

Flying V's

by Lee Meredith

A pattern set for fingerless mitts, mittens, legwarmers, and a cowl, all in your choices of chevron block stranded colorwork patterns!



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Work chevrons together with stranded colorwork to create an assortment of different V designs, depending on exactly how you stripe your yarns, how many colors you use, etc.

You'll never need to work with more than two yarns at a time, but some prior stranded colorwork experience is recommended, as it's a bit tricky working the stranded colors with the chevron pattern at the same time. But the results are well worth the effort!

Use fingering weight to make fingerless mitts or full mittens, worsted weight for legwarmers or a cowl; each item is given in three different sizes and can be made in any of the chevron color block designs.

This can be a great project for using up leftovers, or for bits of self-stripping or variegated yarns, if you get creative with the color block patterns. For example, try using one solid for the background color of a whole piece with all different colors as non-repeating rows of chevron V's. Or make non-repeating off-kilter chevron stripes with lots of leftover mini-balls of yarn.

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You need

yardages given for small {medium, large} sizes (see sizing section for details)

For fingerless mitts:

- ▶ 160 {190, 220} yards / 145 {175, 200} meters total fingering weight yarn, in as many colors as you want to use
- ▶ Size US 2 needles (or size to get gauge), in double points or circulars to knit in the round
- ▶ 2 stitch markers

For full mittens:

- ▶ 220 {250, 280} yards / 200 {230, 260} meters total fingering weight yarn, in as many colors as you want to use
- ▶ Size US 2 needles (or size to get gauge), in double points or circulars to knit in the round
- ▶ 2 stitch markers

For legwarmers:

- ▶ 320 {370, 430} yards / 300 {340, 390} meters total worsted weight yarn, in as many colors as you want to use
- ▶ Size US 8 needles (or size to get gauge), in double points or circulars to knit in the round
- ▶ 1 stitch marker

For cowl:

- ▶ 160 {200, 240} yards / 145 {180, 220} meters total worsted weight yarn, in as many colors as you want to use
- ▶ Size US 8 needles (or size to get gauge), in a 16" long circular to knit in the round
- ▶ 1 stitch marker



Yardage notes: You won't need as much if you're working one of the color patterns which only requires stranded knitting for half the rows. You'll need more if you're adding extra length.

Gauge

For mitts (fingering weight): just under 8 stitches per inch / 6 stitches per 2 cm in stockinette stitch.

For legwarmers or cowl (worsted weight): 4.5 stitches per inch / 3.25 stitches per 2 cm in stockinette stitch.

The samples

- 1: Knit Picks *Palette* fingering weight in Turmeric, Mist, Opal Heather, Verdant Heather, and Lichen; size small fingerless mitts
- 2: Knit Picks *Palette* fingering weight in Turmeric, Mist, Opal Heather, Verdant Heather, and Tea Rose; size medium fingerless mitts
- 3: Knit Picks *Palette* fingering weight in Tomato, Caribbean, and Lichen; size large fingerless mitts
- 4: Knit Picks *Palette* fingering weight in Tomato and Mist; size medium mittens
- 5: Knit Picks *Wool of the Andes Tweed* worsted weight in Down Heather, North Pole Heather, Dill Heather, and Indigo Heather; size medium legwarmers
- 6: Knit Picks *Swish* worsted weight in Lemongrass and Knit Picks *Chroma* worsted weight in Guppy; size large cowl
- 7: Quince & Co. *Lark* worsted weight in Egret, Honey, Gingerbread, and Cypress; size medium cowl

Yarn note: A soft yarn (like the merino used in cowl sample 6) will make for a floppier fabric, so in a yarn like this, a large size cowl will want to flop/slouch down and legwarmers will want to slouch. If you want a piece (particularly legwarmers/cowl) which will be more stable and tend to stay up more, choose a more sturdy yarn type, not something super soft and floppy.

Sizing

Circumferences in small {medium, large} (approximate - sizes may vary based on how tightly strands are carried along the back; fit may vary depending on yarn type, etc)

Mitts/mittens: 8 {8.5, 9} inches / 20 {21.5, 23} cm, to fit hands up to 8.25 {9, 9.75} inches / 21 {23, 25} cm around (at the largest point around)

Legwarmers: 13 {15, 17} inches / 33 {38, 43} cm, to fit legs up to 14 {16, 18} inches / 36 {41, 46} cm around

Cowl: 19 {24, 29} inches / 49 {61, 73} cm, to fit anyone in different styles (see below)

Heights in small {medium, large}

Heights are easily adjustable by knitting more or less for your ideal height; these are the approximate heights as the patterns are written.

Fingerless mitts: 5.75 {6.5, 7.25} inches / 15 {16.5, 18} cm

Mittens: 8.5 {9.5, 10.5} inches / 22 {24, 26} cm

Legwarmers: 14 inches / 36 cm

Cowl: 7.5 inches / 19 cm

Because of the nature of the stranded colorwork, the fabric in these items doesn't have much stretch, so you may prefer to make a size you think might be a bit too big rather than one you think might be too small, for a looser fit.

Mitts: small is for adolescents/teens or for small adult woman hands, medium is for medium adult woman hands, and large is for large adult women or some adult men. Keep in mind the length can be easily modified, and the top of the mitten can be made to custom fit your hand by trying it on as you knit.

Legwarmers: small is for adolescents/teens or small adult woman legs, medium is for medium adult woman legs, and large is for large adult woman legs. You can make the length as long as you like. The samples are medium.

Note for legwarmers: since the fabric won't stretch much, even if the legwarmers are a perfect fit, they will probably not stay up on bare legs, but they're great for over leggings or skinny pants, or worn slouchy. You could thread elastic or a drawstring around the tops if you want them to stay up.

Cowl: small is somewhat fitted to the neck (though not snugly fit), medium is a loose fit around the neck, and large is a more floppy longer look. The samples are medium (white) and large (green).

The different sizes in the mitts and legwarmers are made by changing the number of stitches per chevron block. The sizes in the cowl differ by changing the number of chevron blocks, all with the same stitch count.