Dr Seussesque Stripey Wrist Warmers

Yarn:
Rowan Kid Silk Haze (or similar) in two contrasting colours (I used Jelly and Candy Girl). You'll only need about a third of a ball of each.

Equipment:

4mm needles suitable for knitting in the round
(if you use mini circulars, you will still need either dbl-pointed needles or 'magic loop' for the thumb)

A stitch holder
(a large safety pin or needle & thread will do)

A marker to show where the circle begins
(a small loop of contrasting thread is ideal – just slip it on the needle in between the first and last stitches, to help keep count of your rounds)

A darning/tapestry needle, to weave in the ends

Notes about the pattern:

- These wrist warmers are knit as a tube, which means that you don't need to do any purling to get stocking stitch. This makes it a really fast little project.
- The gloves should fit most female wrists – they're small but have a fair amount of stretch. (To make them longer or wider, just knit extra stripes or add a few extra stitches when you first cast on.)
- For the main body of the glove, I used Clove mini circular needles (22 cm in diameter) but you could equally use a set of double-pointed needles or the 'magic loop' technique.
- The coloured stripes in this pattern are just 4 rows wide. Keeping the stripes narrow means that there is no need to cut the yarn and weave in the ends every time you swap colours. Instead you can just let the unused colour dangle and then pick it up again after each contrasting stripe. (The small amount of loose thread between each stripe stays neatly hidden inside the tube). Just be careful not to pull too tightly when you start a new stripe, to avoid puckering.

NOTE:
Those with a naturally snug or tight knitting gauge may wish to add a few additional stitches when casting on to get the required wrist diameter, and to knit a few extra stripes.

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Instructions

To Start

- Cast on 29 stitches and join into a circle
- Knit the first 4 rounds in K1, P1 ribbing
- Switch to the contrasting colour and K1, P1 ribbing for another 4 rounds
- Switch back to the first colour and from here on continue with regular knit stitch, swapping to the contrasting colour every 4 rows
- Knit in this way until you have 17 stripes (or as many as you prefer)

Increase for the Hand (starting with the next stripe)

- Knit 1 round
- KFB, KFB, Knit rest of round (you should now have 31 stitches)
- Knit 3 rounds
- KFB, K2, KFB, Knit rest of round (you should now have 33 stitches)
- Knit 3 rounds
- KFB, K4, KFB, Knit rest of round (you should now have 35 stitches)
- Knit 3 rounds
- KFB, K6, KFB, Knit rest of round (you should now have 37 stitches)
- Knit 1 round

Divide for the Thumb

- Place first 10 stitches onto your stitch holder
- Cast on 4 new stitches and re-join the circle (I found it easier to cast on the extra 4 stitches onto the right-hand needle)
- Knit 1 round
- Switch to K1, P1 ribbing for another 8 rounds
- Bind off in rib pattern

Knit the Thumb

- Divide the 10 stitches from the holder equally onto 2 double-pointed needles (or if using the 'magic loop' method, put 8 stitches on one circular and 2 on the other)
- With the third double-pointed needle (or second circular) pick up 6 stitches from the edge of the thumb hole (the 4 you cast on earlier plus one stitch on either side).
- Join the needles into a round, then K10, K2tog, K2, K2tog
- Continue in K1, P1 ribbing for 6 rounds
- Bind off in rib pattern

Finishing

- Weave in the ends (use this as an opportunity to tidy up the thumb join, if necessary).

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Abbreviations & Help:

- **KFB** – knit into the front and back of the stitch, as means of increasing by 1 stitch (for a video demonstration, look here - http://www.knittinghelp.com/videos/increases)

- **K2tog** – knit two stitches together, as a means of decreasing by 1 stitch (for a video demonstration, look here - http://www.knittinghelp.com/videos/decreases)

- **Knitting in the Round** (for demonstrations on different ways to do this, including the 'magic loop' technique, look here… http://www.knittinghelp.com/videos/advanced-techniques)