

Mitten for special occasions
Inspiration from «wedding mittens from Sunndal»
Norway



«Wedding mittens from Sunndal»

As part of Norges Husflidslags project on Norwegian wool, ULLialt, Møre og Romsdal Husflidslag has chosen to deepen itself in the theme of mittens

In the books “mitten in Norwegian tradition and knitting in Norway”, it is referred to some mittens from Nordmøre. At Sunndal outdoor museum, Leikvin, they have several mittens that have the same character as the mittens mentioned in the books. Also elsewhere, especially north of Møre og Romsdal, one can find old mittens in private ownership that have the same expression and are quite similar to the mittens from Sunndal and those shown in the books.

According to the book Knitting in Norway, these mittens are knitted in the second half of the 1800s.

The working group in Møre og Romsdal Husflidslag was given the opportunity to study closer and analyze the mittens at Leikvin Museum.

Most of the mittens were knitted in thinly threaded, unbleached woolen yarn, probably home spun. The knitting strength varied from 56 sts and 100 rows = 10 cm to 24 sts and 90 rows = 10 cm. Most of the mittens had a cuff that slanted towards the wrist, a separate pattern in the thumb wedge and a closure in a spiral. Embroidered decor was often in cross stitch with different red and green colors as dominant. Most of the mittens had two embroidered flounder edges.

Some of the Witnesses at Leikvin had the term "wedding mitten" or "church mitten," and they had little wear and tear. Most likely, the mittens were outfits that were only used for party and celebration.

We chose to call our model for “mitten for special occasions from Sunndal.



How to do :

Mitten in Røros Lambs wool

Strikkefasthet: 36 m, 58 omg på 10 cm.

Garn: Røros Lamullgarn, L11, 100 gr.

Knitting needle no. 1.5

Gauge:: 36 sts, 58 rows = 10 cm.

Yarn: Røros Lamull yarn, L11, 100 gr.

Cuff:

Cast on 88 sts. Size 2 rows. back and forth. Knit together, knit rib with 2 purl stich and 2 ord stich for 3 rows. Knit 1 round purl stich. 2 rows with stockinett stich 1 row purl stich.

* knit 2 sts, cast together 2 sts, knit 36 sts, knit 2 sts together, knit 4 sts, knit 2 sts together, knit 36 sts, knit 2 sts tog, knit 2 sts.

Knit 3 rounds without doing anything. * Continue from * to * but with 4 sts less on each round where you decrease the number of stiches..

Continue like this until you have 64 sts on round.

knit 3 rows stockinette and 1 round purl stich.

Thumb gusset:

* knit 24 sts, 1 sts twisted r, 1 purl sts, 1 sts twisted r, 1 purl sts , 1 sts twisted r, continue whole row (= 35 sts) *

Repeat from * to * 2 more times.

Size 24 sts, 1 sts twisted r, pick up a thread before the next st and knit this purl, knit 3 sts twisted r,pick up a thread before the next stitch and knit this purl, knit 1 sts twisted r, knit 35 sts = rest of the round.

Knit the next 2 rounds as follows: knit 24 sts, 1 sts twisted r, 1 sts purl, 3 sts twisted r, 1 sts purl, 1 st twisted r, 35 m round out.

Knit 24 sts, 1 sts twisted r, pick up a thread before the next st and knit it purl, knit 2 sts twisted r, 1 sts purl, 2 sts twisted r, pick up a thread before next st and knit it purl , 1 twisted r, knit 35 sts round out.

The next 2 rounds as follows: knit 24 sts, 1 sts twisted r, 1 sts purl, 2 sts twisted r, 1 sts purl, 2 sts twisted r, 1 sts purl, 1 sts twisted r, 35 sts round out.

Continue to increase 2 sts every 3rd round in the thumb gusset. Make sure that every time you increase, the purl stitches and the twisted sts are moved. Continue until the thumb gusset consists of 23 sts (= 82 sts in the round).

