



# Nagu Selbu

## Mittens

In February 2015 I released the **Nagu Trad** pattern which I had written down from a mitten knitted probably by my mother-in-law's paternal grandmother Ida Söderholm (1890-1971). At the same time with that mitten my mother-in-law also gave me a second colourwork mitten, probably knitted by Ida as well. The motifs of this mitten are traditional Norwegian patterns from the Selbu region. My guess is that maybe Ida found the mitten pattern in a magazine or a book. Nevertheless, I wanted to write the pattern down, because I feel it is really important to cherish textile culture, document old patterns, and also make new versions of old patterns.

I call the pattern **Nagu Selbu**, because my mother-in-law's father's family is from the island of Nagu in Western Finland. Most people in Nagu are Swedish speaking, the Finnish name of the island is Nauvo. **Nagu Selbu** is a mitten pattern which can be traditional or modern depending on the colours you choose. You can knit the pattern with different kinds of yarns depending on which size you want the mittens to be. Traditional Selbu knits are black and white and are made of wool, but I think other colours and materials work too. For the first version I tried quite thin alpaca yarn in bordeaux red and dark beige. The second version I knitted with petrol blue and light grey, and I think both of these colour combinations work very well.

The original mittens (see page 6) are made of handspun two-ply wool yarn and the colours are natural white and natural sheep black. I barely did any changes to the pattern: I merely changed some stitches in the thumb and that is all.



**Sizing: Only one size**

**Measurements of mitten:** Hand circumference above thumb: 19 cm, Length of the hand (without a cuff): 20,5 cm

Please notice: the size is quite narrow and long. If you want a shorter mitten, you can start the decreases 5 rows earlier in the chart 1 and 2 (and in thumb 3 rows earlier).

**Yarn:** Hjertegarn Alpaca or Drops Alpaca or other similar yarn (167 m/50 g), **Yarn required:** Main colour (MC) 50 g, Contrast colour (CC) 50 g

**Needles:** Double-pointed needles 2,75 mm, one stitch marker, **Gauge in coloured knitting:** 10 cm = 32 sts, 35 rows

**Please read all the instructions carefully before starting to knit.**

**Right mitten:**

With MC cast on 56 stitches, place marker, and join for working in the round. \*k2, p2\*, repeat from \* to \* end.  
After 10 rnds change to CC, work 2 rnds, change to MC, work 2 rnds, change to CC, work 1 rnds, change to MC, work 2 rnds, change to CC, work 2 rnds, change to MC, work 10 rnds. **Next round:** inc1, k28, inc1, k28 = 58 sts. **Divide the sts:** on 1st and 2nd needle back of hand sts (=31 sts), 3rd and 4th needle palm sts (=27 sts). **Next round:** reading from right to left, work from row 1 of Chart 1 (Back of hand), then 3 sts from Chart 2 (Palm), then 4 sts from Chart 3 (Thumb gusset) and then continue from Chart 2. Work until in Chart 3 you reach arrow 1. Continue working from Charts 1 and 2. **Next round:** move thumb gusset sts (=17 sts) to stitch holder (or to waste yarn) for the thumb. Cast on 10 sts with MC, bind CC yarn to 5th st to avoid a long yarn float. Continue working from Chart 2 and Chart 1 until all rows are complete. There is now 10 sts left. **Next round:** with CC\*k2tog\*, repeat from \* to \* end. Break yarn, and draw up tightly through remaining 5 sts.

**Thumb:**

Pick stitches from the holder, then pick 11 sts from the upper part of the thumb hole = 28 sts. Continue working in the round from Chart 3 from arrow 1 until all rows are complete. There is now 12 sts left. **Next round:** with CC\*k2tog\*, repeat from \* to \* end. Break yarn, and draw up tightly through remaining 6 sts. Sew in all yarn ends.

