

PREPARING THRUMS

knitting tutorial

Warm knitwear is a necessity during cold winters! Thrummed mittens, also known as fleece-stuffed mittens, originated in Newfoundland and Labrador but have become popular throughout North America and beyond. This tutorial provides instructions for preparing fleece thrums for insertion in mittens or other cozy accessories.



Thrums are typically made from non-superwash wool roving and must be properly prepared before insertion while knitting mittens or other accessories. After some wear, the thrums will felt together inside the knitted item to create a fleece lining that is both warm and windproof.



Open up the skein of roving into a batt. Gently spread out its layers without allowing it to tear apart. Carefully separate sections of the batt lengthwise to create pencil roving. The strips of pencil roving should be continuous and of a consistent width considerably thicker than the yarn for your project.



Grasp a length of roving between your fingers of both hands at a spot several inches from its end. Slowly but firmly pull your hands apart while holding the roving. The fibers will eventually glide along each other in opposite directions until a short section separates from the remainder. Resist the urge to be impatient and tear the roving apart.



Fold the ends of the roving piece toward its centre. Roll it between your palms to encase the ends and create a 4-inch sausage-shaped thrum that can condense to approximately the same thickness as the yarn for your project. The thrum can be teased to add length if necessary.



Avoid excessive rolling so that the thrum remains soft and fluffy. Lightly rolled thrums efficiently trap warm air to create a cozy fleece layer inside mittens or other accessories.

