

Ramble by Anna Nikipirowicz

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Material

Willow and Lark Ramble - 100% wool - 125 m/136 yrd per 50g ball
2 (3) x colour A - Blue Bell 122
1 x Colour B - Puddle Blue 120
I have used above yarn, but any DK weight yarn will be fine to use for these mittens, you will need approximately 250 (300) m/ 272 (328) yrd of colour A. 125 m (137 yrd) of colour B, taking into account that different fibres result in different effect of finished project.
3.5 mm (US E/4) crochet hook for cuff
4 mm (US G/6) crochet hook for the body of mitten
1 lockable stitch marker (or 2 for top shaping - optional)

Tension

19 wst and 22 rows to 10 cm (4 in) measured over plain wst pattern worked in the round using 4 mm (US G/6) crochet hook.

Finished size

19 (20) cm (7.5, 8'') hand circumference to fit women's medium (large) hand. 17 (18) cm (6.75, 7'') long hand (not including cuff). 11.5 cm (4.5'') long cuff (to be folded).

Abbreviations

Blo - back loop only
Ch - chain
Dc (US sc) - double crochet (US single crochet)
Miss (US skip) - omit st(s)
PM - plaice marker
Rnds - round(s)
RS - right side
Ss - slip stitch
St(s) - stitch(es)
WS - wrong side
Wst - waistcoat stitch - please see techniques below on how to work this stitch.
Wst2tog - waistcoat 2 together - [Insert hook into next stitch (or as required), yoh and draw a loop through] twice, (3 loops left on hook), yoh and draw a loop through all 3 loops on hook.
Yoh - yarn over hook

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Pattern notes

Please note that pattern is written using UK terminology with US conversion given in abbreviation list.
The sizing is colour coded: medium is in **BLACK** and large in **GREEN,** last size is shown in brackets.

Mittens (both alike)

Cuff

With colour A and 3.5 mm (US E/4) crochet hook ch 24.
Row 1 (RS): 1 dc into second ch from hook, 1 dc into every ch to end, turn. (23 sts)
Row 2: Working into back loop of every stitch only - ch 1, 1 dc into every st to end, turn.
Rep row 2, 27 (29) more times, ending with the WS facing for next row.
Seam cuff: Ch 1, ss first and last row of cuff together, working in blo of each st. Do not fasten off.
Rotate piece to work in row-ends of cuff.

Body

Change to 4 mm (US G/6) crochet hook.
Rnd 1: Working in row-ends, work 38 (40) dc evenly spaced around top edge of cuff. Do not join, but continue to work in the rnd. PM in first st and move up each rnd.
You will now work on RS only and in continues spiral using the wst stitch.
Rnd 2: Wst in every stitch to end.
Shape thumb gusset
Rnd 3: Wst in next 18 (19) sts, 2 wst in next 2 sts, wst in next 18 (19) sts. (40, 42) sts.
Rnd 4 & 5: Wst in every stitch to end.
Rdn 6: Wst in next 19 (20) sts, 2 wst in next 2 sts, wst in next 19 (20) sts. (42, 44 sts)
Rdn 7: Wst in every stitch to end.



Place chart– you will now work from chart, correct for your size, with colours A and B using the crochet Fair isle technique and wst throughout, changing colours as described in the techniques below.
The chart is worked entirely in the rnd and is read from right to left.
Before starting working from chart please familiarise yourself with the key, it's vital to know what stitch each symbol represents.

<u>Please ready the guide below.</u>
When you reach rnd 17 (17) of chart you must separate stitches for thumb opening: Wst into next 18 (19) sts, miss next 14 (14) sts, wst into next 18 (19) sts. (36, 38 sts)

Continue working from chart until rnd 30 (32). If you wish to make the mittens longer this is the perfect time to do it, add in multiple of 2 rows. The best way to judge if you have the correct length before starting decreasing, work until the mitten reaches the tip of your pinky.

