



STANDARDS
&
GUIDELINES
for
Crochet
and
Knitting

compiled by



yarnstandards.com

Standards & Guidelines

The publishers, fiber, needle and hook manufacturers, and yarn members of the Craft Yarn Council have worked together to set up a series of guidelines and symbols to bring uniformity to yarn, needle and hook labeling, and to patterns, whether they appear in books, magazines, leaflets or on yarn labels. Our goal is to make it easier for industry manufacturers, publishers and designers to prepare consumer-friendly products and for consumers to select the right materials for a project and complete it successfully.

We urge manufacturers, publishers, and designers to adopt these guidelines. Downloads of the graphic symbols are available at www.YarnStandards.com at no charge. We ask that if you use them in any publication that you advise us in an e-mail of your intention to use them and that the following credit line be given:

Source: Craft Yarn Council's
www.YarnStandards.com

We received valuable input from allied associations in the United States, such as The National NeedleArts Association, the Crochet Guild of America, and The Knitting Guild Association, as well as designers and consumers. Ultimately, our objective is to design global standards and guidelines that will be used by companies worldwide. To this end, we have reached out to individuals, manufacturers and trade associations in the United Kingdom, Germany, Italy, France, as well as in Australia and New Zealand to ask for their input.

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Crochet Abbreviations Master List

Following is a list of crochet abbreviations used in patterns by yarn industry designers and publishers. In addition, designers and publishers may use special abbreviations in a pattern, which you might not find on this list. Generally, a definition of special abbreviations is given at the beginning of a book or pattern. These definitions reflect U.S. crochet terminology.

Abbreviation	Description	Abbreviation	Description
alt	alternate	FPtr	front post treble crochet
approx.	approximately	hdc.....	half double crochet
beg	begin/beginning	hdc2tog.....	half double crochet 2 stitches together
bet	between	inc	increase
BL		lp	loop
or BLO	back loop or back loop only	m	marker
bo.....	bobble	MC	main color
BP.....	back post	pat or patt	pattern
BPdc	back post double crochet	pc.....	popcorn stitch
BPdtr	back post double treble crochet	pm	place marker
BPhdc	back post half double crochet	prev	previous
BPsc.....	back post single crochet	ps or puff	puff stitch
BPtr	back post treble crochet	rem	remaining
CC.....	contrasting color	rep.....	repeat
ch.....	chain stitch	rnd.....	round
ch-	refer to chain or space previously made, e.g., ch-1 space	RS.....	right side
ch-sp	chain space	sc	single crochet
CL.....	cluster	sc2tog.....	single crochet 2 stitches together
cont	continue	sh.....	shell
dc.....	double crochet	sk.....	skip
dc2tog.....	double crochet 2 stitches together	sl st	slip stitch
dec.....	decrease	sm	
dtr	double treble crochet	or sl m	slip marker
edc.....	extended double crochet	sp.....	space
ehdc.....	extended half double crochet	st	stitch
esc	extended single crochet	tbl.....	through back loop
etr	extended treble crochet	tch or t-ch.....	turning chain
FL		tog	together
or FLO.....	front loop or front loop only	tr.....	treble crochet
fo ll	following	tr2tog.....	treble crochet 2 stitches together
FP.....	front post	trtr	triple treble crochet
FPdc.....	front post double crochet	WS	wrong side
FPdtr	front post double treble crochet	yo.....	yarn over
FPhdc	front post half double crochet	yoh.....	yarn over hook
FPsc.....	front post single crochet		

Terms & Common Measurements

Term	Description	Measurement	Description
*	repeat the instructions following the single asterisk as directed	" or in	inch
**	repeat instructions between asterisks as many times as directed or repeat at specified locations	cm	centimeter
{}	work instructions within brackets as many times as directed	g	gram
[]	work instructions within brackets as many times as directed	m	meter
()	work instructions within parentheses as many times as directed or work a group of stitches all in the same stitch or space	mm	millimeter
		oz	ounce
		yd	yard

Tunisian Abbreviations

Tunisian crochet is also commonly known as Afghan Crochet. It has also been called by a variety of other names including Shepherd's Knitting, Railroad Knitting and Cro-hooking.

Abbreviation	Description	Abbreviation	Description
etss	extended Tunisian simple stitch	tps	Tunisian purl stitch
FwP	forward pass	trs.....	Tunisian reverse stitch
RetP	return pass	tsc	Tunisian single crochet
tdc	Tunisian double crochet	tss	Tunisian simple stitch
tfs	Tunisian full stitch	tslst	Tunisian slip stitch
thdc	Tunisian half double crochet	ttr.....	Tunisian treble crochet
tkc	Tunisian knit stitch	ttw.....	Tunisian twisted stitch






















Abbreviation & Term Differences between the U.S., United Kingdom (U.K.) and Canada.

