

MOODY BLUE



Boucle.

It's a pain to knit, at least in my book, but talk about texture. I love this Lion Brand yarn with its slow, subtle color changes. The fake fur gives a real pop, too.

For this one, you'll probably want to do some shaping because the yarn isn't very springy. (Is springy a technical term? Who knows? You get the idea.)

Knit these in blue to go with jeans. Knit them in black and you'll feel incredibly elegant. Add a vintage pin if you want to be a real stand-out.

Gauge isn't terribly important here, but you'll still want to start with a swatch. Remember, you can always sew the swatch inside your wristlet when you're done to make a wonderful, hidden pocket.

I used Lion Brand Color Waves. The yarn was soft and textural, but it was annoying to knit with. Hey, I only give you the truth here! So why do I include this one? Good question. Actually, it's because I love the finished look. There is just something about those little boucle loops that makes me smile.

This one can be knit in the round, if you hate sewing seams. Or take the easy road and knit a rectangle. Trust me, no one will notice your seams beneath all those loops. <g>

I cast on with 16 stitches and size 8 needles. Once again, if you're a tight knitter, you may want to go higher. I used stockinette for 19 rows. Go longer or shorter as you like. My rectangle from side to side was 8" wide and the length from wrist to knuckle was 5-1/2. I added a few decreases because this yarn isn't very clingy and I wanted some shape.

The best part is adding the fun fur. That's when the look totally changes. Choose your fur color carefully. Going lighter or darker gives a completely different effect. Most of all, have fun!

Here's how you can make yours:

Try the swatch thing again. Cast on 11 and see what that yields. It should be nearly one glove side. I cast on 21 stitches with size 8 needles. (This is my number, based on my swatch. Yours may be smaller if you want your to be tighter. Or just the opposite. <g>) Knit six rows of stockinette stitch. Then begin decreases every other row for 6 rows. (I knit two together or purled two together one stitch in from the end, as needed. On this loopy yarn, you won't see a thing!)

Keep on knitting until you've finished 5-1/2" (more or less, depending on the size of your hands and the tightness you want. I wanted short and fitted, but still comfy. I also wanted to leave room for the fun fur edging.) Stop periodically to check your rectangle against your hand. When you reach your desired size rectangle, pick up your fun fur yarn and work 5 rows of stockinette. (I lost the name of what you use, but Lang has a Fox yarn that should be wonderful. Estimate 8 rows = 1-1/2 inches of fur, if you want it dense. Just add more rows if you want more fur.) When the fur is done, cast off (loosely please!) and tie off your thread. Then pick up your blue lion yarn to finish.

Next stop, thumb opening. Use the same trick as for the other wristlets, leaving a gap when you sew the seam. On this wristlet, my thumb opening was 1-1/2" in from the top, and I allowed 1-3/4 inches for the thumb hole. Go bigger or smaller to your taste and hand size.

That's it. All done. Now go out and dance all night!