

Mitten Garland

Every mitten a little different, every one a keepsake



Mitten Garland — Every mitten a little different, every one a keepsake

1. Finished size

- **Finished quilt size:** 48 in × 34 in (about 122 cm × 86 cm)
- **Design:** 12 appliquéd mitten blocks in two uneven rows (6 mittens across the top row, 6 across the bottom row), “strung” by a thin ric-rac-like trim look and separated by cream sashing.
- **Block unit finished size:** 6 in × 7 in per mitten (width × height), including cuff and seam allowances.
- **Sashing width (cream):** 3/4 in between mitten blocks (as constructed).

2. Materials and yardage

Fabric note: Choose at least 5 body colors/patterns (cherry red, pine green, camel, butter yellow, frosty blue). Each mitten is made from a pair of flannel/print body pieces so they read like knitted wool.

Fabric

Item	Amount	Notes
Brushed flannel (mitten bodies)	1 1/2 yd	Mix with cotton prints for a “knit wool” look. Enough for 12 bodies.
Cotton prints (mitten palms/accents)	1 1/2 yd	Choose heart/dot prints for palm area (scraps are fine).
Contrasting cuffs (cream or coordinating solid)	1/2 yd	Use a cuff color that frames every mitten (frosted cream works well).
Cream sashing (background between mittens)	1/3 yd	Also used for narrow top/bottom edges if needed.
Ric-rac style trim look (optional fabric strip)	1/4 yd	Use a thin binding strip in a dark tone, or substitute with quilting thread outlines (see Section 6).
Backing fabric	2 1/2 yd	Backing should measure at least 52 in × 38 in.
Batting	52 in × 38 in	Warm & Plush or cotton/poly blend. For visible crinkle: choose medium loft.
Binding (for edges)	1/2 yd	Make straight double-fold binding. Or use 2 1/4 yd of single-fold binding strip.

Notions

- Appliqué supplies: fusible web (light/medium weight) and/or basting glue
- Thread for appliqué (neutral matching each body)
- Hand-sewing needle (appliqué size) and quilting thread for hand-tied knots
- Walking foot (recommended for quilting)
- Rotary cutter, ruler, scissors
- Pressing tools; a pressing cloth for flannel

Template

- Mitten template: finished mitten area is designed to fit a **6 in × 7 in** finished unit. Add seam allowance for raw edges before appliqué (see Section 3).

3. Cutting

You will make 12 mitten units: 12 bodies, 12 palms (optional piece on top of body), and 12 cuffs. Then you assemble with cream sashing.

Cut list (approximate, adjust to your template)

- **Mitten body pieces (flannel + cotton mix):** 12 pairs (24 pieces total if you use two fabrics per mitten). Cut to your mitten template size.

- **Palm accent pieces (heart/dot print):** 12 pieces (one per mitten). Cut slightly smaller than body so it reads as the palm area.
- **Cuff pieces:** 12 pieces from cuff fabric.
- **Cream sashing strips:**
 - Cut enough for a quilt sandwich layout: total sashing strips across the width and height to create 3/4 in finished spacing between mitten units.
 - Suggested approach: cut **3 in wide strips** from cream fabric, then subcut to match sashing lengths after a test layout.

Quick method for sizing sashing: Arrange the 12 mitten units on a design surface and measure from outer mitten edge to outer mitten edge for each row. Add *1/2 in total* for seams (1/4 in on each side) to determine your sashing strip lengths. Subcut strips to those measured lengths, then stitch between mittens.

Backing and batting

- **Batting:** 52 in × 38 in
- **Backing:** 52 in × 38 in

4. Piecing / block construction

Each mitten unit is an appliqué “sandwich” on a cream sashing foundation square/rectangle. You will create a mitten body, layer a palm accent, and then add a cuff. For the garland effect, keep edges crisp and consistent.

A. Make 12 mitten templates

- Use a mitten template that fits within a **6 in × 7 in** finished footprint.
- Include a **1/4 in seam allowance** around appliqué edges if you are covering raw edges. If you cut without seam allowance, you will turn under edges instead (choose one method and repeat consistently).

B. Prepare mitten bodies (flannel + knit-like prints)

- For each mitten: choose one flannel piece for the main mitten and one cotton print piece for the second layer (or for the palm/accent depending on your design).
- Fuse fusible web to the wrong side of each body piece following manufacturer instructions.
- Press lightly. Flannel benefits from gentle heat and a pressing cloth.

C. Add the palm accent

- Cut palm pieces from heart/dot prints.
- Center and position the palm piece so it aligns with the mitten thumb and finger curve.
- Fuse, then stitch around palm edges with a small blanket stitch or straight stitch close to the edge (use a thread color that blends).

