

GRAMMAR OF ORNAMENT GLOVES

Stranded Colourwork Fingerless gloves for frigid reading rooms



Created by
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Source Material

Jones, Owen. *The Grammar of Ornament*. Published by Day and Son, Lithographers to the Queen, Gate Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields, 1856. Owen Jones, The Grammar of Ornament. McGill Library



Rare books and archives reading rooms are often cold! These fingerless gloves will keep your hands warm while leaving you with the bare fingers required to handle page turns with professional care. As a rare books librarian, I made these gloves to fill this practical need.

The colourwork chart is inspired by design elements from Welsh Architect Owen Jones' monumental work *The Grammar of Ornament* in the McGill Library's Rare and Special Collections. A chart is provided for the entire glove but I encourage everyone to remix and recombine pattern elements and choose colours to suit your taste!

First published in 1856, Jones's book is a rich collection of patterns, architectural details, and design elements from around the world. It's many subsequent editions have served as inspiration and education for many designers since that time.

Use the charts for inspiration for other projects, and there are plenty more patterns and motifs to inspire charts of your own in Jones' *Grammar of Ornament* (title page below right). Follow your fancy!



Finished measurements: Glove circumference after blocking is 7.25 inches, length(customizable) : 6.25 inches

Yarn: Two contrasting colours of fingering weight yarn of choice (14 WPI). You will need roughly 20-30 grams of each colour, depending on your chosen glove length.

Suggested Yarn: Tynn Peer Gynt by Sandnes Garn.

Suggested Needles: US 3 / 3.25 mm, circular needle of length needed for magic loop, or set of US 3 DPNs

Notions: Stitch markers or scrap wool to use as such

Gauge: 32 st & 36 rows = 4 inches in colourwork pattern in the round.

Skills Needed: Knitting in the round, stranded colorwork (including catching long floats). For a demonstration of how to catch floats while knitting two-handed stranded knitting as I prefer to do, please refer to this video.

Swatch: 25 stitches in pattern = 3 inches wide blocked, in pattern in the round. Ensure that you knit your swatch in the round and block to test for tension and colourfastness of your chosen colours.

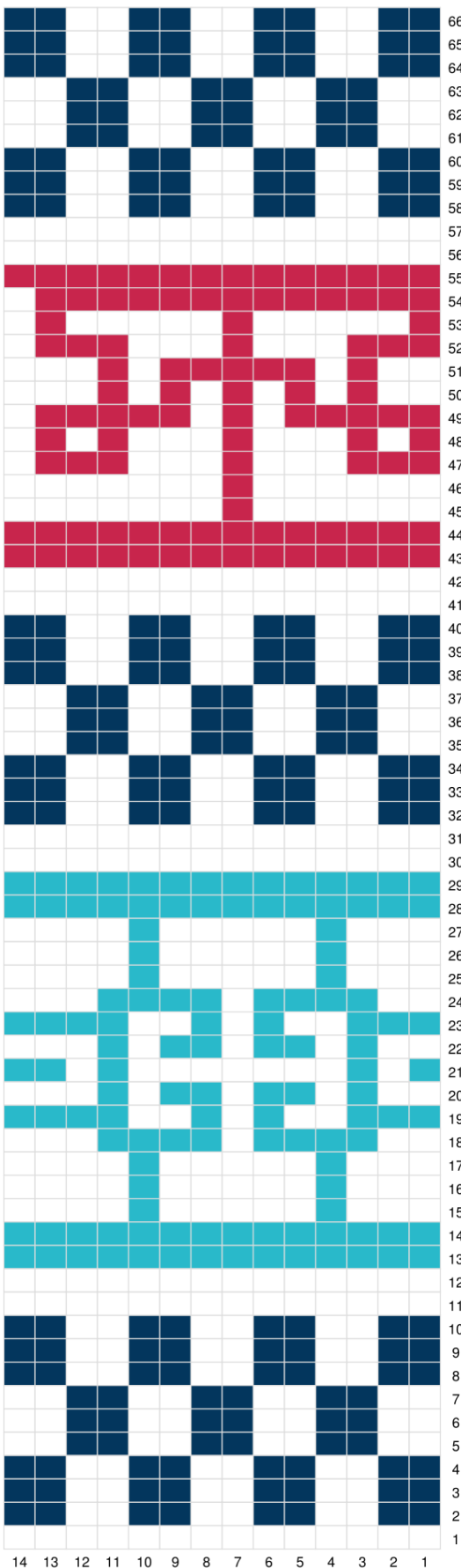
Note on Sizing

Measure the circumference of the base of your hand and cast on the number of stitches needed to fit comfortably around your hand according to your swatch.

Note, if increasing the circumference of your glove, do so in blocks of stitches split between the beginning and end of the round to keep your pattern evenly distributed around the glove.

The chart is shown in 4 colours to mark the different pattern blocks. Use colours of your choice, but note that if you decide to use more than 2 you will need to buy a third colour of yarn.

Chart A



As written:

Cast on 59 stitches (or number needed for desired size) Using your preferred stretchy cast on. I use the Old Norwegian long-tail cast on. Pull a tail three times the length you need. Tie a slip-knot, cast on your stitches using your preferred method.

Join for working in the round.

Row 1: K2cc, PM with distinct beginning-of-round marker which will be on the thumb side of the glove.

Knit MC around, catching your cc behind every 4 stitches to carry both colours for the entire round.

See Here for a great tutorial video by Roxane Richardson on techniques for catching floats when working with one colour in each hand.

Row 2 - (chart foundation row): Knit chart row 1, marking pattern repeats with stitch markers in your foundation row. Knitting in the round for right handed knitters the chart will be knit from right to left.

Knit in pattern until you reach last 2 stitches before BOR marker.

