

Fine men's Selbu mittens. Free pattern!

By Inger Berg

Blog: <https://osterdalsbrura.blogspot.com/2019/03/fine-mens-selbu-mittens.html>



Selbu mittens, knitted with finer yarn and with thinner needles, allows a much more intricate and complicated pattern. These kinds of mittens were common gifts for special occasions such as weddings and the bride knitted for the groom and sometimes also the guests. Then, the mittens often had year and initials knitted into the pattern.

Here you find pattern and video instructions for men's mittens. They are recognised by the cuff style you see in the picture below. [Women](#) and children had different styles and I will make examples of both as soon as possible.

I also have pattern and instructions for [selbu mittens knitted on thicker needles](#), that are faster and easier to knit.



Typical men's cuff

For this pattern you will need:

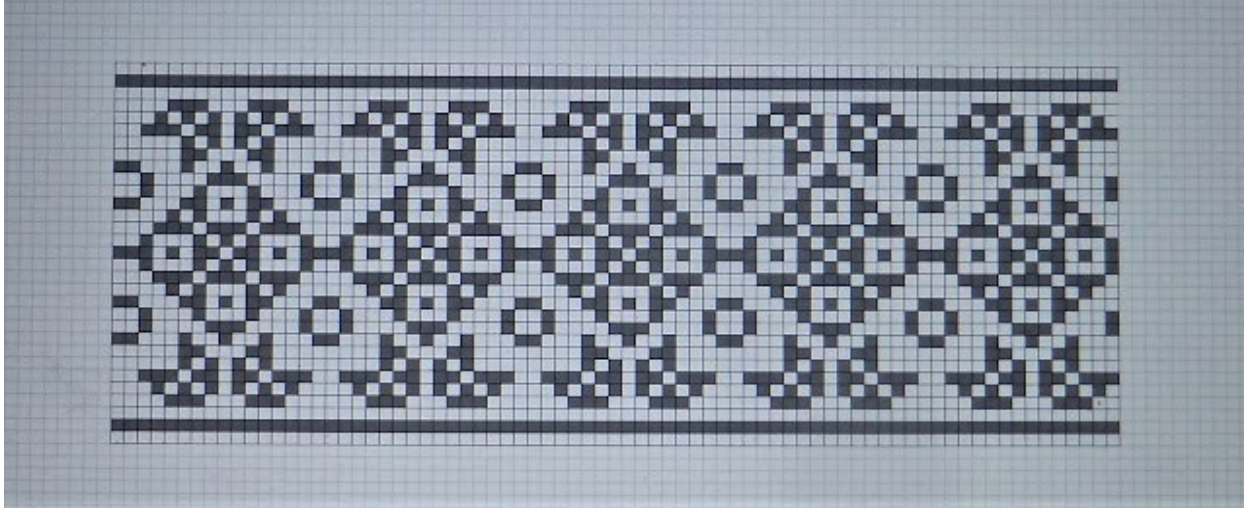
5 knitting needles size 1,75 mm and wool yarn that gives 28 stitches per 10 cm/4" with 2.5 mm needles. You will need two skeins of yarn for bottom colour and one skein for pattern colour.

The reason why I use smaller needles than the yarn suggests is to make the mittens fairly thick and warm and have many stitches to allow intricate pattern.

This mitten measures approximately 12 cm across and 22 cm from beginning of main pattern to tip.

If you need to adjust the size, you can get some tips on how to do it [here](#).
This is what you do:

Cast on 75 stitches, stitches evenly distributed on 4 needles. Knit 2 rows of ribbing: knit 2, purl 1.
Knit cuff pattern.
After knitting cuff pattern, increase 5 stitches evenly distributed on one row.



