

Materials

1/8 yard of knit fabric, preferably with some Lycra or spandex

Ball-point machine needle, size 80/12

Polyester or polyester-wrapped cotton thread to match fabric

11" x 8 1/2" sheet of paper

Paper scissors

Fabric shears

Water-soluble fabric-marking pen (or tailor's chalk if you're working with dark fabric)

Point turner

Choosing Fabric



If you are lucky enough to live near a fabric store that stocks Liberty of London fabrics, I recommend using one of their printed cotton jerseys for this project. Their fabric is of the highest quality, and their prints are timeless and beautiful, many of them inspired by English perennial gardens and century-old artwork.



QUICK GARDEN GLOVES

If you traced your hand to make a Thanksgiving turkey in the second grade, you are more than qualified to make these gloves. You will need a sewing machine with a zigzag stitch; a nice, sharp ball-point machine-sewing needle; and polyester or polyester-wrapped cotton thread. See page 153 for some helpful tips on sewing with a zigzag stitch.

Preparation

Fabric with spandex or Lycra can shrink a lot when washed, so it's important to wash, dry, and "true" (see page 148) the fabric *before* cutting and sewing. No matter how tempting it may be to try to speed up the process by skipping Step 1 and "tracing" your hand directly on the fabric, you will find that making a paper pattern will produce gloves that are exactly the same size.

Sewing Instructions

1 Make Glove Pattern

Trace your hand on the sheet of paper, and then add a $\frac{1}{8}$ " seam allowance to the entire tracing. Use paper scissors to cut out the pattern piece.

2 Trace and Cut Out Pattern

Fold your fabric right sides together twice, first horizontally, then vertically. Then lay the pattern on the fabric, as shown, and trace around the pattern with a water-soluble fabric-marking pen or, in the case of dark fabrics, with tailor's chalk.

Pin generously and carefully cut out your pattern pieces: two front gloves and two back gloves.

3 Join Front and Back Gloves

Match up and pin each front and back glove with the right sides facing and the edges aligned.

To sew the front and back gloves together, you'll need to use a zigzag stitch since this stitch stretches, which is what's needed for a stretchy fabric like a knit. Set your sewing machine to a wide zigzag stitch with a short stitch-length, and start sewing at the outside wrist. Carefully stitch around each finger and back to the inside wrist. Repeat the process with the other glove.

4 Finish Glove's Cuff

With the glove still turned wrong side out, turn the glove's unfinished cuff $\frac{1}{4}$ " to the wrong side, and press the fold. Then zigzag-stitch this edge in place, capturing the raw edge underneath the zigzag stitches. Repeat the finishing process on the second glove, turn both gloves right side out using a point turner to shape fingers, and start gardening!

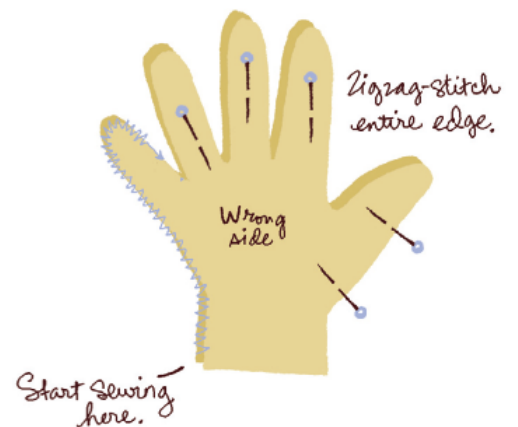
1 Make Glove Pattern



2 Trace and Cut Out Pattern



3 Join Front and Back Gloves, and Finish Glove's Edges



WEEKEND SEWING

More Than 40 Projects and Ideas for Inspired Stitching

HEATHER ROSS PHOTOGRAPHS BY JOHN GRUEN

Available wherever books are sold.

find out more at
melaniefallickbooks.com

STC Craft