

LABAKINNAS MITTENS

Correna Phillips



Gauge

- 38 stitches over 10 cm (4 inches)

Finished Measurements

- Finished mitten is 4 inches wide by 9 inches long

Materials

- 3 50 gram balls of DROPS Alpaca in 3 colours
- 3.5 mm (US 4) Double Pointed needles or size needed to obtain correct gauge
- Stitch Marker

Labakinnas Mittens

The name of these mittens comes from their inspiration. I was snooping on Pinterest and found the chart for the front of the mittens. I fell in love with it, but there was very little information about the source. Finally I found the blog (Mustrilaegas.blogspot.ca), where Irena Käsitöö has compiled several mitten charts from family and vintage craft magazines from her native Estonia. The Labakinnas chart came from the publication *Nõukogude Naine* issued in June 1972.

There was no information about the pattern used for the palm of the mitten, so I have come up with my own interpretation. I have adjusted the stitch count for the front of the mitten to accommodate my chart. I hope you enjoy knitting them as much as I did. Please be advised that while this pattern has been test knit, it has not been tech edited.

Cuff

Setting up the hem:

Using your preferred provisional cast on method, CO 62 stitches in Colour A. Join in the round, and divide across the needles as you prefer. PM to mark the beginning of the round.

Knit 6 rows.

Purl 1 row (this will be the hem turning row).

Begin working with the chart:

Rows 1-5: Knit (these rows correspond with chart rows 1-5).

Row 6: Place sts from provisional CO onto DPNs or a circular needle, and work to join sts to create fold-over hem. (K2tog, one from the front needle, and one from the back needle.)

Row 7: Join Colour B and Colour C. Continue following chart.

Increase Row – Row 23: Change to Colour B and increase 12 sts evenly as follows – [k3, (M1, k5) 5 times, M1, k3] Repeat increases across palm side – 74 sts total.

Row 24: Knit

Mitten Body

Row 25: Using Colour A and Colour B, follow the chart and begin colourwork on mitten body. Continue knitting until you reach the thumb (Row 46.)

Row 46: **Thumb Placement.** Work this row in chart pattern to green line (**Right** green line for right hand, **Left** green line for left hand). Using scrap yarn, knit 15 sts. Place the 15 sts back on the left needle. Return to colourwork chart, knit 15 stitches, alternating between 2 colours. Continue in chart until shaping at top of mitten. (Row 81).

Rows 82 - 98. Work shaping decreases as follows: SSK, following the chart, knit across mitten until 2 stitches remain, then K2tog. Repeat for other side of mitten. Break yarn, thread through remaining 6 sts 2 times and tighten.

