

Pattern for a wearable, seamless, knitted Willie Warmer. © 2002/2013/2015 RDJenkins.



This pattern is a revision of my original Willie Warmer pattern, first published in 2002 as “A No-Sew, No Crochet, User Friendly Willie Warmer”. It was dubbed “user friendly” because of the tied eyelet openings of the shaft and sac that allowed easier access and facilitated other aspects in the wearing, especially when worn under a kilt. The gusset was also my contribution to the general wearability of WWs.

For this updated version, I have added instructions for a smaller size and made some changes in construction.

>>>>The pattern is written for 2-circs knitting, but overall, it is readily followed by knitters using 5-DPs or a “magic loop”.

Materials:

Two st markers, a short length of cotton or other yarn and a suitable crochet hook for a provisional cast-on, about 18” of slick cord for tying (satin “rattail” cord is perfect), tapestry needle for finishing off.

Yarn: You can use any yarn you choose if this is just for a novelty. Make it as fancy or as weird as you want. For a WW that will actually be worn, a machine washable yarn makes for easy cleaning, but a soft, smooth worsted wool yarn would be warmer especially if it gets wet. From rain, I mean. I really like knitting two of Brown Sheep’s wools; Lamb’s Pride for a larger WW and Nature Spun Worsted for one not quite as large, both using the larger sized instructions.

Gauge: As with the yarn choice, as “as a novelty only” WW can be knitted at any gauge. If size doesn’t matter, the smaller size may be your preferred choice for a quickly-made WW for spur-of-the-moment gifting.

For a truly wearable WW, the larger one is a nice, roomy-sized garment when knitted at a gauge of 5 ½ sts per inch. The shaft will be about 6” circumference on the inside, an easily donned WW. At a gauge of 6 sts per inch, the inner circumference is right at 5”, still a wearable dimension. Getting a too-small WW on can be like pushing an earthworm through a soda straw: it can be done, but what a chore!

You can figure out the size of your finished warmer of either size by plugging your gauge into the st counts.

Needles: Two circular needles, one “magic loop” needle or a set of five DP needles as you prefer, that is of a suitable size for your chosen yarn.

Tie cord: If this warmer will actually be worn very much, I would recommend the satin cording so that the eyelets are not worn out. Otherwise you can make a 3-stitch I-cord or another braided cord using your working

yarn, about 18" in length. Do take a look at the note marked *** at the end of the directions regarding the wearing of this Willie Warmer.

This pattern will also find a serviceable employment as a "marital aid" cozy, the sac portion holding spare batteries, condoms, lube, what-have-you.

I hope the pattern is clear and easy to follow, but I especially hope it is error free. If you find an error, please alert me to it at once. Thanks.

[Directions for smaller size in brackets.]

Cast on 80 [64] sts, place 40 [32] sts on each needle.

Round 1: Knit.

Round 2: Knit.

Round 3: Purl.

Round 4: (YO, K2tog) around.

Rounds 5 through 10: Knit. Mark st below the one on the needle at start of round..

Dividing the shaft and sac sts.

Round 11: K24 [20], place next 32 [24] sts on crochet cotton #3 or other yarn and secure.

Start gusset: (Still on round 11). Crochet cast-on 8 [6] sts onto a spare needle (use a needle several sizes smaller) or onto the left working needle, then knit these 8 [6] sts onto right needle with working yarn and knit the remaining 24 [20] sts. 56 [46] sts.

Knitting the sac.

Round 1: Put half the gusset sts on each needle before starting round. K23 [19], PM, SSK, K3 [2], K3 [2], K2tog, PM, K23 [19]. 54 [44] sts.

Round 2: K even.

Round 3: K to marker, SIM (slip marker), SSK, K to next marker, K2 tog, SIM, K to end of round. 52 [42] sts.

Round 4: K.

Round 5: K around, decreasing 1 st (SSK) after 1st marker and 1 st before 2nd marker (K2tog) keeping markers in place by slipping [remove them from smaller size]. 50 [40] sts.