Knit the last two rounds in the thumb gusset like this: Knit 24 sts, 1 sts twisted r, 1 sts purl, 2 sts twisted r, 1 sts purl, 2 sts twisted r, 1 st purl, 2 sts twisted r, 1 sts purl, 3 sts twisted r, 1 sts purl, 2 sts twisted r, 1 sts purl, 2 sts twieste r, 1 sts purl, 2 sts twisted r, 1 sts purl, 1 stst twisted r, knit 32 sts round out.

Thumb hole:

Knit 24 sts, cast off 23 sts for thumb over thumb wedge. Cast on 21 sts and knit round (= 80 sts in round).

Continue with stockinett stitch.

After approx. 1 cm cast off 2 sts on the "inside" of the thumb and after approx. 2 cm cast off 2 new sts on the "inside" of the thumb. After approx. 4 cm cast off 2 sts and after approx. 6 cm cast off 2 sts. It is now 72 m on the needle.

Continue until the mitten is about 10-12 cm above the thumb hole or to the desired length over the little finger.

Closure in spiral:

Divide the 72 sts evenly on 4 needles. Cast off 1 st on each needle, = 4 sts per row.

Continue with decrease on every row as follows:

Knit past the stich which was cast off in previous round, cast off next sts, Repeat this on every needle and every row (= 4 sts per round). When you have 4 sts left on round, finish by pulling the thread through sts. Fasten the thread.



Thumb:

You can choose to knit the thumb in the traditional way with the stockinett stitch and the closure in the spiral, or continue with the same pattern on the front of the thumb as in the thumb wedge. On the back of the thumb, there are stockinett stitch and closure is in a spiral.



Thumb in stockinett:

Pick up a total of 46 sts in the thumb hole. Start knitting on the "back" of the thumb. On 1st round cast off 1 sts in each "side" of thumb = 44 sts in round. Knit stockinett until desired length. closure in spiral such as in the mitten itself.

Thumb with same pattern as the thumb gusset:

Pick up a total of 46 sts in the thumb hole. Start knitting on the "back" of the thumb.

On 1st round cast off 1 sts in each "side" of thumb = 2 sts.

Knit stockinett sts on «back» of thumb. Continue with pattern on the "front" of the thumb:

1 sts twisted r, 1 sts purl, 1 sts twisted r, 1 sts purl, 2 sts twisted r, 1 sts purl, 2 sts twisted r, 1 sts purl, 3 sts twisted r, 1 sts purl, 2 sts twisted r, 1 sts purl, 2 sts twisted r, 1 sts purl, 1 twisted r, 1 sts purl, 1 sts twisted r. After 3 rounds of this pattern, move the twisted sts and purl sts as in the thumb wedge. After approx. 4-5 rounds cast off 2 sts on the "inside" of the thumb. After approx. 10-12 rounds cast off 2 new sts on the "inside" of the thumb, and after approx. 20-21 rounds cast off 2 sts on the "inside" of the thumb.

Continue until the thumb measures approx. 5 cm. There are now 23 sts on «front» and 15 sts on «back» of thumb. Decrease 1 sts on each side of thumb (in pattern) = 2 sts. Repeat this dec 3 times to = 8 sts. There are now 30 sts in round, and afterwards there shall be decreased 4 sts per round.

On the "back" of the thumb (needle 1 and 2) it is the closure spiraled like in the mitten. (When you have cast off as many as you can on needle, start again with 1 sts on needle).

At the front of the thumb (needle 3 and 4) cast off at the "sides". In this way the pattern in the thumb is maintained.

Continue the decrease until you have 6 sts left. Finish by pulling the thread through the least sts..

Knit the other mitten mirrored.

Floss:

The floss is sewn in the 2-purl rounds. Sew with the same thread used in the embroidery, the first round with one color, the other round with several colors. Sew as pictures show.



Embroidery:

None of the mittens we have seen have the same embroidery. Therefore, we encourage you to make your own embroidery, often in cross stitch. Many of the mittens have thumb decorations, at thumb gussets, at the wrist and at the back of the hand.

We have used Rauma Embroidery yarn, (the yarn used in many bunads embroidery), and it is embroidered with one cross stitch over a knitting mark.

Analyze and design:

Craft adviser i Møre og Romsdal,
Randi Hole