

# Keep cozy with these fall inspired mitts

These fingerless mitts are inspired by the patterns of two white cotton counterpanes in the collection of the Huron County Museum and Historic Gaol located in Goderich, Ontario.

White cotton counterpanes (or coverlets) were common in the 19th Century due to the preference at the time for white bed coverings and the ready availability of cotton yarn.

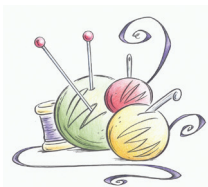
Counterpanes were traditionally made up of smaller units (squares or octagons, for example) that are worked separately and then joined together to create an overall design or effect. They were traditionally knitted or crocheted in white or cream-colored cotton yarn or rug warp. Patterns were numerous and could be quite intricate.

Each mitt is worked from one corner to the opposite corner, with reverse-stock-



inette-stitch surrounding an embossed leaf in the lower half of the unit, a row of eyelets through the middle, and alternating stockinette-stitch and reverse-stockinette-stitch ribbing above.

The garter-stitch rows feature a yarn-over increase at the beginning of each row. Half of the mitt (the embossed leaf portion) uses wool yarn dyed with natural colours from red onions, Burdock, Goldenrod, and Black Walnuts. The other half of the mitt is knit with undyed wool.



## Stitch Revival Studio

inspired by vintage needlework



### About the designer

Sharlene Bolen is a Blyth-based freelancer & needlework designer with a love & appreciation for all things vintage & hand-made. For pattern support please contact [sbolen@stitchrevivals-tudio.ca](mailto:sbolen@stitchrevivals-tudio.ca). Visit [www.stitchrevivalstudio.ca](http://www.stitchrevivalstudio.ca) for more information.

# Falling Leaf Fingerless Mitts

a pattern to knit by Sharlene Bolen



*Falling Leaf Fingerless Mitts inspired by the colours of nature and two heirloom counterpane coverlets in the collection of the Huron County Museum & Historic Gaol located in Goderich, Ontario.*

**FINISHED SIZE** 7 inches square; 7 inches by 3.5 inches when seamed.

**GAUGE** 4 to 5 stitches per inch on a size 7 (4.5mm) knitting needle (gauge is approximate).

**YARN** Worsted weight yarn. The sample in the photo was knit with worsted weight wool yarn from Steele Wool Farm.

### NOTIONS

Tapestry needle  
Extra yarn for sewing side seam

**NEEDLES** Size US 7 (4.5 mm) or size needed to obtain gauge

# Falling Leaf Fingerless Mitts

## INSTRUCTIONS

Cast on 3 sts

1st Row: (Yo, k1) 3 times

2nd Row: Yo, p5, k1 (wrong side)

3rd Row: Yo, p1, k2, yo, k1, yo, k2, p1

4th Row: Yo, k1, p7, k2

5th Row: Yo, p2, k3, yo, k1, yo, k3, p2

6th Row: Yo, k2, p9, k3

7th Row: Yo, p3, k4, yo, k1, yo, k4, p3

8th Row: Yo, k3, p11, k4

9th Row: Yo, p4, k5, yo, k1, yo, k5, p4

10th Row: Yo, k4, p13, k5

11th row: Yo, p5, k6, yo, k1, yo, k6, p5

12th Row: Yo, k5, p15, k6

13th Row: Yo, p6, K7, yo, K1, yo, K7, p6

14th Row: Yo, k6, p17, k7

15th Row: Yo, p7, k8, yo, k1, yo, k8, p7

16th Row: Yo, k7, p19, k8

17th Row: Yo, p8, ssk, k15, k2tog, p8

18th Row: Yo, k8, p17, k9

19th Row: Yo, p9, ssk, k13, k2tog, p9

20th Row: Yo, k9, p15, k10

21st Row: Yo, p10, ssk, k11, k2tog, p10

22nd Row: Yo, k10, p13, k11

23rd Row: Yo, p11, ssk, k9, k2tog, p11

24th Row: Yo, k11, p11, k12

25th Row: Yo, p12, ssk, k7, k2tog, p12

26th Row: Yo, k12, p9, k13

27th Row: Yo, p13, ssk, k5, k2tog, p13

28th Row: Yo, k13, p7, k14

29th Row: Yo, p14, ssk, k3, k2tog, p14

30th Row: Yo, k14, p5, k15

31st Row: Yo, p15, ssk, k1, k2tog, p15

32nd Row: Yo, k15, p3, k16

33rd Row: Yo, p16, k3tog, p16 (top of the leaf)



*Above, the counterpane square begins with the leaf.*



*Above, the second colour is being worked in. This is a good pattern to use up bits of leftover yarn you may have in your stash.*

34th Row: Yo, p34

35th Row: Yo, k35

36th Row: p36

37th Row - Eyelet Row (RS): K1, [yo, k2tog] 17 times, k1

38th Row: Purl across



*The leaves, colour banding and eyelet rows align nicely on these counterpane inspired fingerless mitts. Above, the mitts are modeled by the designer's daughter.*

39th Row: Knit across

40th Row \*(WS): K2tog, k to end—1 st dec'd.

41st Row (RS): P2tog, p to end—1 st dec'd.

Rep last 2 rows once more—2 sts dec'd.

44th Row (WS): P2tog, p to end—1 st dec'd.

45th Row (RS): K2tog, k to end—1 st dec'd.

Rep last 2 rows once more—2 sts dec'd.

Rep from \* 3 more times—4 sts rem.

Next Row (WS): K2tog, k to end—3 sts rem.

Next Row (RS): P2tog, p to end—2 sts rem.

Next Row: K2tog—1 st rem. Fasten off.

## FINISHING

Wash the two mitts and pin flat to block. When the mitts are dry, fold the mitts in half so that each leaf aligns to the inside bottom corner (as in the image above) and sew edges together using a whip stitch, leaving an opening for the thumb. Weave in ends.

## ABBREVIATIONS

**BO** bind off

**CO** cast on

**DEC** decrease

**K** knit

**K2tog** knit two stitches together

**P** purl

**P2tog** purl two stitches together

**RS** right side

**WS** wrong side

**YO** yarn over