

Confident Beginner

Easy-Peasy Cabled Fingerless Mitts By Binka Schwan



SUPER FINE Intermediate / Intermédiaire / Intermedio

Beyond the Pattern

These mitts are worked flat, then seamed at the side, leaving a hole for the thumb. The cable pattern makes the skill level “Intermediate,” but



the construction is considered to be easy-peasy! This combination is perfect for a Confident Beginner! The mitt is worked in 2x2 ribbing, with the cable pattern flowing from the ribbing. The ribbing provides for quite a bit of stretch so it will fit a variety of hand sizes. I have given you two size options using fingering weight yarn, but there are other possibilities also! Try working the mitts in either a sport weight or a DK weight yarn to make them a bit thicker, larger, and warmer. You can use the same pattern given here. The stretch of the rib will allow it all to work! The S/M size worked in fingering weight yarn can easily accommodate a hand with a circumference up to 8½". So if you think that you do not want to work with fingering weight yarn, go ahead and experiment with a heavier weight yarn. I think you will be surprised with the success you will have! Be a Confident Beginner and experiment a bit!

Sizes

S/M (M/L)

Finished Measurements

Circumference: 5 (7)" relaxed, 8 (10)" stretched

Length: 7.5 (8.5)"

Materials

Valley Yarns HUNTINGTON (218yds/199m, 50g/1.76oz, 75% Fine Superwash Merino Wool, 25% Nylon): 1(2) skeins #23 Sea Gull

Size 2 (2.75mm) needle or size needed to obtain gauge

Stitch markers

Cable needle

Tapestry needle

Gauge

In Double Rib pat, unstretched, after blocking, 58 sts & 45 rows = 4"/10cm. To save time, take time to check gauge.

DESIGNER NOTE—Gauge is not that important in this project due to the fact that the 2x2 rib is so stretchy widthwise. I measured gauge with the ribbing relaxed and unstretched, which is why the stitch count is so high.

Abbreviations

BC—Back Cross: Sl 1 st to cable needle and hold in back, k2, then p1 from cable needle.

FC—Front Cross: Sl 2 sts to cable needle and hold in front, p1, then k2 from cable needle.



TECHNICAL TIP—Please refer to the current and past Skill Building articles in *Cast On* for information about evenly-tensioned fabric, even cast-on and bind-off edges, and also decreases.

In addition, Arenda Holladay has many YouTube knitting technique videos that will help you as you work through this pattern. I have included the video links here that will help you work the various techniques used in the mitts. Please refer to them if you have any questions.

[Long-Tail Cast On](#)

[Bar Increase \(KFB\) in Ribbing](#)

[P2tog decrease](#)

[How to Cable](#) (Note that this video shows you how to do a cable, not the cables specific to this pattern.)

[Ugly Cables](#)

[Basic Bind Off](#)

[Binding Off in Pattern](#)

[Figure 8 Start](#)

[How to Seam Stockinette Stitch](#)

[Weaving yarn tails into ribbing](#)

[Blocking Ribbing and Cables](#)

Stitch Patterns

Double Rib (multiple of 4 sts +2)

Row 1 (WS): *P2, k2; rep from * to last 2 sts, p2.

Row 2 (RS): K2, *p2, k2; rep from * to end.

Rep Rows 1 and 2 for st pat.

Four-Rib Braid (panel of 17 sts)

Row 1 (WS): (K2, p2) twice, k1, (p2, k2) twice.

Row 2 (RS): P2, k2, p2, sl next 3 sts to cable needle and hold in back, k2, sl the purl st from the cable needle back to left-hand needle and purl it, then k2 from cable needle; p2, k2, p2.

Row 3: Rep Row 1.

Row 4: P2, FC, BC, p1, FC, BC, p2.

Row 5: (K3, p4) twice, k3.

Row 6: P3, sl next 2 sts to cable needle and hold in back, k2, then k2 from cable needle; p3, sl next 2 sts to cable needle and hold in front, k2, then k2 from cable needle; p3.

Row 7: Rep Row 5.

Row 8: P2, BC, FC, p1, BC, FC, p2.