**Left mitten (work in mirror image):**

Work on the same way than in right mitten but after knitting the cuff divide the sts: on 1st and 2nd needle palm sts (=27 sts), 3rd and 4th needle back of hand sts (=31 sts). **Next round:** reading from right to left, work from row 1 of Chart 2, until there is 3 sts left. Then knit 4 sts from Chart 3 (Thumb gusset) and then continue from Chart 2 last 3 sts and work 1st row from Chart 1. Work from Charts 2, 3 and 1 until in Chart 3 you reach arrow 1. Continue working from Charts 1 and 2 on the same way as in the right mitten.

Chart 1 (Back of hand):

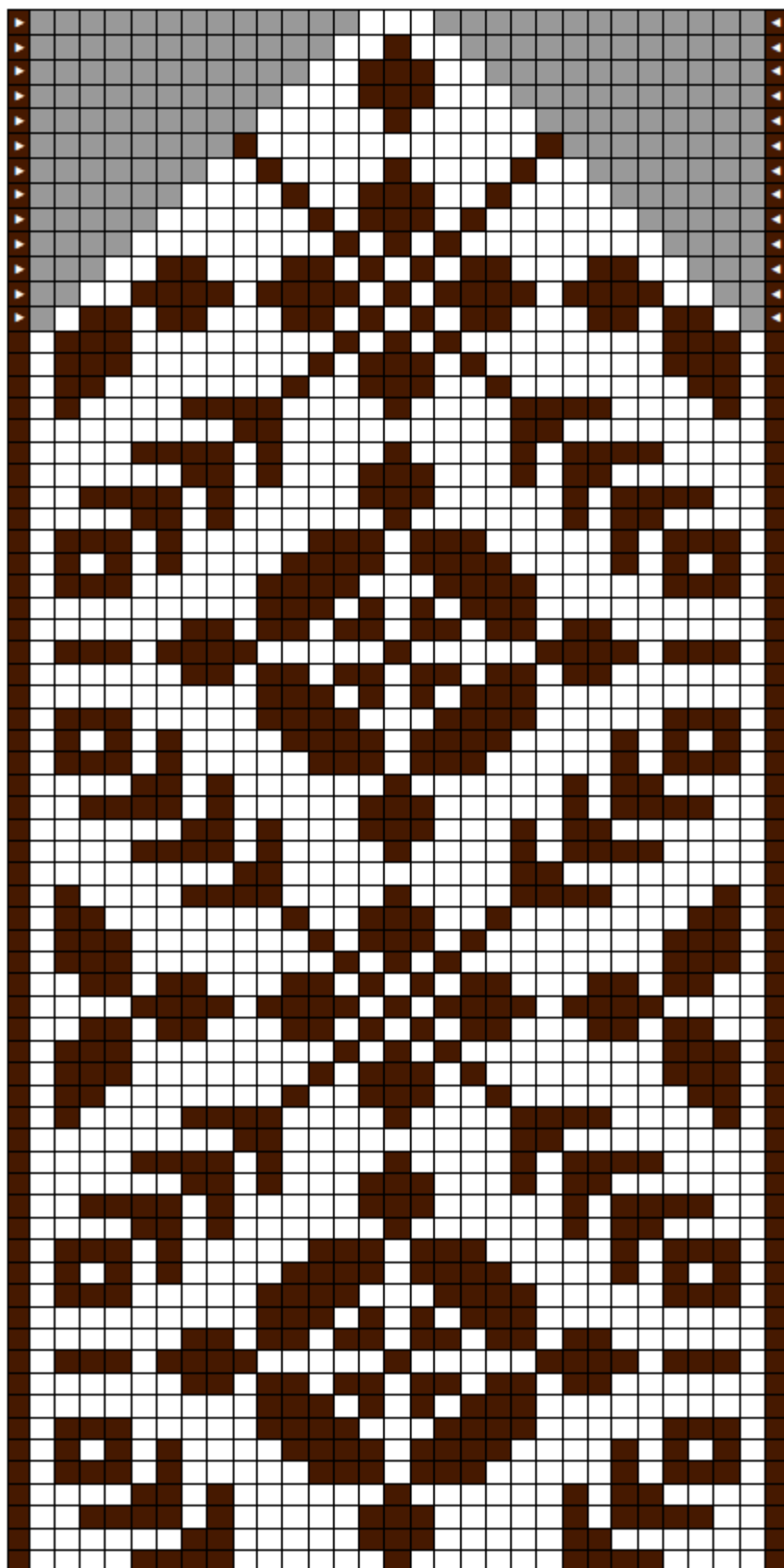
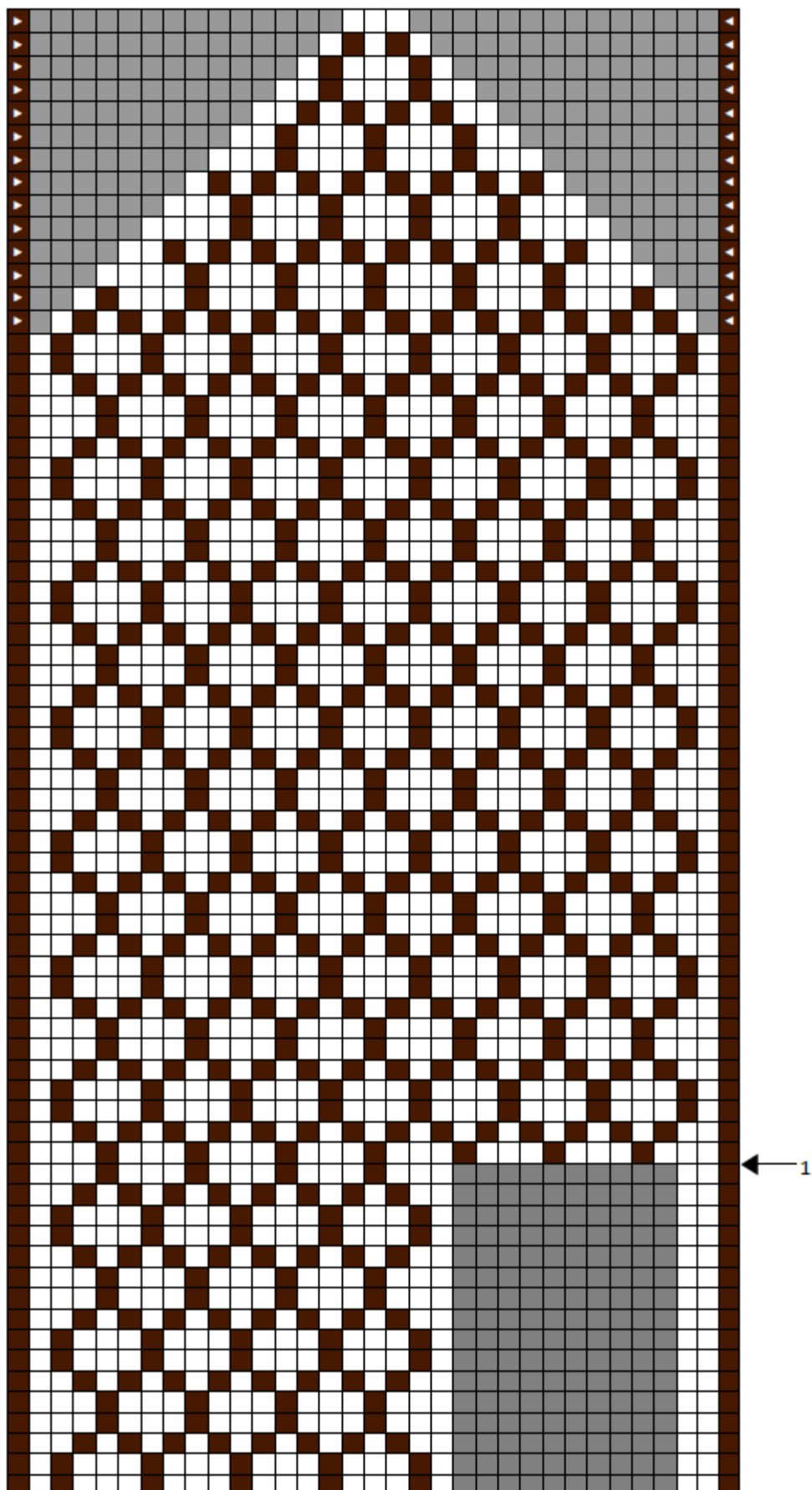
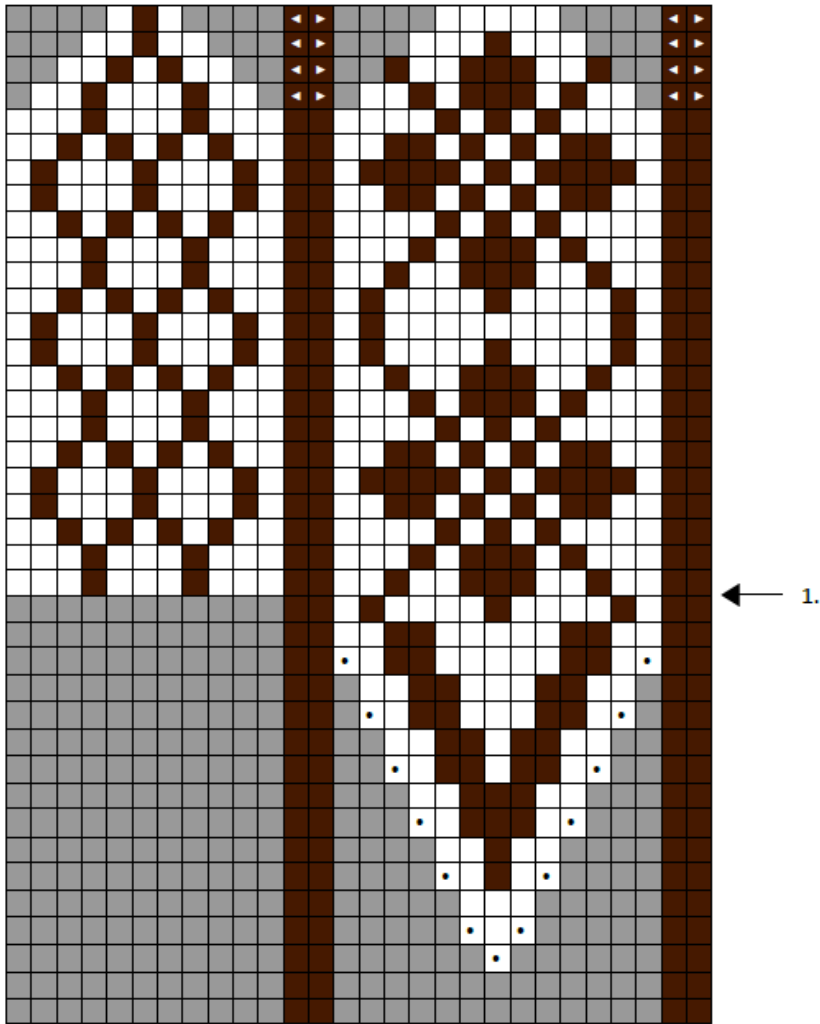


Chart 2 (Palm, right mitten. Work left mitten in mirror image):



1. Place the thumb sts to stitch holder.

### Chart 3 (Thumb gusset):



1. Place thumb gusset sts (=17 sts) to stitch holder (or to waste yarn) for the thumb.

### Glossary:



Main Colour (MC)



Contrast Colour (CC)



No stitch



Inc1 = Increase 1 st (Lift the yarn lying between the stitch just worked and the next stitch and place it on the left hand needle, then knit into the back of this loop)



k2tog = knit 2 stitches together



ssk = slip, slip, knit (Slip the next 2 stitches, one at a time as if to knit, to the right needle. Insert the left needle into the fronts of these two stitches and knit them together)



### Original Mitten:



### Any feedback or errata notes?

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