HOW TO MAKE Gauntlets pt. 1

Instructional Guide

Equipment;

~Glover Needles~

Glover needles are unique 3 sided sharp needles and are necessary for hand sewing materials like your suede and leathers.

They are sold in a variety of sizes; I prefer to work with a size 5 or 6.

~Leather Threads~

I have found that a good strong upholstery thread, or extra heavy duty, nylon thread about a size 40 is best to sew suede and leather.

~ Bees Wax~

The topic of threads brings us to the use of a product called Bees Wax. Bees wax can be a very handy piece of equipment for any person who does any type of hand sewing. After you've threaded your needle, simply run your thread over the wax several



Fur Trimmed

times. This helps to keep your thread from becoming unruly (tangled) and also aids in slipping thru your materials more easily.

I use bees wax often and many times whilst I'm beading or sewing. I will stop and run my thread over the wax as needed.

~ Materials~

There are a lot of different materials to make mitts available; most common is suede also known as alaskan splits, variety of leathers; cow, deerskin, moose etc. I mostly use the alaskan spit its soft, economical, and easy to sew it's also dyed and comes in a huge variety of colors.

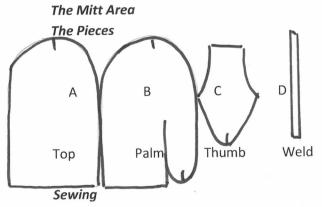
~ Linings~

A soft medium to heavy weight pile lining is very good for most mitts. But the thickness usually depends on individual preferences.

~Trimmings~

Can be fur or suede trimmed.

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For best results when sewing suede and leather always use the whipstitch ¼ deep x ¼ inch apart sewing rule. The Glover needle is a very sharp three sided needle that cuts a small hole each time it goes thru your material actually weakening it. Therefor close short stitches will not achieve your ideal Mitts. Also careful not to sew your sewn threads the needle will cut your thread!

For best results;

- * tacking your pieces together before sewing can aide you in the beginning.
- *Keep each stitch tight!
- *Suede and leathers stretch and move always look ahead of your work and keep your materials lined up.
- *Be mindful of the stitches in the corner of the thumb & palm piece keep stitches a little closer so you don't have a gap in there.

Sewing the Thumb

Good sides together, with the weld piece (D) in between pieces (C) thumb and (B) palm. Sew together using the above described whipstitch ¼ x ¼ rules. Start at the outside of the thumb piece around and over the top of the thumb down into the thumb corner, then flip your thumb piece down and continue to sew the remainder of your thump piece to the palm.

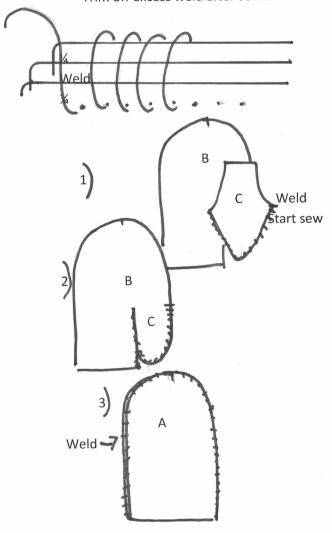
Turn your thumb right side out and check your stitches if too loose this is the time to flip back repair any problems you may see.

When all is good, flip; trim off your excess weld piece, careful not to cut your stitches.

*Cut 2 pieces of each A, B & C in suede or leather

*Cut 2 pieces of each A, B & C in Pile Lining or whatever suitable lining or your choice.

- Remember to flip your PALM piece for left and right mitt.
- D = weld is a long piece of suede or leather is cut the length of the outside of the thumb piece and the B palm piece, about ½ inch wide. Its sewn inbetween the pieces to strengthen it.
 Trim off excess weld after sewn.

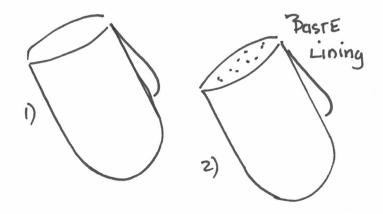


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Sewing the Palm to the Top of the Mitt

Good sides facing together piece (B) palm and piece (A) top with weld in-between the 2 pieces begin to whipstitch from the right hand side of the mitt around to the left and end. Be mindful of your center marks and the end of mitt making sure it all lines up. Flip your mitts out to the right side again check your work, and trim the excess weld.

Repeat for your 2nd mitt.



Lining Mitt area

Lining your mitts is generally the same as the above description with the exception of the weld, and flipping right side out.

Linings done fit them into your mitts trim excess lining off and baste around the opening of the mitt to keep the linings in place. I find using a wooden spoon instead of my hands to try and fit the linings in very helpful, the handle part is great for fitting the thumb in.

• Basting is single threaded needle, using wide whipstitches approximately 1 inch apart.

HOW TO MAKE GAUNTLETS pt. 2 Upper portion The Pieces F G

Trim the Mitt Portion (optional)

Measure around the opening of the mitt, cut the length of trim (fur or other trim) and baste your trim around and onto the mitt.

Sewing the upper portion of the Gauntlets

With the right sides facing each other sew using the whipstitch ¼ x ¼ sewing rules sew up each side of the upper (E), one side will include the weld the other side will include your fringe piece (F). (Fringe is optional and replace with a weld)

- Do not cut your fringes until the very end of making your Gauntlets.
- Keep in mind that Mitts & Gauntlets need to be mirrored if you have any beadwork or appliques on your project. Placement of the fringe and beadwork will need to reflect on whether its right or left hand.
 - -Make the upper linings with good sides facing each other whipstitch the linings.

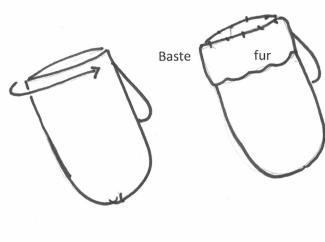
Sewing the upper portions onto the Mitt

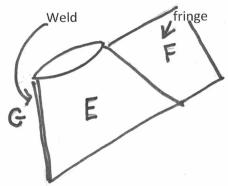
With the good side of uppers facing the good side of the mitt line up uppers to the side seams. Begin to whipstitch at seam all around the opening. With wrong sides together slip lining over your uppers, tack or baste your lining to the lining inside the mitt. Baste the lining to the top of the uppers. Flip the upper portion up trim 2 ½ inches off the top of the fringe.

- *Cut 4 pieces of E in both leather\suede & lining
- *Cut 1 piece of F in leather \ suede

*cut a length of weld

- Furs are cut using a razor on the skin side.
- If you use glue be sure to use leather flexible waterproofed glue.





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Attaching the Top Trim

Measure the opening of the top of the gauntlet to determine the length of piece of fur or trim you will require. The width is determined by size, style or personal preferences but for an adult size gauntlet I usually make it about 2 ½ inches wide. The trim is sewn on like you would sew on a bias binding using the whipstitch. The fur of the good side of the trim is facing the inside lining of the gauntlet and is sewn all around the opening. Then flipped out and over the top, and tacked or glued down.

*At last cut the fringe.

Congrats! Gauntlets all done.

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