



1940s knitting patterns

Men's mittens

Materials

3 oz. of Jaeger "Super Spun" ("J. S." Quality) Fingering, 4 ply (9d. per oz.), and 1 set of No. 13 Jaeger knitting needles with points at both ends.

Measurements

Length of mitt from wrist, 13 inches.

Tension

17 stitches to 2 inches in width, and 12 rounds to 1 inch in depth.

Abbreviations

K. = knit; p. = purl; sts. = stitches; rep. = repeat; sl. = slip; tog. = together; p.s.s.o. = pass slip stitch over; inc. = increase or increasing; dec. = decrease or decreasing.

Casting on

If you cast on with two needles work into the back of all cast-on sts. to produce firm edges, but if you use the thumb method this is not necessary.

The right hand

Begin at the wrist edge. Cast on 60 sts. using three needles (20 sts. on each) and with the fourth needle work 5 inches in k.1, p.1 rib. Change to the pattern as follows:

1st round: K.

2nd round: * K.2, p.2. Rep. from * to end. These 2 rounds form the pattern. Work 2 more rounds in pattern.

The Thumb Shaping: 1st round: Pattern to last 7 sts., k. twice into the next st., pattern 5, k. twice into the last st. Work 2 more rounds.

4th round: Pattern to last 9 sts., k. twice into the next st., pattern 7, k. twice into the last st. Work 2 more rounds. Continue inc. in this way on every 3rd round until 8 inc. have been worked and there are 36 sts. on the third needle. Sl. the last 22 sts. of the third needle on to a st.-holder. On the next round cast on 10 sts. in place of the 22 sts. Work 2 rounds without dec.

Next round: Pattern to last 10 sts., sl.1, k.1, p.s.s.o., pattern 6, k.2 tog. Work 2 more rounds without dec. Next round - Pattern to last 8 sts., sl.1, k.1, p.s.s.o., pattern 4, k. 2 tog. Work 2 more rounds.

Now sl. the last 8 sts. from the third needle on to the first needle, and continue for 16 rounds, working the first needle in k.2 p.2 rib, and the second and third needles in pattern.

Next round: Cast off the 28 sts. on the first needle, pattern to end of round. Now using two No. 13 needles, cast on 28 sts. and work 16 rows in k.2, p.2 rib. Next round - Pattern across these 28 sts. in place of those cast off, pattern to end.

Continue on these sts. for 2.5 inches. Now shape the top as follows: Sl. the last 2 sts. of the third needle on to the first needle.

* **1st round:** 1st needle: K.1, sl.1, k.1, p.s.s.o., pattern to last 3 sts., k.2 tog., k.1. 2nd needle: K. 1, sl. 1, k.1, p.s.s.o., pattern to end. 3rd needle: Pattern to last 3 sts., k.2 tog., k.1. Work 2 rounds without dec. Rep. from * until 48 sts. remain.

Next round: Like the first round.

Next round: Pattern. Rep. the last 2 rounds until 32 sts. remain. Now rep. the 1st round only, until 12 sts. remain. Graft these sts, together.

The left hand

Work this exactly like the right hand until the thumb shaping has been completed. Now slip the first 2 sts. from the first needle on to the third needle, and the last 6 sts. from the second needle on to the third needle, and make this the first needle. Now work up this hand to match the first.

The thumbs

Sl. the 22 sts. for the thumb on two needles, and with the third needle pick up 10 sts. along the cast on edge.

Next round: 1st needle: Pattern. 2nd needle: Pattern. 3rd needle: K. twice into each of the first 2sts., pattern 6, k. twice into each of the last 2 sts. (14 sts.). Work 1 more round. Now dec. 1 st. at both ends of the third needle on every alternate round until 6 sts. remain. Continue on these sts. for 2.5 inches, finishing after a 2nd round.

Now shape the top as follows:

1st round: * K.2, k.2 tog. Rep. from * to end.

2nd round: * K.2, p.1. Rep. From * to end.

3rd round: K.

4th round: Like the 2nd round.

5th round: * K.2tog., k.1. Rep. from * to end.

6th round: * K.1, p.1. Rep. From * to end.

7th round: * K. 2 tog. Rep. from * to end. Thread the end of wool through the remaining sts. and draw up tightly. Fasten off.

Press the work on the wrong side with a warm iron and damp cloth.