

# Generic Top-Down Mitts

by Cynthia Miller

Note: Foundation stitches are helpful because they stretch more than chaining. However, you can also work this pattern with loose chains in place of the foundation stitches. I strongly recommend learning how to do foundation stitches (a video can be very helpful); it is worth the trouble to learn.

Work a foundation stitch row in the stitch of your choice, to the length needed (either eyeballing it or according to a gauge swatch). Join. (This will have a split that can be sewn up after a few rounds or at the end.)

Work desired number of rounds, without turning.

**Adding thumb stitches:** (read notes!!)

Work stitches to the point that you want your thumb, then add enough foundation stitches to comfortably go around your thumb. I typically skip a few stitches on the hand as well; take that into account when adding. Begin working your regular stitches again.

\*\* To begin adding the foundation stitches, use the side of the last st to start your first foundation stitch.

\*\* When working the first regular stitch after adding the foundation stitches for the thumb, insert hook through the base of the last added foundation stitch and through the 1<sup>st</sup> regular stitch you will start working, yarn over, and pull through all but the last loop on your hook, leaving you 2 loops, then work the first regular stitch, pulling that stitch through the extra loop. This will prevent a split in the stitches.

Continue crocheting around, decreasing at the thumb area each round. 2 stitches decreased per row works pretty well, placing the decreases at the sides of the thumb.

Crochet around until it is the length you want. If you make these as long fingerless gloves, you can add increases as needed to fit your arm.

**Thumb:**

Attach yarn to any stitch. Crochet around.  
\*\* I found that when I get to the “corners” in the first round that there can be gaps. I solved this by working a dec over the gap and the regular st, which does not change the stitch count, but fills in the gap.  
Crochet around to desired length.

Feel free to add things like cables, puffs, lace, colorwork, etc.

You can also work this pattern backwards to make cuff-up mitts.