

Solstice Mittens
Latvian-Saulgriežu dūraiņi



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Solstice mittens/dūraiņi

The pattern is created for generally experienced knitter that wants to explore the knitting of latvian mitten patterns. Knitting this does not require working with floats in the inside of mitten for the easy start, so it is beginner knitter friendly too. Pattern is created from many different elements from latvian ethnographic mittens, combining the works of great masters with contemporary colourchoices and our geographic coordinates. The pattern itself is representing the sun - the main reason for celebrating the Solstices and the stars - the ever-present companions of the solar cycles often used for navigation. It also includes a good luck charm - the broom of Latvian diety of fate, Laima (Laimas slotiņa). Made in three size options to cater petites, larger hands and those, in between, with extras - optional colourwork and chart for patterndrawing for knitters personal taste. The mitten is unique in the way that it carries hidden part in the inside of mitten-place - the coordinates of culture capital 2027 Liepāja , and, generally, carries the Latvian mitten charm -being beautiful both outside and inside.



Materials

Yarn - to achieve different widths, check the measurements and needle choice right next to the chart.Best, use 100% wool yarn in 4 colours,adding scrapyarn for pops of colour in the cuff. Suggested-7/2 (350m in 100g) or 10/2(500m in 100g) yarn weights.
A set of 5 double pointed needles,suggested 1,5mm or 2mm to achieve the gauge
scrapjarn for thumbplace and cuff(for the cuff,for one row,if the yarn could be wrapped around the cuff 3 times(x2 rows),it is long enough for this project)
tapestry needle for weaving in the ends
Total weight of finished mittens-
Petite(Chart A) 80g
Medium(Chart B) 110g

Large(Chart C) 120g (if you knit this and the total lenght worries you,because from top to bottom it could reach your elbow- do not worry, it should be this way. Especially,if the knitter is petite...)

Finished measurements

Petite(Chart A) lenght 30 cm(finished and folded in),9cm width
Gauge knitted with 10/2 size yarn and 1,5mm needles. 19stitchesx25rows/5 sq.cm

Medium(Chart B) lenght 30,8cm(folded in and finished),10,5cm width
Gauge 17 stitchesx 20 rows/5 sq.cm,knitted on 7/2 size yarn and 2.0mm needles

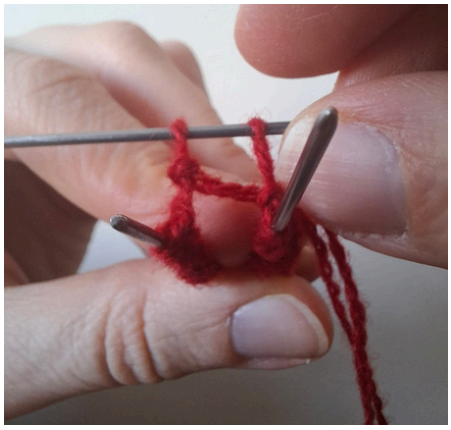
Large(Chart C) lenght 34cm(folded in and finished),11cm width
Gauge 17 stitches x 20 rows/5sq.cm, knitted on 7/2 size yarn(use 6/2 if you need greater width) and 2.00mm needles

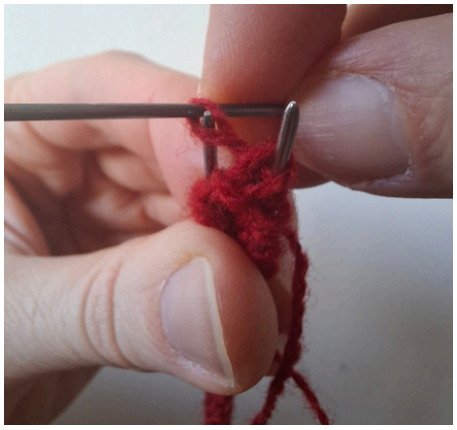
Notes

First,measure the hand and add 1,5cm to the measurement of the width of the hand to determine the best size match or the mitten.Measure finger lenght to the middle of your index finger nail as the wool,when worn often, after time will felt and shrink,be mindful of wearability.Check notes next to the charts to determine best match.
Read mittens chart from bottom to top,right to left when knitting the right mitten and from bottom to up and from left to right (the outside of the mittenbody) when knitted left mitten.
Continue practice this method to grow the neurological pathways and train your brain.
The printed colours are recomendation and pick and choose what is friendly to your eyesight and taste.Authors preferred colourchoices are exhibited the photographs. The pattern is made with same exact stitchcount,so,if knitters eyes feel tired,it is possible to change to other chart for different colour combination and continue knitting,only thing to be mindful,is the thumb placement.