Cuff pattern

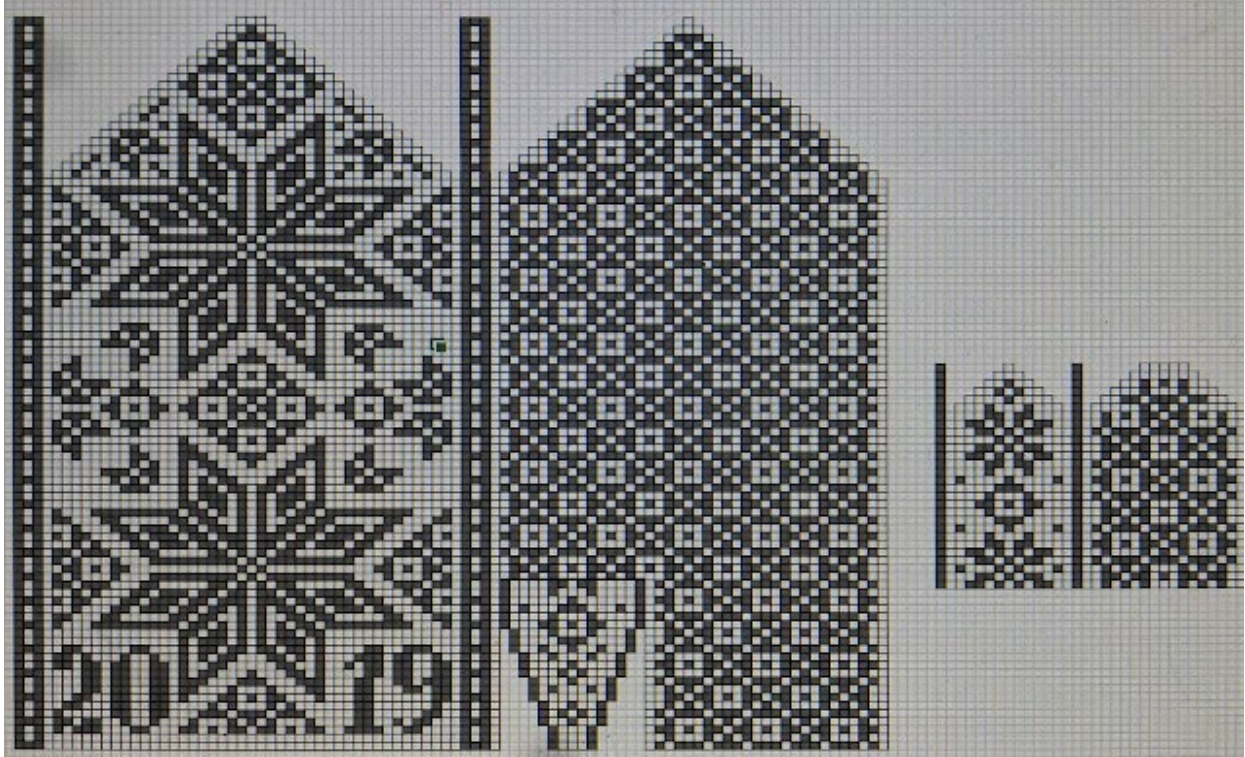
Next you start knitting the main pattern. In the first row of knitting the main pattern you increase with two stitches for the thumb. Increases are placed as first and last stitch inside the black sidebands for the thumb.

You may want to knit the pattern so that the beginning of the row is furthest away from the thumb and not as shown in the pattern diagram. This is because this side of the mitten is less visible most of the time while wearing the mitten.

When you are finished increasing for the thumb, put the stitches for the thumb, including sidebands (should be 15) onto some waste yarn, a safety pin or similar. Cast on 15 new stitches with bottom and pattern color so that it matches the pattern and continue to knit the way the diagram shows.

Start decreasing according to the diagram. Where the tip of the mitten goes to the left, take the first stitch after side band loose off, knit the next stitch, pull first stitch over the other. Where the tip of the mitten goes to the right, knit the second last stitch before the side band, put it back on the left needle, pull the last stitch loose over, put the stitch back over to the right needle again.

When there are a total of 10 stitches left, cut the yarn and pull one yarn end through the remaining stitches. Pull the yarn ends through the small hole in the tip of the mitten and turn the whole thing inside out. Tighten the yarn ends on the wrong side of the mitten and fasten the ends.



Main pattern and thumb pattern

Thumb: Pick up 15 stitches from where you casted on 15 stitches to make the thumb hole, plus one stitch from each side. Then put the 15 stitches from the safety pin back on a needle. Distribute the stitches evenly on 3 or 4 needles. Knit according to the thumb diagram and decrease the same way as described above. When there are a total of 8 stitches on the needles, the yarn can be cut and the thumb closes in the same way as the main part of the mitten.



Finally, lightly iron with a damp towel between the mitten and the iron for the best results.

Complimentary Youtube videos by Inger Berg for Selbu Mittens:

Step 1 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eqitmnmWmkg> Cuff

Step 2 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VeeY450s65I> Increase for the thumb and making thumb hole

Step 3 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0CUyklDiljE> Decreasing to make the tip

Step 4 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_m2xH80mfKw Making the thumb

Ctrl + Click on above pictures to get them enlarged