

Fleece Mittens

<jensoriginalsewbroiderydesigns.yolasite.com>

Posted 2020 Dec 18

At their own request, DH and my best friend both got these fleece mittens for Christmas. Hub's been wearing the pair I made two years ago and finds them much better than gloves for shovelling snow. The fleece keeps his fingers warm no matter how cold it is outside.



In place of the elasticized wrist suggested in the instructions, I use a ribknit cuff. This makes the mitts a bit longer, and they fit up inside your jacket sleeve, keeping your entire arm warm (I've always disliked too-short mittens).

I have been making my mitts out of a double layer of fleece, so they're extra snugly.

The navy ones in the photo above are for DH; the patterned ones are my friend's. I'll be keeping this butterscotch pair for myself.



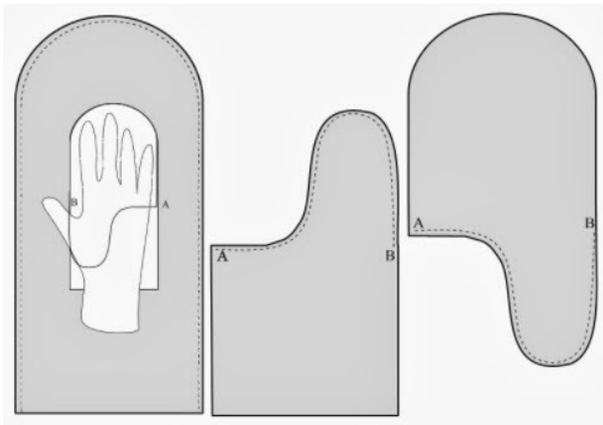
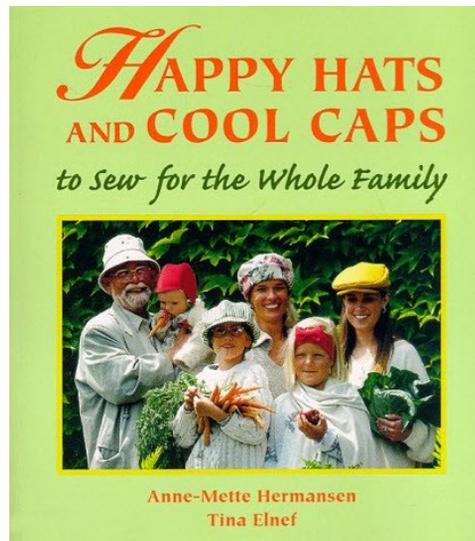
The red fleece I have is extra thick, so I thought a double layer might be too bulky. I decided to make the outer layer of this pair from sweatshirt knit instead. It doesn't add as much bulk, and is easier to embroider, so I was able to add DH's geocaching avatar to the back of this second pair of mittens. He loves these personalized mitts even more than the plain navy ones!



My friend's pair has a checked fleece on the back, with plain red on the palms. I kind of like the effect.

I'm pleased with how these turned out, and am thinking of making them for several of the people on next year's gift list.

I based my mitts on a pattern given in the book *Happy Hats and Cool Caps* (Sterling, 1999), although it's a pretty standard design, and there are several similar ones on line. I found this image on a blog from Sweden, and as you can see it's fairly self-explanatory. Each mitten has three pieces, sized in proportion to the wearer's hand.



Remember to reverse for the second mitten so that you end up with a pair rather than two mittens for the same hand! You can make them unlined from fleece, or create a lining using the same three pieces.

Sew along A-B to form the palm/thumb, then stitch the front and back together, leaving open along the flat edge.

I used fleece for mine, but others make them from recycled wool sweaters. Wool with a fleece lining would also work.

I did find detailed pictorial instructions on line that show how they're put together, including some with detailed pattern and instructions. You can find the links on my projects page.