U.S./Canada	U.K.
slip stitch (sl st)	slip stitch (ss)
single crochet (sc)	double crochet (dc)
half double crochet (hdc)	half treble (htr)
double crochet (dc).....	treble (tr)
treble (tr).....	double treble (dtr)
double treble (dtr)	triple treble (trtr)
U.S.	U.K./Canada
gauge.....	tension
yarn over (yo).....	yarn over hook (yoh)

Crochet Chart Symbols

Stitch charts in crochet patterns are being used more and more as an addition to or in place of words to describe a pattern stitch. Following are the standardized crochet symbols that have been adopted by members of the Craft Yarn Council and are considered to be the clearest and easiest to render and to read. For the most part each symbol represents a stitch as it looks on the right side of the work. Always refer to the pattern key for additional symbol definitions.

Standard Stitch Key

 = chain (ch)	 = slip stitch (sl st)	 = dc3tog
 or  = single crochet (sc)*	 = half double crochet (hdc)	 = 3-dc cluster
 = double crochet (dc)	 = treble crochet (tr)	 = 3-hdc cluster/puff st/bobble
 = double treble crochet (dtr)	 = sc2tog	 = 5-dc popcorn
 = sc3tog	 = 5-dc shell	 = ch-3 picot
 = dc2tog	 = front post dc (FPdc)	 = back post dc (BPdc)
	 = worked in back loop only**	 = worked in front loop only**

*Both symbols are commonly used for single crochet

**Symbol appears at base of stitch being worked

Knitting Abbreviations Master List

Following is a list of knitting abbreviations commonly used by yarn industry designers and publishers. In addition, designers and publishers may use special abbreviations in a pattern, which you might not find on this list. Generally, a definition of special abbreviations is given at the beginning of a book or pattern. These definitions reflect U.S. knitting terminology.

Abbreviation	Description	Abbreviation	Description
alt.	alternate	M1lp	make one left purlwise; single left-leaning purl increase
approx	approximately	MC	main color
beg	beginning	p	purl
bet	between	pat or patt	pattern
BO	bind off	pfb	purl 1 into front and back of a stitch; single purl increase
byo.....	backward yarn over	pm	place marker
CC	contrasting color	p2tog.....	purl 2 stitches together; single decrease
cn	cable needle	prev	previous
CO	cast on	pssso.....	pass slipped stitch over
cont.....	continue	p2sso.....	pass 2 slipped stitches over
dec.....	decrease	pwise.....	purlwise
dpn	double-pointed needles	rem	remaining
folll	follow	rep	repeat
inc	increase	rev St st.....	reverse stockinette stitch
k.....	knit	RH	right hand
k1B.....	knit stitch in row below	rnd.....	round
kfb.....	knit 1 into front and back of a stitch; single knit increase	RS.....	right side
ksp	knit 1 stitch, slip this stitch from right needle to left needle, pass second stitch on left needle over first stitch and off left needle; return stitch to right needle; single right-leaning decrease	SKP.....	slip 1 knitwise, knit 1, pass slip stitch over knit stitch; single left-leaning decrease
k2tog.....	knit 2 stitches together; single right-leaning decrease	SK2P	slip 1 knitwise, knit 2 together, pass slip stitch over knit 2 together; double left-leaning decrease
kwise	knitwise	sl.....	slip
LH.....	left hand	sl1k.....	slip 1 knitwise
lp	loop	sl1p	slip 1 purlwise
m	marker	sl st	slip stitch
M1 or M1K	make one stitch knitwise; single knit increase	sm	slip marker
M1R	make one right; single right-leaning knit increase	ssk	slip 2 stitches knitwise, knit these 2 stitches together through back loops; single left-leaning decrease
M1L	make one left; single left- leaning knit increase	ssp	slip 2 stitches knitwise, return these 2 stitches to left needle and purl them together through back loops; single left- leaning decrease
M1p	make one purlwise; single purl increase		
M1rp	make one right purlwise; single right-leaning purl increase		

Knitting Abbreviations Master List Continued

Abbreviation	Description	Abbreviation	Description
ssk	slip 3 stitches knitwise, knit these 3 stitches together through back loops; double left-leaning decrease	st	stitch
sssp	slip 3 stitches knitwise, return these 3 stitches to left needle and purl these 3 stitches together through back loops; double left-leaning decrease	St st	stockinette stitch
S2KP2	slip 2 stitches as if to knit 2 together, knit 1, pass 2 slipped stitches over knit stitch; centered double decrease	tbl.....	through back loop
SSPP2	slip 2 stitches knitwise, return these 2 stitches to left needle and then slip them as if to p2tog through back loops, purl 1, pass 2 slipped stitches over purl stitch; centered double decrease	tfl.....	through front loop
		tog.....	together
		WS.....	wrong side
		w&t.....	wrap and turn
		wyib.....	with yarn in back
		wyif.....	with yarn in front
		yb.....	yarn back
		yfwd or yf.....	yarn forward
		yo.....	yarn over
		yon.....	yarn over needle
		yrn.....	yarn round needle