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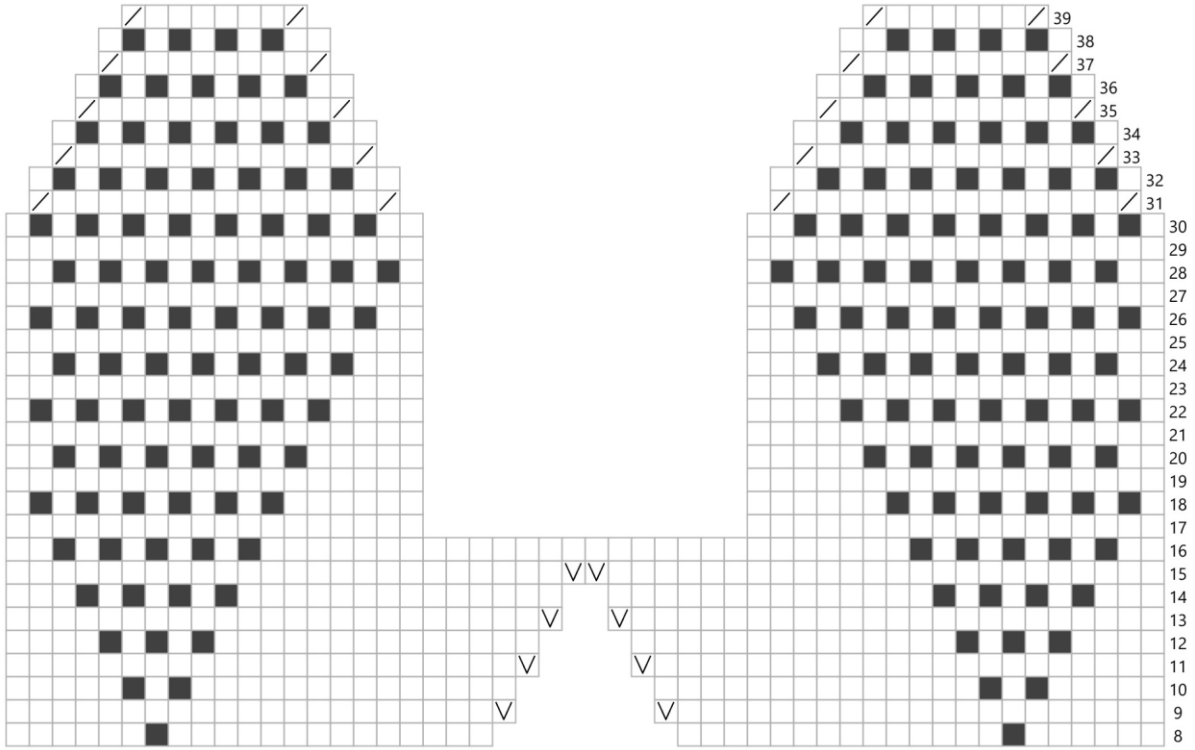
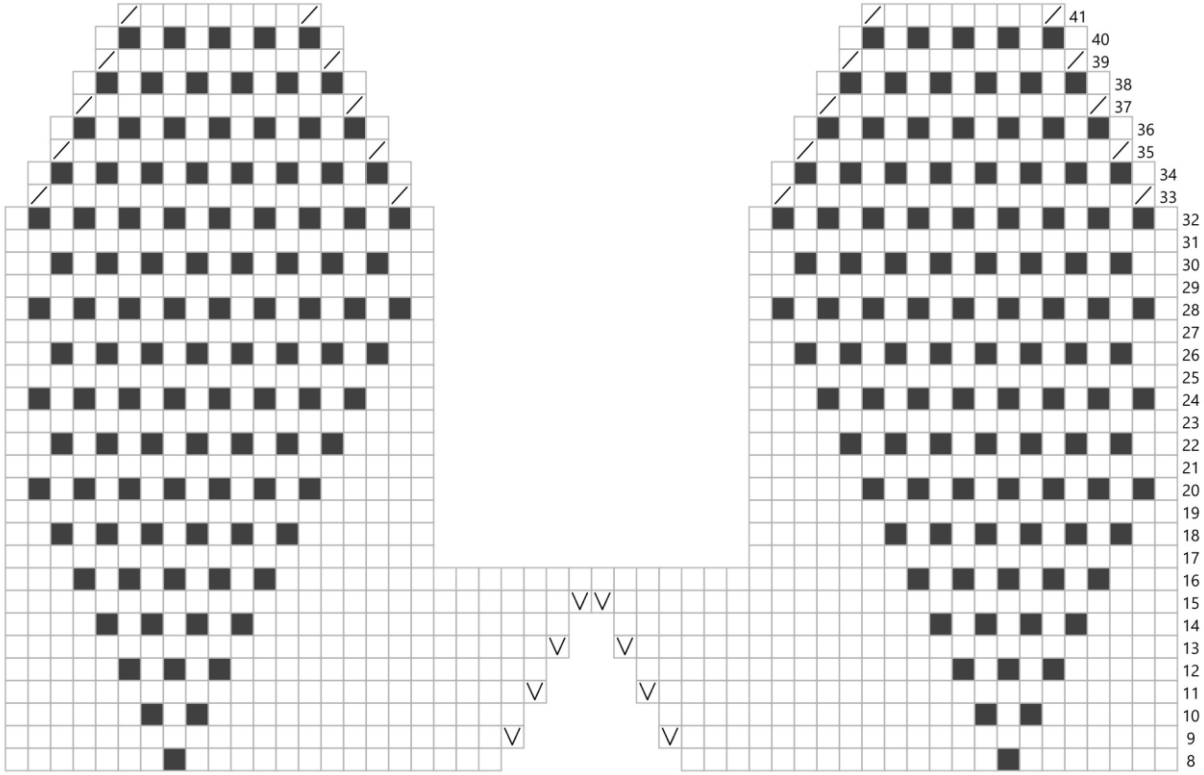
Tip for decreasing – I found it very useful to use a second marker and place it half way through work (opposite the first stitch marker), move markers as you complete sts.
When you are decreasing; wst2tog over first two sts, then work to 2 sts before second marker, [wst2tog over next two stitches] twice, work to 2 sts before first marker, wst2tog over next 2 sts, moving markers as you complete stitches.
When the last round is worked on top, leave a tail of around 20 cm (8'') of colour A.



