

Quinn Strauch
Frosty Fingers

Because hand protection from the cold is so critical to our mountain lifestyle, I wanted to conduct an experiment to determine if gloves or mittens are warmer. It seems that the generally held belief is that mittens are warmer, yet I was unable to find in my research anything truly definitive.

To simulate the effect of cold weather on the human hand, I placed equal amounts of contained warm water in a broad sample of mittens and gloves of equal quality and size. Testing in Colorado outside winter conditions, the temperature change was recorded for each sample at regular intervals over an hour and a half period.

The average temperature loss between the glove and mitten samples was compared showing a difference of .3 degrees C in favor of the mittens.

My science project hypothesis was empirically correct. Mittens are warmer than gloves.