Terms & Common Measurements

































Term	Description	Measurement	Description
*	repeat the instructions following the single asterisk as directed	" or in	inch
* *	repeat instructions between asterisks as many times as directed or repeat at specified locations	cm	centimeter
[]	work instructions within brackets as many times as directed	g	gram
{ }	work instructions within brackets as many times as directed	m	meter
()	work instructions within parentheses as many times as directed or work a group of stitches all in the same stitch or space	mm	millimeter
		oz	ounce
		yd	yard

Abbreviation & Term Differences between the U.S. and Canada


























U.S.	Canada
bind off.....	cast off
gauge.....	tension
slip stitch (sl st)	slip stitch (ss)

Knit Chart Symbols

Stitch charts in knit patterns are being used more and more as an addition to or in place of words to describe a pattern stitch. Following are the standardized knit symbols that are commonly used by members of the Craft Yarn Council, followed by two versions of cable symbols. There are a wide variety of knit symbols used in patterns, including special symbols made for specific projects. Always refer to the pattern key for variations in the knit symbols. For the most part each symbol represents a stitch as it looks on the right side of the work.

	K on RS, p on WS
	 P on RS, k on WS
	Yarn over
	 K2tog on RS, p2tog on WS
	 P2tog on RS, k2tog on WS
	 SSK on RS, SSP on WS
	 SSP on RS, SSK on WS
	 K1fb on RS, p1fb on WS
	Make 1 (M1) knitwise on RS, make 1 (M1) purlwise on WS
	 Make 1 (M1) purlwise on RS, make 1 (M1) knitwise on WS
	 Right-slanting make 1
	 Left-slanting make 1
	 Right-slanting lifted inc
	 Left-slanting lifted inc
	 Sl 1 purlwise wyb on RS, sl 1 purlwise wyf on WS
	 Sl 1 purlwise wyf on RS, sl 1 purlwise wyb on WS
	K3tog on RS, p3tog on WS
	 P3tog on RS, k3tog on WS





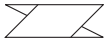
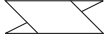


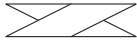





Knit Chart Symbols Continued

-  SK2P on RS, SSSK on RS, SSSP on WS
-   SSSP on RS, SSSK on WS
-   S2KP2 on RS, SSPP2 on WS
-  K1 tbl on RS, p1 tbl on WS
-   P1 tbl on RS, k1 tbl on WS
-   Bobble
-  Sts do not exist in these areas of chart
(CMYK 15%/15%/15%/15% shade)
-  Inc 1-to-3
-  Inc 1-to-4
-  Inc 1-to-5
-  Dec 4-to-1 (right slanting)
-  Dec 4-to-1 (left slanting)
-  Dec 4-to-1 (centered)
-  Dec 5-to-1
-   K1, wrapping yarn twice around needle
-  Bind off
-   St rem on right needle after last BO st
-   Cast on

Cable Symbols





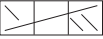

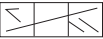




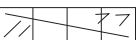


As previously mentioned, there are many symbol variations, especially for cables. Below are two versions of cable symbols and definitions commonly used in the industry. Again, always refer to the pattern key for additional symbol variations.

Version 1

	1/1 RC (RT) - sl 1 st onto cn, hold in back, k1, k1 from cn OR k2tog but do not drop sts from left needle, k1, drop both sts from left needle
	1/1 LC (LT) - sl 1 st onto cn, hold in front, k1, k1 from cn OR with right needle behind left needle, knit 2nd st tbl, knit first st, drop both sts from left needle
	1/1 RPC - sl 1 st onto cn, hold in back, k1, p1 from cn
	1/1 LPC - sl 1 st onto cn, hold in front, p1, k1 from cn
	2/1 RC - sl 1 st onto cn, hold in back, k2, k1 from cn
	2/1 LC - sl 2 sts onto cn, hold in front, k1, k2 from cn
	2/1 RPC - sl 1 st onto cn, hold in back, k2, p1 from cn
	2/1 LPC - sl 2 sts onto cn, hold in front, p1, k2 from cn
	2/2 RC - sl 2 sts onto cn, hold in back, k2, k2 from cn
	2/2 LC - sl 2 sts onto cn, hold in front, k2, k2 from cn
	2/2 RPC - sl 2 sts onto cn, hold in back, k2, p2 from cn
	2/2 LPC - sl 2 sts onto cn, hold in front, p2, k2 from cn
	2/1/2 RPC - sl 2 sts onto first cn and hold in back, sl 1 st onto 2nd cn and hold in back, k2, p1 from 2nd cn, k2 from first cn
	2/1/2 LPC - sl 2 sts onto first cn and hold in front, sl 1 st onto 2nd cn and hold in back, k2, p1 from 2nd cn, k2 from first cn