Medium



Large



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Thumb

Rnd 1: Join yarn to the first missed st when separating stitches for thumb. Ch 1, wst in next 14 (14)sts, work 2 more wst where thumb meets hand – 16 (16) sts. Do not join, but continue to work in the rnd. PM in first st and move up each rnd.
Rnds 2 to 6 (7): Wst in every st to end.
Rnd 7 (8): Wst2tog 8 times. 8 (8 sts).
Cut yarn off laving 10 cm (4'') tail. Using yarn needle, thread yarn tail through each remaining stitch and pull tight to close top of thumb, weave in end.

Making up

Using yarn tail and yarn needle, whipstitch top of mittens closed.
Weave in ends.

Techniques

How to work a waistcoat stitch
For a video tutorial please go here - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5QWckt44vv4
Waistcoat stitch is also referred to as the knit stitch as it looks like stocking stitch in knitting. It is a beautifully tight and firm stitch that's perfect for mitts, hats, bags and anything that requires dense fabric and it doesn't twist the work like a standard dc (US sc). I absolutely love it as it looks fantastic and makes a nice change from a standard dc. The only difference from working a standard dc is that you work wst into the body of the stitch, in between the strands (the V) of the stitch below.
The secret to success with wst is to keep a relaxed tension, don't pull your stitches too tight, you will have to work into them on the next round. It really helps to use a pointy hook.
1 & 2: Inset the hook in between the strands of the stitch (between the V) as marked by red lines in pic 1.
3: Yoh and pull up a loop, 2 loops on hook.
4: Yoh and pull through 2 loops. One stitch made.
Continue repeating the 4 steps throughout.





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How to work crochet Fair isle

For a video tutorial please go here - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IIKPtZU83Q0&pbjreload=10

Waistcoat stitch is perfect to work crochet colourwork as it doesn't twist the work therefore the colour changes look better.

1: To get a neat colour change we need to change colours one stitch before: For example; if the fourth stitch needs to be a different colour, change yarns on the third stitch. Work to one stitch before colour change, stop the last stitch when you have two loops on hook.

2: Drop colour A and finish the stitch with colour B.

3: Work next stitch with colour B, but because we need to go back to colour A on the next stitch, finish this stitch with colour A, ready for next stitch.

Continue repeating the 4 steps while following the chart.

Tip – To avoid yarns twisting, make sure you keep your colour B to your right and colour A to your left.





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Carrying yarn

When working Fair isle you need to carry the yarn not in use with you all the way around, but only carry the yarn on the rounds that it's required. The neatest way to do this is to catch the yarn every other stitch when not in use.

1: When inserting hook to work wst make sure that the yarn to be stranded is placed on top of the hook at the back of work.

2: Work wst as normal, enclosing the strand in the stitch. Continue repeating the 2 steps, enclosing the yarn not in use every other stitch.





Double crochet embellishment

Work the double crochet (US single crochet) embellishment around the colour work edge as follows:

1 & 2: with RS facing, insert hook in-between stitch two rounds below the point of colour work and take it out in-between stitch one row above to the left of colour work point.

3: Pull yarn through those stitches.

4 & 5: Ch 1, insert hook in-between stitches of last stitch worked and one two rows above on the side of colour work.

6 & 7: Yoh, pull up a loop, work a standard dc (US sc) as normal.

8: Work a round of dc all around the edge of colourwork, making ch 1 on the sides, when turning.

When a full round is worked, ss to first dc and work another round of dc but this time working each stitch around the post of each dc, from the colourwork side.

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Happy crocheting

If you have any questions about this pattern, please email me at: **info@moochka.co.uk**

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