

Red Fleece Mittens

Warm hands, warm heart! Designed with snug elastic wrists, these extra-long polar fleece mittens will keep out the cold. And because fleece doesn't unravel, sewing them is easy.

Mitten Designer: **Amanda Carestio**
Embroidery Designer: **Aimee Ray**





Hope Note

I feel like part of something immense and precious and hope that it brings warmth and smiles.

Ana, Leganes, Spain

Red Fleece Mittens

Basic Sewing Kit	Red thread
Mitten template	40 inches (101.6 cm) of round elastic cord
Embroidery template	Seam Allowance
1/4 yard (22.9 cm) of red fleece	1/2 inch (1.3 cm), unless otherwise noted
Tracing paper	
Embroidery floss and needle	

1. Copy and enlarge the mitten and embroidery templates on page 127, and cut them out. Fold the fabric in half lengthwise with selvages aligned. Center the pattern on the fleece, and cut through both layers to yield two mitten shapes. Flip the pattern over, and cut two more mitten shapes.
2. Trace the embroidery design from the template onto tracing paper. Pin the paper patterns securely in place to the front of each mitten. Refer to the photo for the floss colors to use for each motif. Embroider the designs through the tracing paper and top layer of each mitten using the backstitch.
3. Tear away the tracing paper. Note: You may need to use a needle or tweezers to pull out the pieces from underneath your stitches.
4. Pin the mitten shapes together with right sides facing. Using a 1/4-inch (6 mm) seam allowance, stitch around the outside edge of the shape, leaving the bottom edge open.
5. Cut off the excess seam allowance, especially around the thumb. Be careful to avoid cutting the stitches.
6. Hem the mittens while they're still inside out. Fold the bottom edge up 1 inch (2.5 cm), pin, and then stitch around the hemline. Note: You may find it easier to hem the mittens before stitching them together.



7. Turn the mittens right side out. Snip a small hole near the outside bottom edge of each mitten, cutting only through the top layer of the hem. Note: Fleece will not unravel, so you don't have to worry that the openings will fray.
8. Cut the length of elastic cord in half. Attach a safety pin to one end of one piece of the elastic cord. Thread the cord through the hole, around the hemline casing of the mitten, and out through the same hole.
9. Pull the cord taut to lightly gather the edge of the mitten. Tie the ends into a double-knotted bow. Repeat steps 8 and 9 for the other mitten.



Charity

LOWO Child and Family Services
www.friendsofpineridgereservation.org/organizations/LOWO.shtml

The Lakota Oyate Wakanyeja Owicakiyapi (LOWO) Child and Family Services Agency, situated on the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota, provides child and family services, specifically focused on children who come from abusive and neglectful situations. LOWO supports comprehensive, culturally appropriate services that meet the basic needs of Lakota families, incorporating Lakota cultural beliefs, philosophy, traditions, and ceremonies as an important basis for helping children and families strengthen their identity as tribal people.

OTHER APPROPRIATE CHARITIES FOR THE MITTENS:

SOME (page 41)

Local homeless shelters

Local winter clothing drives

Basic Sewing Kit

Sharp sewing scissors (for fabric)

Craft scissors (for paper)

Rotary cutter and mat

Pinking shears

Sewing machine

Sewing machine needles

Hand-sewing needles

Measuring tape

Transparent ruler

Tailor's chalk or water-soluble fabric marker

Needle threader

Seam ripper

Iron and ironing board

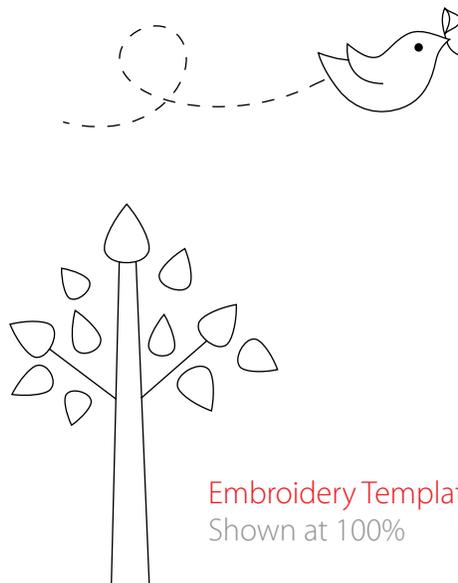
Straight pins

Safety and basting pins

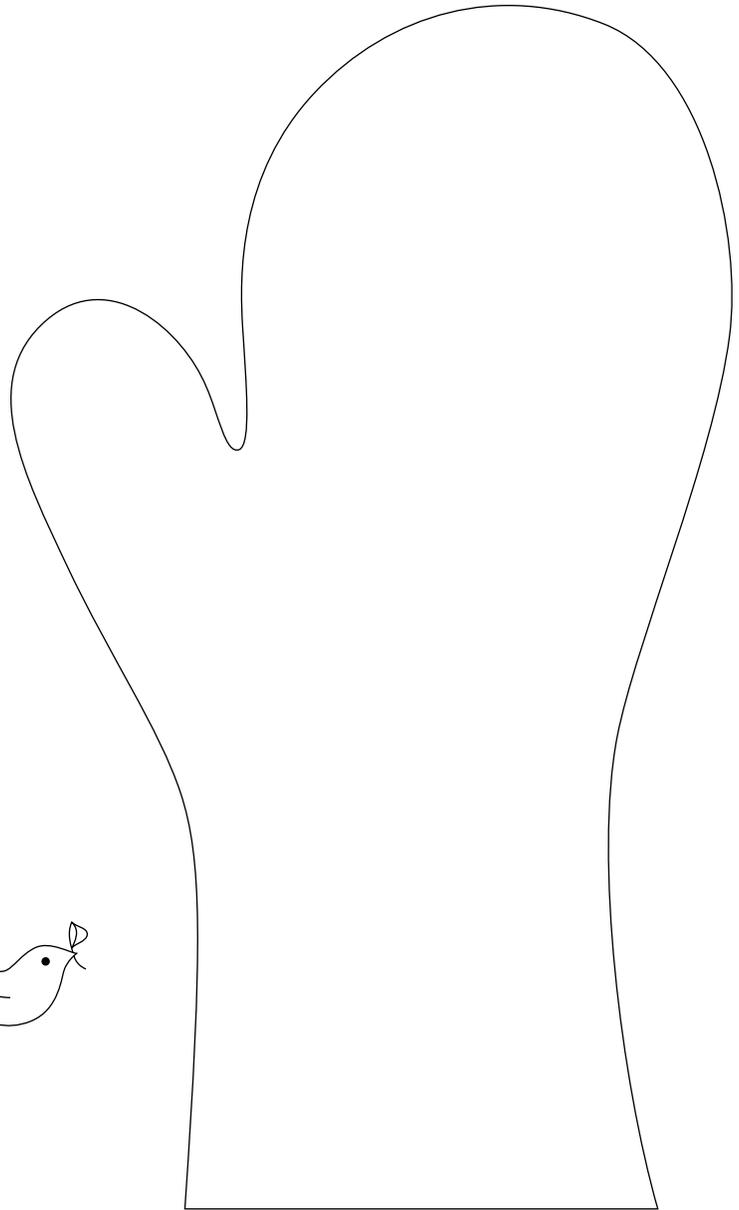
Thread

Pencil and paper for making templates

Knitting needle (for pushing out corners)



Embroidery Template
Shown at 100%



Mitten Template
Enlarge 200%