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Created by Stacy Schlyer

## Convertible Mittens

### materials and tools

- ¼ yard stretch fabric (see Tips)
- Two ⅜"- to ½"-diameter buttons
- Elastic cording
- Sewing shears
- All-purpose polyester thread
- Size 80/12 Ballpoint needle
- Hand-sewing needle

The best part about cold weather is fashionable accessories. These mittens will keep your hands cozy and stylish, and flip out of the way when you need your fingers to use your touch phone, keys, etc. It's a perfect (and clever!) opportunity to reclaim an old sweater or knit garment. Keep your fingers happy this winter!



### Tips

This pattern is designed for knit fabrics that have a great deal of stretch. Ideal materials include sweater knits, interlocks, most fleeces, and thermal knits.

Reclaimed sweaters are also a good choice, but avoid using felted sweater material as it will not have enough stretch.

This pattern is designed to create a pair of teen/adult mittens—one size fits most.

If your hands are smaller or larger, or if your fabric is less stretchy than those recommended, reduce or enlarge the pattern seam allowances as needed.



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## Convertible Mittens

### step one

- Cut four Main Mitten pieces—two right, two left—using the template on page 7.
- Cut four Mitten Cover pieces using the template on page 8.



### Tips for Sewing Knits

Use a small zigzag stitch for seams. This will allow them to stretch, preventing the stitches from popping.

To keep hems stretchy, sew them with a small zigzag stitch. Alternatively, use a straight stitch and a Twin (Double) needle; the bobbin threads form a zigzag, allowing the hem to stretch.

Interlocks, polar fleece, and many sweater knits do not ravel, so it is not necessary to finish the edges of the fabric. However, if you opt to use a loose sweater knit or fabric that unravels, a small zigzag stitch can be used around the edges to keep them neat.



### step two

*All seam allowances are ¼".*

- With right sides together, sew the “straight” sides of the main mitten pieces together, beginning at the cuff and stitching to the top edge (see Tips above).





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### step three

- With right sides together, sew the other side edges of the main mitten pieces together, beginning at the cuff and stitching up the side and around the thumb, then pivoting and stitching the upper side edges together. ***Do not stitch the top and bottom edges!***

### step four

- Trim the seam allowances close to the stitching (to a scant  $\frac{1}{8}$ " ), being careful not to clip into the stitching. This will reduce bulk at the seams and make the mittens more comfortable to wear.

### step five

- At the upper edge of each mitten, turn under  $\frac{5}{8}$ ". Stitch the hem in place (see Tips on page 2).
- Repeat for the second mitten.

### step six

- At the lower edge of the mitten, turn under  $\frac{5}{8}$ ". Stitch the hem in place.
- Repeat for the second mitten.



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## Convertible Mittens

### step seven

- Turn mittens right side out.
- Decide which is the right and which is the left mitten.
- Referring to the template markings, sew one button onto the back of each mitten.
- Set the mittens aside.



### step eight

- Cut a 1½" piece of elastic cording.
- Fold the cording in half and center it on the rounded edge of one mitten cover, matching the raw edges. Baste in place.
- Repeat for the second pair of mitten cover pieces.

### step nine

- With right sides together, stitch each mitten cover with elastic to a mitten cover without elastic, leaving the lower edges free.



### step ten

- Trim the seam allowances close to the stitching (to a scant ⅛"), being careful not to clip into the stitching. This will reduce bulk and make the mittens more comfortable to wear.





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## Convertible Mittens

### step eleven

- At the lower edge of each mitten cover, turn under  $\frac{5}{8}$ ".
- Stitch the hems in place.



### step twelve

- Turn the mitten covers right side out. Place the lower, hemmed edge of one mitten cover along the hemline on the back of one main mitten piece, matching the side seams.
- Repeat for the remaining mitten and mitten cover, being sure to reverse the button/mitten cover placement so you have a left and a right mitten.



### step thirteen

- Sewing from side seam to side seam, stitch the hemmed edges of the mitten covers to the mitten bodies. Be sure to leave the front edges of the mitten covers and mitten bodies free.



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## Convertible Mittens

To Wear as Mittens: Place mitten covers over fingers and pull tightly over upper edges of mittens.

To Wear as Fingers-Free: Pull back mitten covers and slip elastic loops over buttons to hold flaps in place.