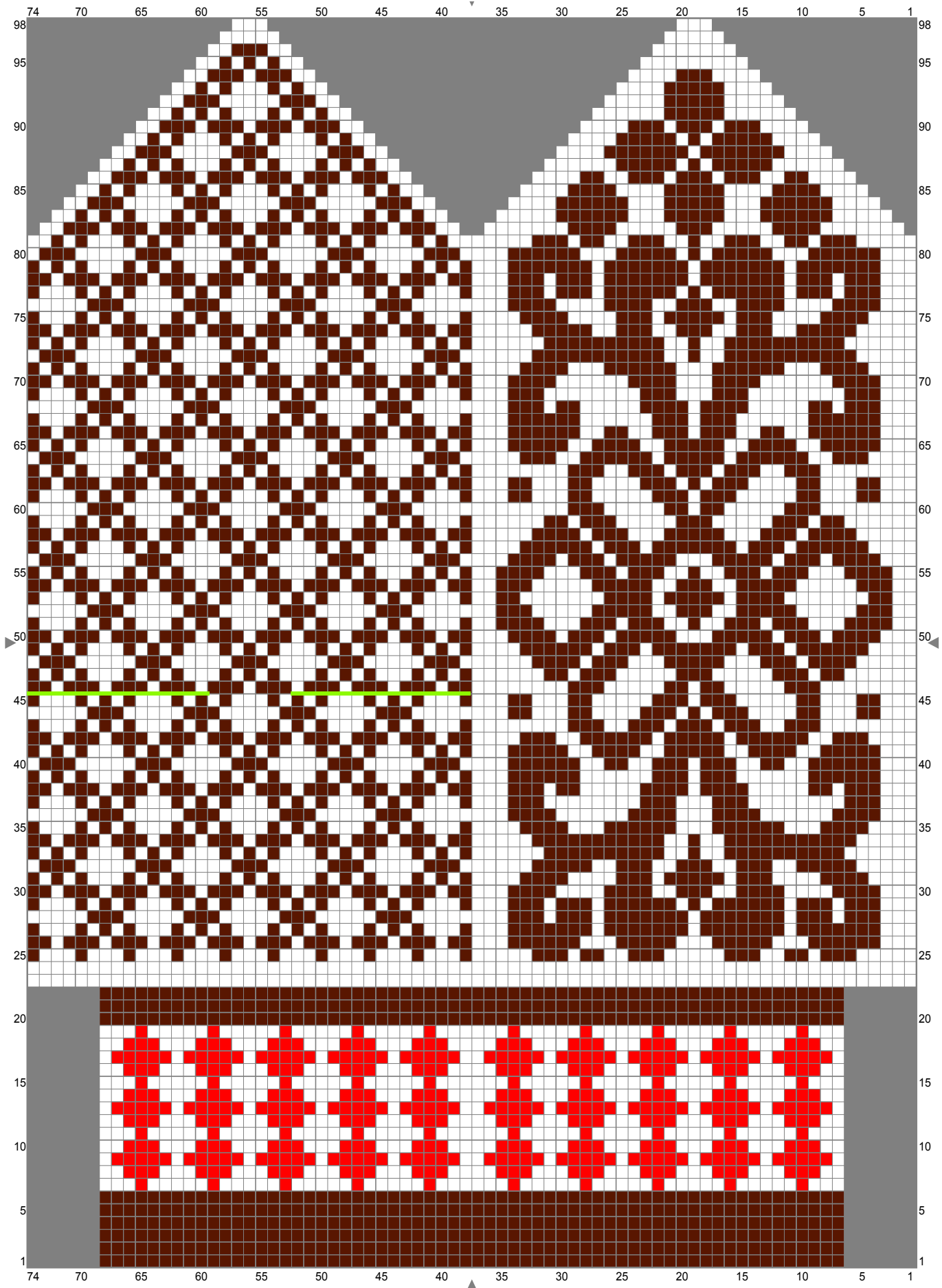
Thumb

Remove scrap yarn and pick up the 15 live sts on a DPN, then pick up 2 stitches from the mitten body. (17 stitches.) On a 2nd DPN, pick up the remaining 15 live stitches, then pick up 2 stitches from the mitten body (17 stitches.) You will have a total of 34 stitches for the thumb. Divide stitches onto 3 DPNs and work thumb in the round according to chart.

Work in pattern until thumb is 5 cm / 2 inches long, or desired length. Begin decreases as follows: SSK, following the chart, knit across thumb until 2 stitches remain, then K2tog. When 6 stitches remain, break yarn, thread through remaining stitches twice and tighten.

Weave in the ends and voila! Enjoy your mittens.

Labakinnas



Glossary

CO - Cast On

PM - Place Marker

K - Knit

STS - Stitches

K2tog - Knit Two Together

SSK - slip 2 stitches knitwise from left to right needle, slip left needle through slipped stitches and knit 2 together.

M1 - Pick up bar between the stitch you completed and your next stitch with your right needle. Transfer to left needle and knit through back loop.

INC - Increase

DEC - Decrease

DPNs - Double Pointed Needles

Colour Key

Brown = Colour A

White = Colour B

Red = Colour C

Thumb