Row 9: Rep Row 1.

Row 10: P2, k2, p2, sl the next 3 sts to cable needle and hold in front, k2, then sl the purl st from cable needle back to left-hand needle and purl it, then k2 from dpn; p2, k2, p2.

Rows 11-15: Rep Rows 3-7.

Row 16: Rep Row 8.

Rep Rows 1-16 for st pat.

TECHNICAL TIP—You will be making two mitts. The only difference between the two is that the cable is placed differently, depending whether you are working on the right- or the left-hand mitt. This cable placement will allow for the cable to be located on the back of each hand.

Right-Hand Mitt

CO 66 (74) sts using the long-tail cast on, leaving tail long enough to use for seaming. Beg Double Rib pat starting with Row 1. Cont in pat as est for 1.5 (2.5)", ending with a WS row.

Right-Hand Setup Row (RS): (K2, p2) nine (ten) times, k2, pm, (p2, k2) twice, p2tog, (k2, p2) twice, pm, (k2, p2) two (three) times, k2. There will be a total of 17 sts between the markers and 65 (73) sts total.

Next Row (WS): Maintaining the Double Rib pat before and after the st markers, and slipping st markers as you come to them, work the Four-Rib Braid pat between the st markers, starting with Row 1, for a total of 3 times. Work Rows 1-3 of Four-Rib Braid pat once more.

Next Row (RS): Work Double Rib pat to marker, remove marker, p2, k2, p2, k1, KFB, p1, (k2, p2) twice, remove marker, work Double Rib pat to end. There will now be a total of 66 (74) sts.

Cont in Double Rib pat for 1.5 (2.5)", ending with a WS row. BO in pat on RS, leaving a

tail long enough to use for seaming yarn. Do not weave in yarn tails until seaming is complete.

Left-Hand Mitt

CO 66 (74) sts using the long-tail cast on. Beg Double Rib rib pat starting with Row 1. Cont in pat as est for 1.5" (2.5)", ending with a WS row.

Left-Hand Setup Row (RS): (K2, p2) two (three) times, k2, pm, (p2, k2) twice, p2tog, (k2, p2) twice, pm, (k2, p2) nine (ten) times, k2. There will be a total of 17 sts between the markers and 65(73) sts total.

Next Row (WS): Maintaining the Double Rib pat before and after the st markers, and slipping st markers as you come to them, work the Four-Rib Braid pat between the st markers, starting with Row 1, for a total of 3 times. Work Rows 1–3 of Four-Rib Braid pat once more.

Next Row (RS): Work Double Rib pat to marker, remove marker, p2, k2, p2, k1, KFB, p1, (k2, p2) twice, remove marker, work Double Rib pat to end. There will now be a total of 66 (74) sts.

Cont in Double Rib pat for 1.5 (2.5)", ending with a WS row. BO in pat on RS, leaving a tail long enough to use for seaming yarn. Do not weave in yarn tails until seaming is complete.

DESIGNER NOTE—When I blocked the mitts, I did not use any pins to anchor the finished piece to the blocking board. I simply soaked the mitts in water, gently removed most of the water by wrapping the mitts in a towel, and then laid them flat on the blocking board, making certain that the ribs were unstretched and close together and that the mitts were not stretched lengthwise. Figure 1 shows the result after blocking. Note that the ribs are close together.

Finishing

Block both mitts. Beg at CO edge and using CO tail as seaming thread, work Figure 8 start and cont seaming for 3". Stop, and do not weave in tail yet. Beg at BO edge and

using BO tail as seaming thread, work Figure 8 start and continue seaming for 1.75". Stop. Try on the mitts to see if the opening left for the thumb is large enough and comfortable. Adjust the top and bottom seams if necessary. Once you are satisfied, secure the end of the seams by whip stitching once or twice around the seam selvedge, then weave in yarn tails. Enjoy!



Figure 1

Figure Legend

Figure 1: How to block the mitts.

Reference for Stitch Pattern

Walker, Barbara. *A Second Treasury of Knitting Patterns*. Schoolhouse Press, 2008, pp. 177-78.