



springbound mitts

A tribute to hope and change, these stranded mitts feature a pair of orioles perching in leafy branches. In parts of the United States, orioles are considered to be harbingers of spring; they represent a sure sign that the bleakness of winter has given way to warmth and new life. The wide figurative panel on the back of each mitt wraps around to meet a narrower patterned panel along the palm side of the mitt. This pattern is recommended for knitters who have experience with stranded colorwork, reading from charts, and knitting in the round.

Materials

- Approximately 135 yards or 32g of main color (dark) in fingering/sock weight yarn (sample shown in Madelinetosh Tosh Merino Light, Dirty Panther)
- Approximately 100 yards or 24g of contrast color (light) in fingering/sock weight yarn (Tosh Merino Light, Field Notes)
- Approximately 25 yards or 6g of accent color (border) in fingering/sock weight yarn (Tosh Merino Light, Brick Dust)
- 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 9.5 inches (24cm) long and 7.5 inches (19cm) in circumference after blocking.

Gauge: 32 stitches and 38 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

MC - Main color

CC - Contrast color

AC - Accent color

K - Knit

P - Purl

St st - Stockinette stitch

Ktb - Knit through the back loop

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

Ribbing

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.

Knit 2 rounds st st in MC.

Knit 1 round in AC.

Knit 1 round in MC, and then proceed to the Stranded Chart.

Stranded Chart

Begin the Left Mitt chart on page 4, 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 stitches, to prevent the finished mitts from catching on fingers and/or jewelry.

When you reach row 38 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 is created with MC or CC.

When you reach row 65, 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 3 rounds in CC.

Knit 2 rounds in MC.

Knit 4 rounds of (Ktb1, P1) ribbing in MC.

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).

Weave in the ends.

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 1 round of MC.

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

Right Mitt

Repeat all instructions, following the Right Mitt stranded chart on page 5.

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>

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LEFT MITT

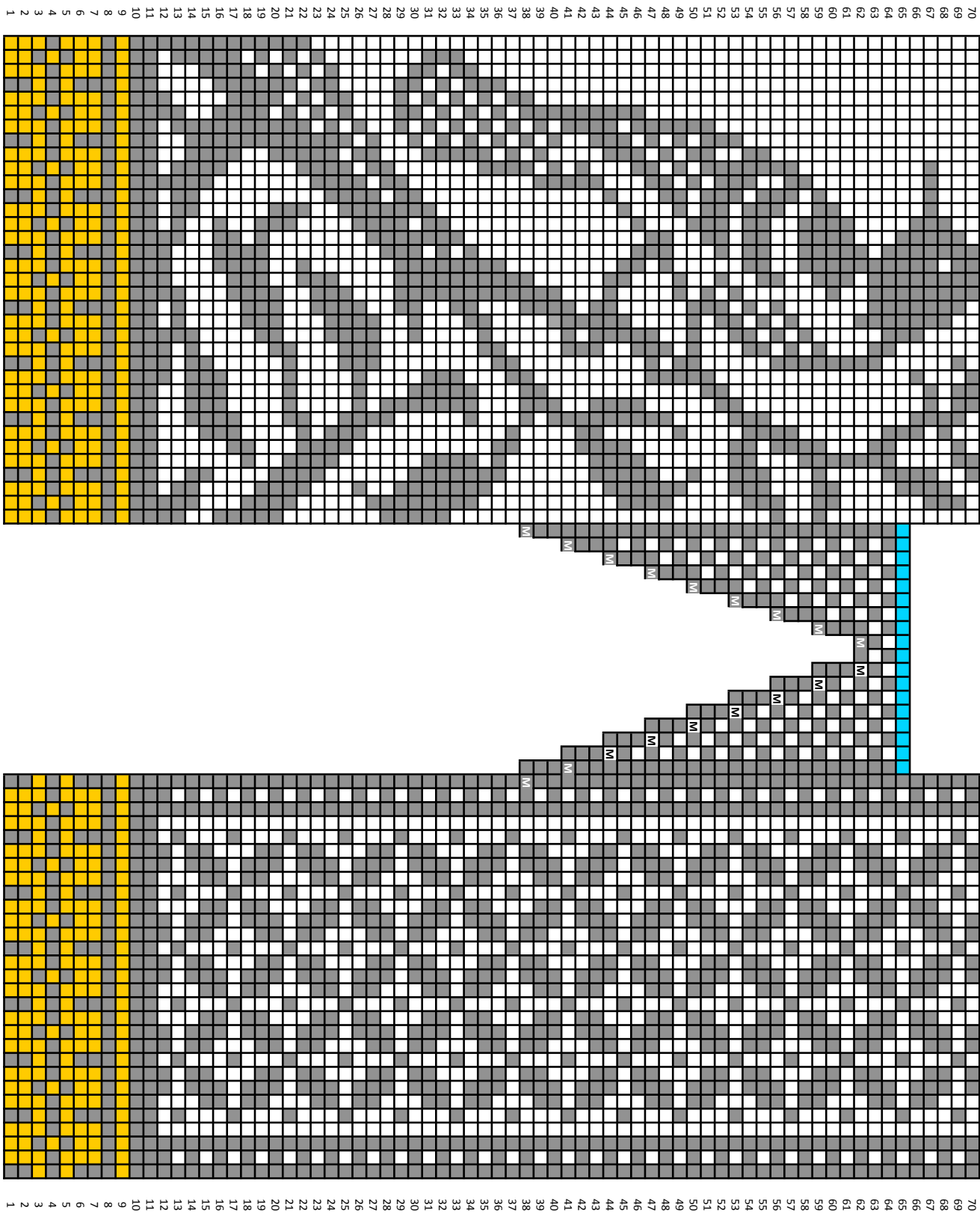


CHART KEY

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

RIGHT MITT