D. Add cuffs

- Cut cuff pieces and fuse them in place at the bottom of each mitten body.
- Stitch cuff edges with appliqué thread.
- **Visible hand-tied knots location:** Place one knot directly at each cuff edge center and one near each side edge (see Section 6). Keep these points consistent across all mittens.

E. Appliqué edge style

- Use a **small blanket stitch** for a handmade feel, or a tight zigzag/straight stitch with fusible backing.
- Keep raw edges contained; do not stretch mitten fabric while fusing.

Pair mismatching

To get the “garment hung to dry” charm, pair mittens by row but vary body colors between each pair. For example:

- Top row pair 1: cherry + butter
- Top row pair 2: pine + frosty blue
- Top row pair 3: camel + cherry
- Bottom row pair 1: butter + pine
- Bottom row pair 2: frosty blue + camel
- Bottom row pair 3: cherry + butter

Test placement (recommended)

- Lay out your 12 finished appliquéd mittens on cream background rectangles in a 2-row layout before stitching sashing.
- Adjust spacing so the quilt reads airy and the mittens “float.”

5. Quilt top assembly

This quilt is assembled from mitten units and cream sashing strips to create the floating garland look.

A. Layout

- **Top row:** 6 mittens, evenly spaced with 3/4 in finished cream sashing between units.
- **Bottom row:** 6 mittens, slightly offset vertically for the uneven-row look (shift the row by about 1/2 in so the garland feels casual).
- Leave wider sashing at the far left and far right so outer mittens sit centered within the final rectangle.

B. Sashing construction

- Using cream sashing strips (cut to correct lengths), place strips between mitten units.
- Stitch with a **1/4 in seam allowance**.
- Press seams toward the sashing.
- Repeat row by row, then stitch rows together with cream strip(s) between rows (maintain the offset you chose).

C. Thin “ric-rac” line (trim effect)

- Option 1 (fabric strip): sew a narrow dark strip/band between the two rows to mimic thin ric-rac.
- Option 2 (quilting thread): after quilting, echo-stitch a zig-zag style line between rows using embroidery thread.

D. Square and straighten

- Measure your top. Aim for approximately **48 in × 34 in** at this stage.
- If needed, true up edges with gentle trimming so the quilt layers match.

6. Basting, quilting and binding

Quilt with a soft allover meander and include visible hand-tied knots at each mitten cuff for a cozy, keepsake feel.

A. Basting

- Layer in this order: backing (wrong side up), batting, quilt top (right side up).
- Baste using safety pins or spray basting. For easiest knotty control, baste around each cuff area more carefully.

B. Quilting design: soft meander

- Using a walking foot, quilt an allover gentle meander in neutral thread on cream sashing and mitten bodies.
- Keep the meander density moderate so flannel texture and seam crinkle remain visible.
- Suggested spacing: stitch meander loops about **1 1/2 in apart** from peak to peak.

Hand-tied knots at cuffs: Quilt the meander first. Then tie at each cuff center and (optionally) near each side edge to resemble handwork.

C. Create the hand-tied knots

- At each marked knot point (cuff center), poke a quilting needle through all layers.
- Pull quilting thread up slightly, loop it (leave slack), then take the needle down a short distance away to form a knot.
- Pull until the knot sits proud on top (do not over-tighten). Trim tails to about 1/2 in.
- Repeat for each cuff. If you do three knots per mitten, that’s 36–48 knots total depending on your marking choice.

D. Crinkle around seams

- To encourage visible crinkle: use a slightly lower tension on your quilting machine and avoid pressing seam allowances flat.
- After quilting, lightly mist the quilt and let it dry on a rack or hang naturally—do not over-press the surface.

E. Binding

- Bind using double-fold binding strips sewn with a 1/4 in seam allowance.
- Join ends using a diagonal seam.
- Hand-stitch binding to the back for a neat finish.

7. Finishing notes

- **Pressing:** Press only where necessary (sashing seams). Avoid heavy ironing over mitten appliqué edges to keep the handmade softness.
- **Heat setting:** Use a dry iron on low for flannel to prevent shine.
- **Trimming:** After binding, recheck squareness. The quilt should lie flat without ripples.
- **Care:** Machine wash cold on gentle and dry low or air dry. The flannel “knit” texture will soften beautifully.
- **Keep the keepsake feel:** If you want extra personality, use different thread colors for the cuff appliqué on each mitten while keeping knot thread consistent.

Optional variation: For a more “garland” look, reduce the meander density on the outer edges and increase it slightly around the mitten cuffs. This frames each mitten like a little ornament.