instructions but stop when the fingers are the length you like then change to 1.75mm needle and knit a few rounds of 1 x 1 rib. Cast off in rib.

Special Techniques

Latvian Braid is worked over 3 rounds as follows – Round 1 - knit 1 stitch main colour, 1 stitch contrast colour around.

Round 2 – bring both yarns to the front and purl the 1st stitch with the main colour and 2nd stitch with the contrast colour around, bringing the next yarn to be worked underneath the previous yarn each time

Round 3 – work as round 2 but bring the next yarn to be worked over the top of the previous yarn each time.

Instructions

With 1.75mm needle, main colour and long tail method cast on 58 stitches. Join in the round being careful not to twist & place marker. Knit 1 round, purl 1 round. Change to 2mm needle & with both colours work 3 rounds of Latvian Braid as described. Work 26 rounds or until piece measures 2.75"/7cm. I knit 2 rounds of each colour per stripe and started with the main colour first after the cast on.

Increase for thumb Knit 29 stitches, place 1st thumb marker, make 1 right leaning stitch with a backward loop, place 2nd thumb marker, work remaining 29 stitches to the end of the round = 59 stitches. Round 2 knit. Round 3 - knit 29 stitches to 1st thumb marker, slip marker, make 1 right, knit to 2nd thumb marker, knit 1 left, slip marker & knit to the end of the round. Work rounds 2 and 3 increasing every 2nd round until there are 25 stitches between markers. Knit 1 round. Place thumb stitches on waste yarn as follows – knit 29 stitches, remove 1st marker & thread 25 thumb stitches onto waste yarn. Using backward loop method cast on 2 stitches above the thumb, work remaining 29 stitches to the end of the round = 60 stitches.

Work 11 more rounds or until hand is up to the base of the little finger.

Little Finger Knit 1st 7 stitches, with backward loop method cast on 4 stitches, place next 46 stitches onto waste yarn, knit last 7 stitches = 18 stitches. Arrange stitches evenly over 2 needles and work until finger is midway up your little fingernail. Decrease as follows – slip 1, knit 1, pass slipped stitch over, knit to last 2 stitches on needle 1, knit 2 together. Repeat on needle 2. Decrease every round until 6 stitches remain. Break yarn and thread through live stitches.

Complete Hand Pick up 46 stitches from waste yarn + 4 stitches cast on at the base of the little finger = 50 stitches (25 on each side). Work 4 rounds. (I did 2 rounds main colour & 2 rounds contrast).

Ring Finger Pick up & knit 1st 9 stitches closest to the little finger from the waste yarn, cast on 4 stitches & pick up and knit last 9 stitches from waste yarn = 22 stitches. Knit to middle of fingernail then decrease as for the little finger.

Middle Finger Pick up and knit 2 stitches from the base of the ring finger, 7 stitches from the hand, cast on 4 stitches, knit 7 stitches from the other side of the hand and a further 2 from the base of the ring finger = 22 stitches. Knit as for the ring finger.

Index Finger Pick up and knit remaining 18 stitches from the waste yarn + 4 cast on stitches from the middle finger and knit as middle and ring finger.

Thumb Pick up 25 thumb stitches from waste yarn + 2 cast on stitches above thumb opening = 27 stitches. Round 1 decrease 1 stitch = 26 stitches. Continue knitting thumb until it reaches the middle of your thumbnail then decrease as for previous fingers.

Finishing and Washing Turn the gloves inside out and sew in all the ends paying particular attention to any holes between the fingers. Handwash in lukewarm water and dry flat. Use glove boards if available or if not just pull gently into shape.

Helpful Links – You Tube

How to work a Latvian Braid in the round knitting tutorial – Paper Tiger

Make 1 increase with Backward Loop – Bronwyn the Brave Design