Directions

Cast on 76 stitches,join the round,placing the last stitch in the place of first stitch,crossing them.





Start knitting the inside panels,right side in the charts, until reach the row 28 Chart A,B.(Chart C has alternative inside panels,if the suggested panels in charts A and B is too difficult)
Row 29- knit two together, add one.(suggested, from underneath ,take the yarn over needle from the knitters side upwards).Continue knitting together and adding every other stitch until the row ends. !!This row will later turn into the folding line of the mitten,where previously knitted rows will be folded to the inside of the mitten.!!



Knit the pattern of the mitten body until decrease in the top
knit the decrease-knit one in the pattern colour, knit two together in the main colour. Continue with the pattern.



When reached one stitch in pattern colour, 3 in main colour in the top,take tapestry needle and sew together,first the main colour 6 stitches,then the pattern colour stitches to make the nice joined line in the top.



Knit thumb! Take out the scrap yarn out ,pick up 36 stitches on 4 needles and add 1 stitch on each side.(10,9,10,9 stiches on the each needle). Follow the pattern. Feel free to knit it in one colour if the pattern feels difficult or use small pattern of your choice,but be mindful,if the thumb will be in one colour,decrease stitchcound for thumb at least four stitches, Otherwise it will turn out too wide.
Then,turn mitten inside out,weave in the ends and sew the inside panel to the floats of the mittenbody. For harsh environments one may knit second layer of the mitten from the stitches,picked up from the first cast-on row and it will be even more warm. One layer mitten usually is comfortable to endure -10 degrees Celsius.





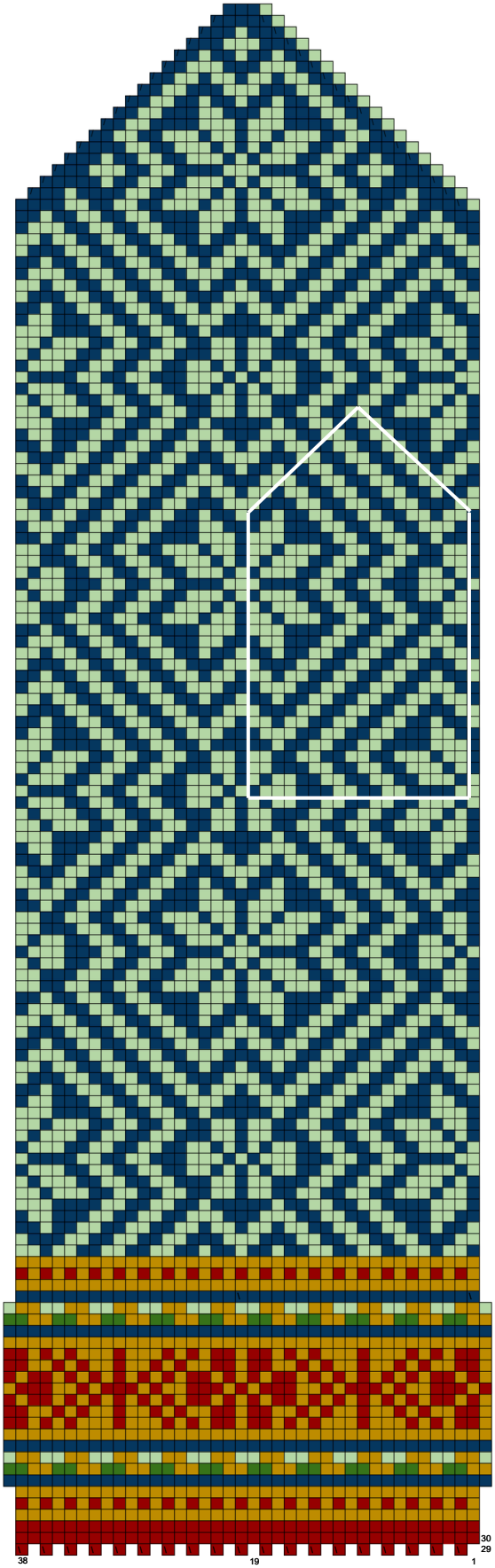
Chart A/ Petite
9,5cm width

From thumbplace to decrease 11cm
Thumb 5,2cm ,width 9cm
10/2 wool yarn, needles 1,5mm