[For the smaller size, go to round 8.]

Round: 6: K.

Round 7: K to marker and remove it, SSK, K2tog, remove marker, K to end of round. 48 sts.

Rounds 8 through 12: K.

Note: You can work more or less rounds after round 7 to make a deeper or shallower sac. If you would like to finish off by binding off the last sts together, turn your work inside out from here to the end. For those new to inside-out knitting, you'll be knitting on the far side of your work. It's a little weird at first, I know.

Round 13: **Begin decreases.** (K4, K2tog) 8x. 40 sts. [**Begin decreases** for smaller size with round 15 and work as written to end.]

Round 14: K.

Round 15: (K3, K2tog) 8x. 32 sts.

Round 16: K.

Round 17: (K2, K2tog) 8x. 24 sts.

Round 18: (K1, K2tog) 8x. 16 sts.

Round 19: (K2tog) 8x. 8 sts.

With 4 [3] sts on each needle, knit both sides together from the wrong side with a 3rd needle, or thread yarn end on tapestry needle, gather the sts together, tighten and secure end.

Knitting the shaft.

Free the 32 [24] sts from the holding yarn, placing 16 [12] sts on your two needles.

Now, carefully remove the crocheted cast-on and place freed sts onto a spare needle. The first st released will be on a single thread that you must pull out of the st to mount it. You will end up with 9 [7] gusset sts. Place 5 [4] of the sts on the needle to the left (this is the new start of the round) and the remaining 4 [3] sts to the next needle to the right (the new end of the round).

Also: You may want to leave a 6” tail when you join in your working yarn to neaten up a “hole” that may occur at a corner of the gusset. (It’s sort of like the “hole” in the corners of a sock gusset, if that means anything to you.)

For the bound-off finish, turn your work inside out, either now or before starting the decreases.

Round 1: Join in working yarn and K4 [3], K2tog, K to last 5 [4] sts, SSK, K3 [2]. 38 [28] sts.

Round 2: K.

Round 3: K2, K2tog, K30, SSK, K2. 36 [26] sts.

Round 4: K.

Round 5: K1, K2tog, K30, SSK, K1. 34 [24] sts. [For smaller size, go to ** below.]

Round 6: K.

Round 7: K2tog, K30, SSK. 32 sts.

Now K every round until you are about ¼” to 3/8” short of your desired length. The decrease rounds will add 5 rounds to the length in your gauge.

Note: For a bit of realism, purl one round about an inch short of your desired length. See the example in gold yarn, above.

Decrease to end:

Round 1: (K2, K2tog) 8x. 24 sts.

Rounds 2 and 3: K

Round 4: (K1, K2tog) 8x. 16 sts.

Round 5: (K2tog) 8x. 8 sts.

** For smaller size only:

Round 1: (K2, K2tog) 6x. 18 sts.

Rounds 2 and 3: K.

Round 4: (K1, K2tog) 6x. 12 sts.

Round 5: (K2tog) 6x. 6 sts.]

Knit the last 8 [6] sts together from the wrong side, 8 [3] sts on each needle, or run yarn end through the remaining 8 [6] sts and finish off. Secure the starting yarn tail if you haven’t already done so.

Put in the tie cord: find the top two holes in the eyelet round and starting with one of these, run your tie-cord around the entire warmer, then knot the ends. Boom, you're done!

***For a measure of security in keeping your warmer from slipping off (while dancing a vigorous Highland Fling?) you can run one cord around the sac portion, threading the cord through the 24 [20] sac eyelets. Cut cord to tie at the front, between the sac and shaft. Next, thread another length of cord through the top 16 [12] eyelets, making it long enough to go around the wearer's waist/hips and tie in a bow in back. Alternatively, the waist tie can be threaded the other way, with the two ends meeting at the center front, on top of the shaft.

If you want tie openings to the sac or shaft, just do a round of eyelets, a round of purl, a round of knit, then bind off, instead of knitting the decreased finishes. The purple WW above, shows the shaft with the tie finish.

Thank-you Queerjoe.