K2cc, slip marker

Row 3: Knit in pattern until you reach last 2 stitches before BOR marker.

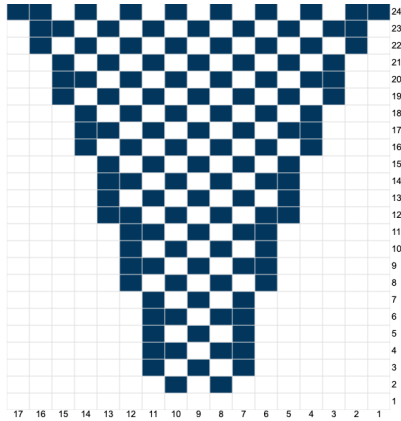
K2cc, slip marker

Continue to knit chart in the round (as row 3) until glove measures 4.5" (or desired length) from cast on edge. This pattern is designed with a long cuff to cover the pulse points and keep the wrists warm in a chilly rare books room. If you want a shorter cuff, simply stop when glove cuff measures 2" from cast on edge.

Thumb increases

The thumb gusset is worked in alternating mc and cc stitches, with increases worked every 5th row, then every 4th row (twice), then every third row

Increase setup row: Knit in pattern around to last 2 sts before BOR. Place thumb marker, K1cc, M1Rmc, K1cc. 1 st Increased.



Note! Alternate mc and cc stitches from row to row to create checkerboard colour pattern between thumb stitch markers. If the stitch in the thumb gusset is MC, next row it is knit CC. If it is CC, next row it is worked MC as shown on the chart.

Thumb increases

The thumb gusset is worked in alternating mc and cc stitches, with increases worked every 5th row, then every 4th row (twice), then every third row

Increase setup row: Knit in pattern around to last 2 sts before BOR. Place thumb marker, K1cc, M1Rmc, K1cc. 1 st Increased.

Knit 1 round in pattern (chart A)

Increase A: Knit in pattern (chart A) around to thumb marker, SM. K1cc, M1Rmc, K1cc, M1Lmc, K1cc. (2 sts increased.)

Knit 4 rounds: knit in pattern around to thumb marker, SM. K1cc, knit alternating cc and mc across to last stitch before BOR marker, K1cc.

Increase B: Knit in pattern around to thumb marker, SM. K1CC, M1R, k alternative MC and CC to 1 before BOR marker, M1L, K1CC. (2 sts increased.)

Knit 3 Rounds: knit in pattern around to thumb marker, SM, K1cc, knit alternating cc and mc (thumb chart) across to last stitch before BOR marker, K1cc.

Repeat Increase B once more (2 sts increased) then Knit 3 rounds.

{{Increase Row C: Knit chart in pattern around to thumb marker, SM. K1CC, M1R, k alternating MC and CC to 1 before BOR marker, M1L, K1CC. (2 sts increased.)

Knit 2 rounds: knit in pattern around to thumb marker, SM, k1cc, knit alternating cc and mc across to last stitch before BOR marker, K1cc.}}

Repeat from {{ —>}} 5 more times for a total of 17 stitches increased in thumb gusset.

Knit 1 row around in pattern to thumb marker. Transfer thumb stitches to waste yarn. Cast on 2 stitches using backwards loop method, then continue to knit around in pattern until glove reaches nearly the desired length.

Top Edge

End your chart and K2 rounds in MC catching cc floats behind. Break MC leaving tail to weave in.

Edge row 1: K around CC.

Edge row 2: K1, P1 around in CC

Edge row 3: K around in CC

Bind off in preferred tight bind off, I prefer a sewn or knit bind off.

Thumb.

Rejoin MC and CC at right side of thumb stitches, leaving a long tail to weave in.

Pickup and knit 17 stitches from the waste yarn in alternating MC, CC pattern.

Pickup and knit 2 stitches from top of thumb hole and continue to knit around in pattern until your thumb has reached your desired length.

Finish your thumb.

Edge row 1: K around CC.

Edge row 2: K1, P1 around in CC

Edge row 3: K around in MC

Bind off in preferred tight bind off, I prefer a sewn or knit bind off.

Weave in all ends.

Wet block your gloves to help the colour work stitches even out and settle, but do be cautious about colour bleeding and remove from water promptly if it occurs.

Wear your mittens with pride and be happy about how warm your wrists are!

Abbreviations:

cc – contrast colour

mc – main colour

k1 – Knit 1

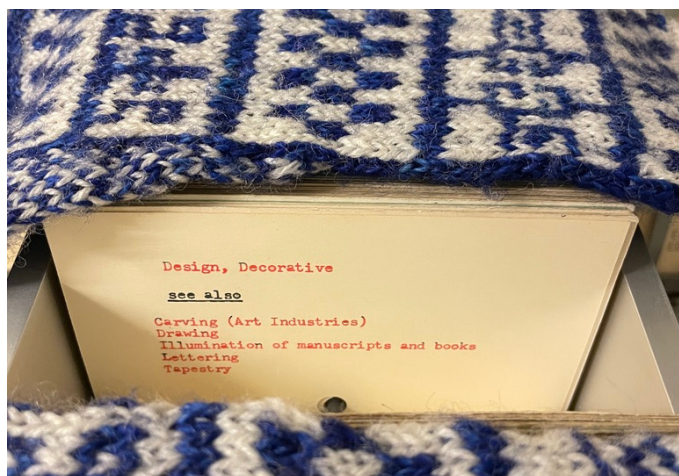
P1 – Purl 1

M1R – Make 1 right

M1L – Make 1 left

SM – slip marker

BOR – Beginning of round



Source material : Jones, Owen, et al. *The Grammar of Ornament*. Published by Day and Son, Lithographers to the Queen, Gate Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields, 1856.