yarn

- approx. 20g
- 20g
- 20g
- 20g

+scrapyarn,
various colours 2g



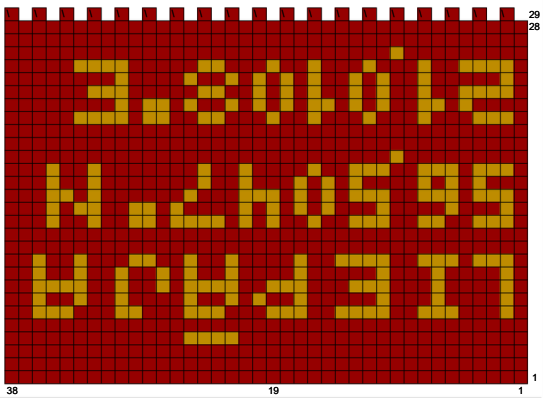
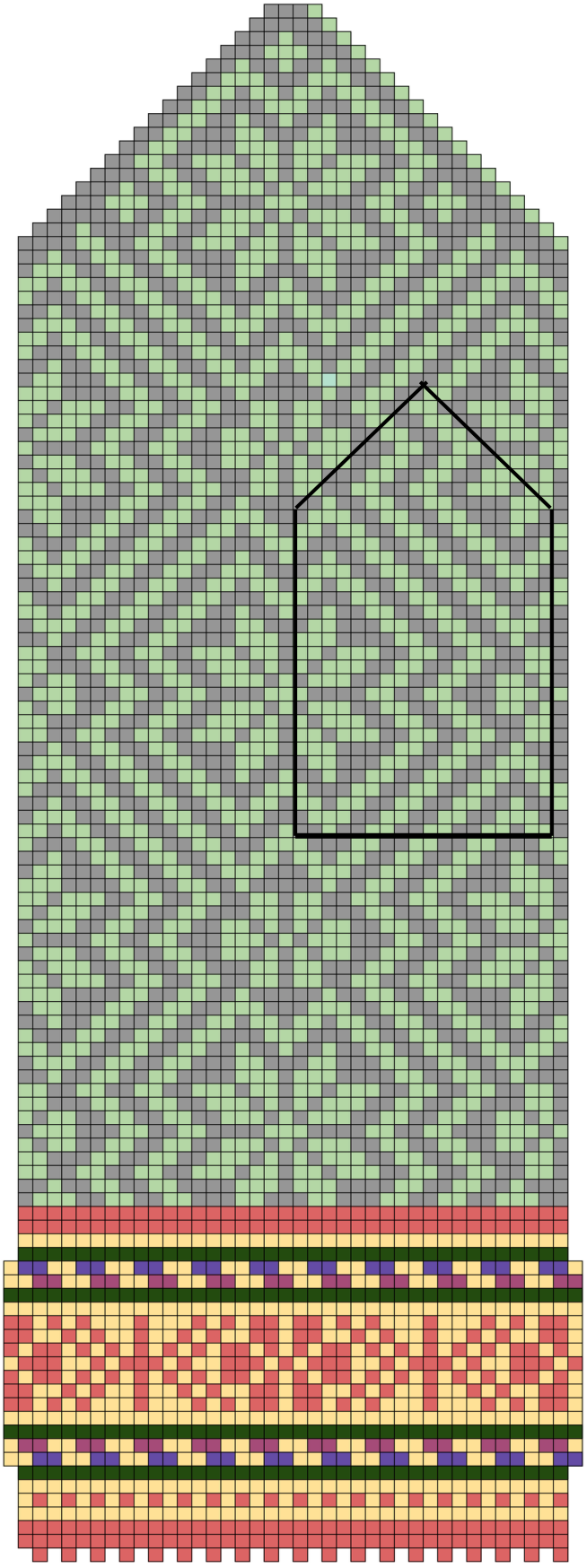


