

Leg Warmers

By: BurdaStyle

<http://www.burdastyle.com/projects/leg-warmers>

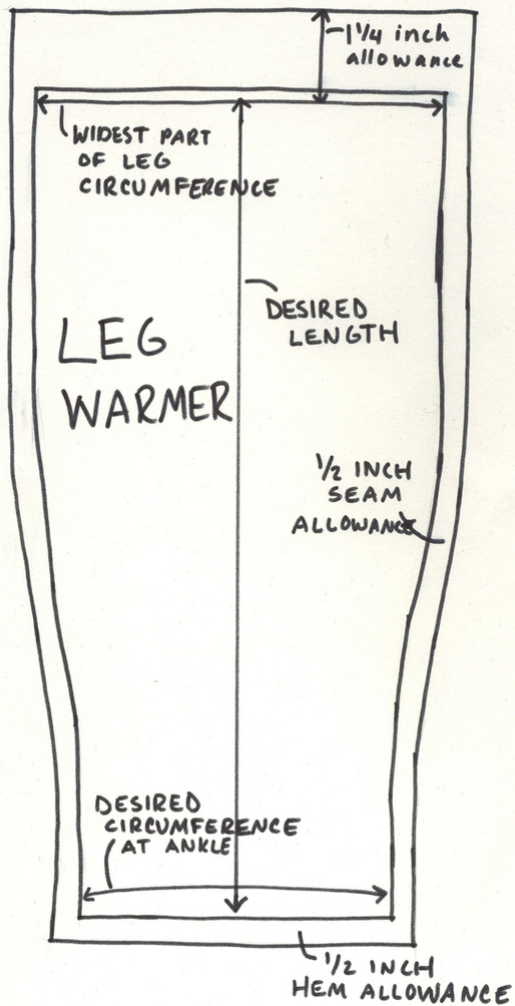


Keep your legs both toasty and stylish with these handmade legwarmers! You can adjust the pattern to create long, scrunchy ones, or super-short ones to look like booties. You can even make them as loose as you like. Elastic keeps them in their place all day and the knit stretches to fit. You can also make these using scraps from a favorite, old sweater; just make sure it stretches enough to fit over your leg. This amazing idea was created by Nicole Smith, Editor of Sew Stylish, and Associate Editor of Threads. Get more of her great ideas on her blog!

Materials

Ribbed knit fabric Measuring tape Thread Scissors 5/8-inch-wide elastic Sewing machine with a zigzag and straight stitch Safety pin Buttons (optional)

Step 1 — Draw Your Legwarmer Pattern



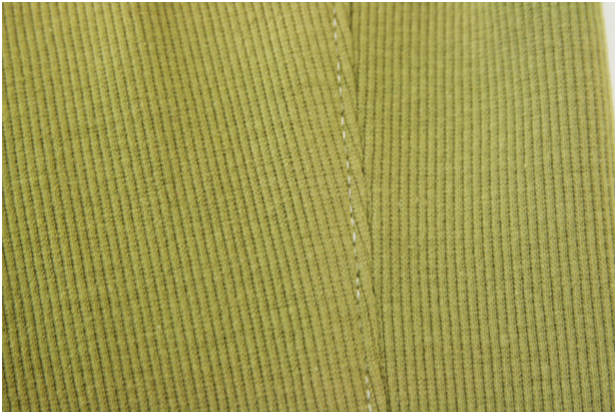
- Determine how long you want your legwarmers to be. They can be as long as you want.
- Measure the widest part of your leg that the warmer will be covering and use that to draw the warmer's top edge.
- Measure the circumference of your ankle and decide how wide you want the base of the warmer. If you want the warmer to go over your shoes, make sure you have them on when you measure. Use this measurement to draw the warmer's bottom edge.
- Draw the sides making them symmetrical and with a gradual curve.
- Add a 1 1/4-inch allowance along the top edge and a 1/2-inch seam allowance around the other edges.

Step 2 — Sew The Side Seams



With right sides together, align one warmer's long edges. Sew with a 1/2-inch seam allowance using a straight stitch.

Step 3 — Topstitch The Seam



Press the seam allowance to one side and sew it in place close to the seam line using a straight stitch.

Step 4 — Sew The Hem



Turn under the warmer's bottom edge 1/2 inch and press. Sew it in place using a 1/4-inch seam allowance and a zigzag stitch (be careful not to stretch the fabric as you sew). Press.

Step 5 — Sew The Elastic Casing



Turn under the warmerâs top edge 1 1/4 inch. Zigzag stitch in place using a 1-inch seam allowance. Leave a 2-inch opening.

Step 6 — Insert Your Elastic



Cut a piece of elastic 2 inches shorter than your widest leg circumference. Using a safety pin, thread the elastic through the casing.

Step 7 — Sew The Elastic



Overlap the elasticâs ends about 5/8 inch. Zigzag stitch them together. Tuck the elastic into the casing and zigzag stitch the opening closed. Hand sew buttons along the side seam if desired.