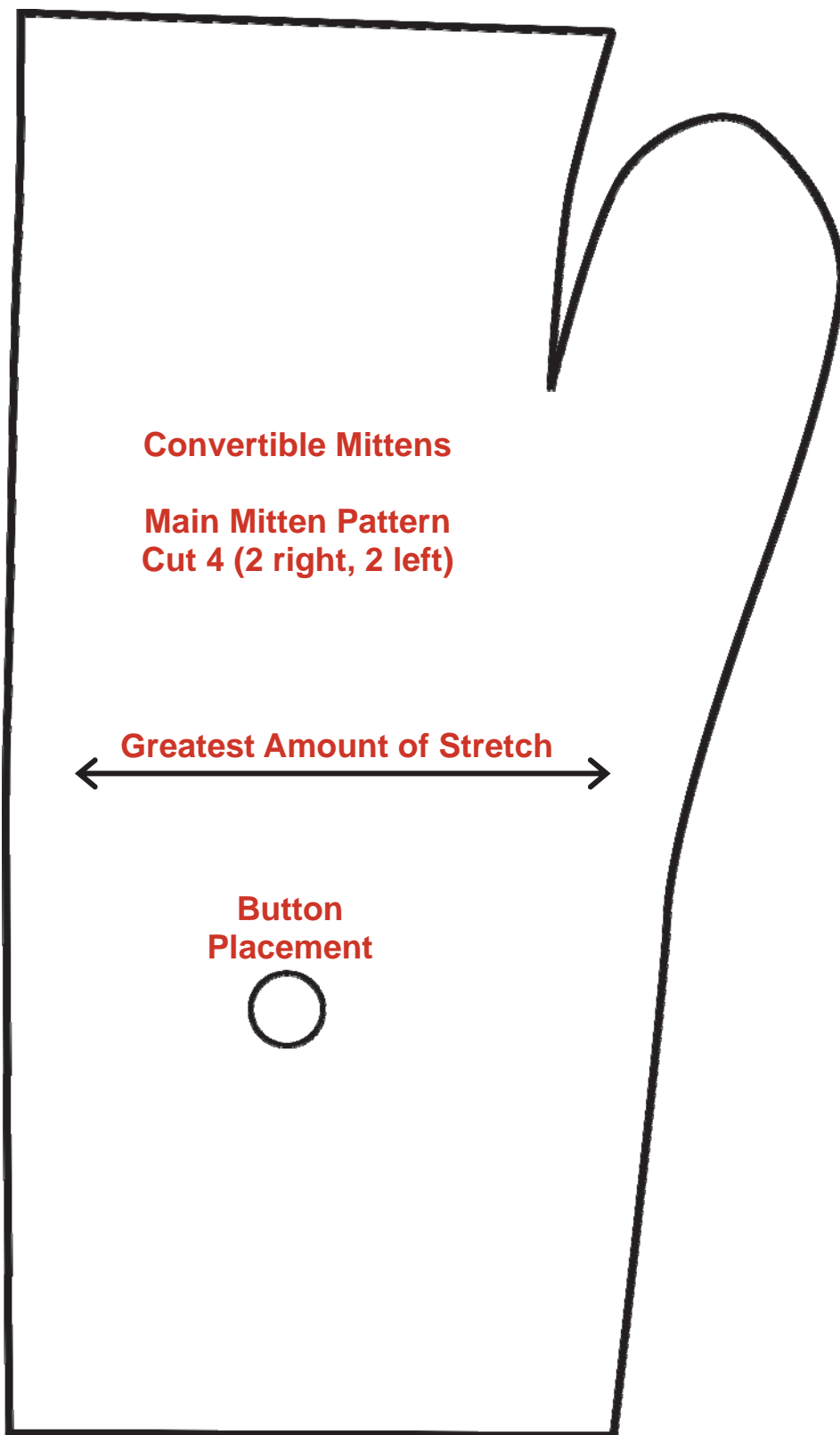


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Convertible Mittens

**Convertible Mittens—  
Main Mitten Pattern**



**Convertible Mittens**

**Main Mitten Pattern  
Cut 4 (2 right, 2 left)**

**Greatest Amount of Stretch**

**Button  
Placement**



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Convertible Mittens

## Convertible Mittens—Mitten Cover Pattern

Visit Stacy at her blog, Stacy Sews: Diary of a Fabric Junkie, at <http://stacysews.com/>