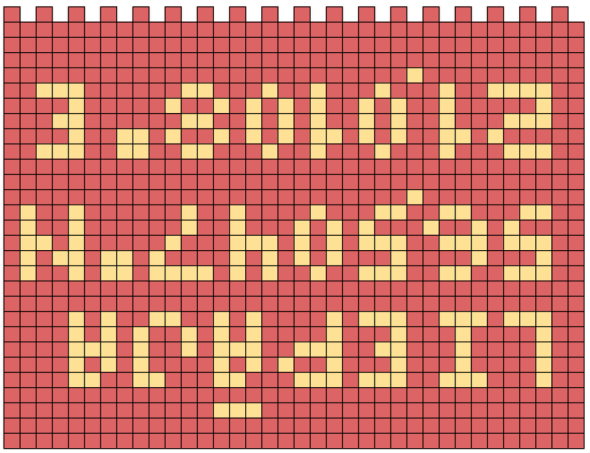
Chart B/Medium

From thumbplace to decrease 11cm
Thumb 5,8cm
width 10,5cm

- approx. 40g
- 40g
- 12g
- 11g

+scrapyarn,
various colours 2g
Yarn size 7/2,needles 2.00mm





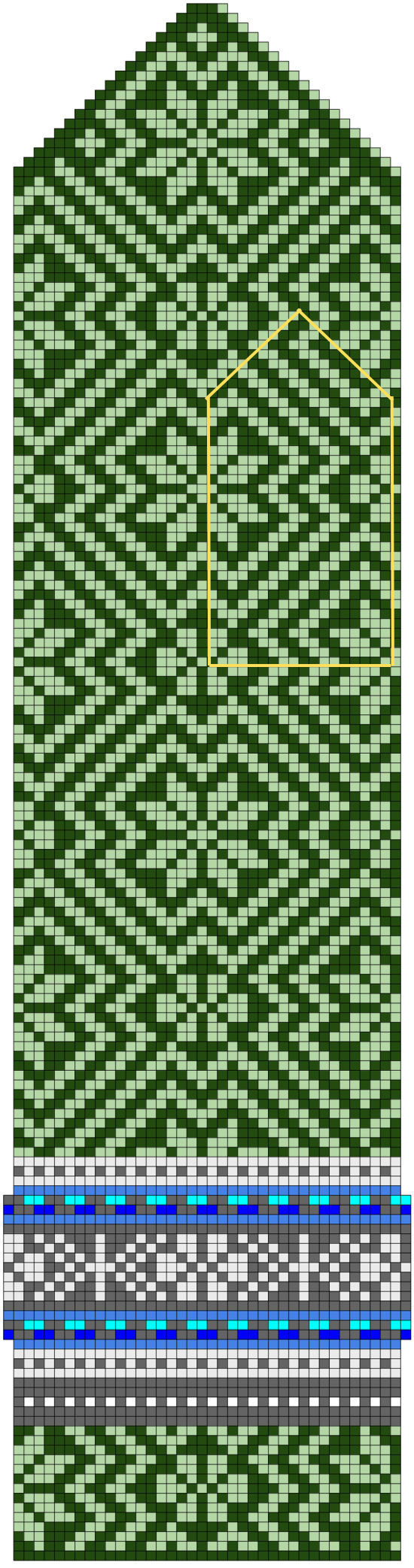


Chart C/Large

From thumbplace to decrease
12,5cm
Thumb 6,8cm
width 11cm
yarn 6/2, needles 2.0mm

- approx. 50g
- 50g
- 10g
- 10g

+scrapyarn,
various colours 3g

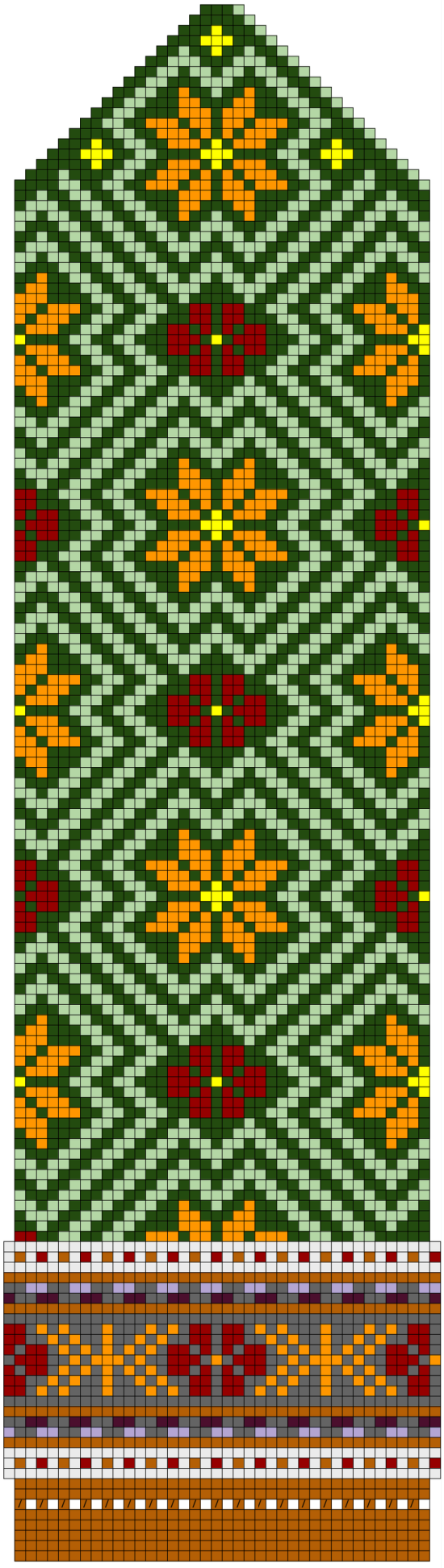


Chart C/Large-OPTIONAL

Be mindful,adding more colours to the colourwork will stiffen and shrink the mitten from the inside.
Stretch out every knitted row after knitting and take note of floatwork when knitting,floats should be evenly stretched,not loose or shortened. Advised to take a one needlesize up,working with 4 threads.! Knit both mittens at the same pace.! If knitted one after one,for less experienced knitter, knitting density increases and 2nd mitten could possibly turn out smaller.

Bonus

In addition to the variety of colourways from which to choose, the knitter is welcome to co-create the panel that is the hidden gem of this mitten pair.

Steps-

Find out the location coordinates of Your home or the place you deem suitable for the summer or winter solstice.

This will be a binary style motif.

Use 2 colours, each number/letter is max 5 stitches wide. That way it is possible to fit 7 digits per side. For more detailed work, please choose the chart that is longer(chart E), meant to wrap around the whole wrist.

If choosing chart D, be mindful to read it from bottom right corner and to knit it twice for one mitten as this represents only one half (one side) of a mitten. Knit two inside panels for both mittens or follow the optional pattern of Chart C for the second mitten, if that is something that speaks to You.

Chart D

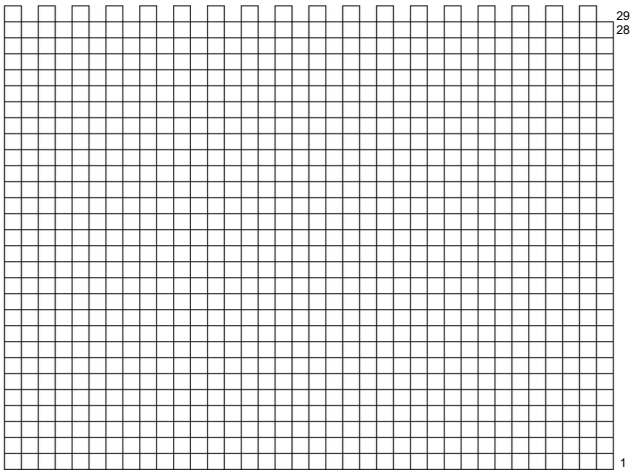


Chart E