Cable Symbols Continued

Version 2

- 
 2-st RC (RT) - Sl 1 st to cn and hold to back, k1, k1 from cn OR k2tog but do not drop sts from left needle, k1, drop both sts from left needle
- 
 2-st LC (LT) - Sl 1 st to cn and hold to front, k1, k1 from cn OR with right needle behind left needle, knit 2nd st tbl, knit first st, drop both sts from left needle
- 
 2-st RPC - Sl 1 st to cn and hold to back, k1, p1 from cn
- 
 2-st LPC - Sl 1 st to cn and hold to front, p1, k1 from cn
- 
 3-st RC - Sl 1 st to cn and hold to back, k2, k1 from cn
- 
 3-st LC - Sl 2 sts to cn and hold to front, k1, k2 from cn
- 
 3-st RPC - Sl 1 st to cn, hold to back, k2, p1 from cn
- 
 3-st LPC - Sl 2 sts to cn, hold to front, p1, k2 from cn
- 
 4-st RC - Sl 2 sts to cn and hold to back, k2, k2 from cn
- 
 4-st LC - Sl 2 sts to cn and hold to front, k2, k2 from cn
- 
 4-st RPC - Sl 2 sts to cn and hold to back, k2, p2 from cn
- 
 4-st LPC - Sl 2 sts to cn and hold to front, p2, k2 from cn
- 
 5-st RPC - Sl 2 sts to cn, hold to back, sl 1 st to second cn, hold to back, k2, p1 from 2nd cn, k2 from first cn
- 
 5-st LPC - Sl 2 sts to cn, hold to front, sl 1 st to second cn, hold to back, k2, p1 from back cn, k2 from front cn

NOTE: Some patterns refer to cables as "Back" or "Front" cross.

Loom Knitting Abbreviations

Following is a list of loom knitting abbreviations commonly used by yarn industry designers and publishers. In addition, designers and publishers may use special abbreviations in a pattern, which you might not find on this list. Generally, a definition of special abbreviations is given at the beginning of a book or pattern.

Abbreviation Description

alt.	alternate
approx. . . .	approximately
B to B. . . .	back to back
B to F. . . .	back to front
beg.	beginning
bet	between
BO	bind off
C2C	center to center
CCO	crochet cast on
ch.	chain
CC.	contrasting color
cn.	cable needle
CO	cast on
cont	continue
dec.	decrease
DK	double knit
DS.	double stitch: with 3 loops on each peg, knit bottom loop over 2 top loops
EW	e-wrap
EWK.	e-wrap and knit
F to B. . . .	front to back
FK.	flat knit
fol	follow
GBO.	gather bind off
HS	half stitch
inc	increase
K.	true/traditional knit stitch
kfb	knit 1 into front and back of a stitch; 1 increase
KO	knit off/over
k2tog.	knit 2 stitches together; single right-leaning decrease
LTW	left twist
LH	left hand
lp	loop
m	marker
M1	make one stitch
M1L	make one left; single left- leaning knit increase
M1R	make one right; single right- leaning knit increase

Abbreviation Description

MC	main color
p.	purl stitch
pat	
or patt. . . .	pattern
pfb	purl into the front and back of a stitch; single increase
pm	place marker
p2tog.	purl 2 stitches together; single left-leaning decrease
prev	previous
pssso.	pass slipped stitch over
pu.	pick up
rem	remaining
rep	repeat
rev St st. . .	reverse stockinette stitch
RH	right hand
rnd.	rounds
RS.	right side
RTW.	right twist
sel	selvage
sl.	slip
sl st	slip stitch
ssk	slip 2 stitches knitwise, knit these 2 stitches together through back loops; single left-leaning decrease
st	stitch
St st	stockinette stitch
tog	together
UK	u-wrap knit
W&T.	wrap and turn
WS	wrong side
wy	working yarn
wyib.	with yarn in back
wyif	with yarn in front
ybk.	yarn back
yfwd	
or yfd. . . .	yarn forward
yo.	yarn over
yrp	yarn round peg

How to Measure Wraps Per Inch (WPI)

Wraps per inch is commonly used by weavers, but it can be helpful for all yarn users to identify the weight of yarn if its label is missing.

To measure yarn in wraps per inch (or WPI) you need a ruler, and something to wrap the yarn around that has a consistent circumference, like a pencil.

Begin by wrapping your yarn around the pencil for a few inches. The yarn should be snug, and the wraps should lay side by side without any over lapping, or large gaps between strands. Don't pull the yarn too tightly to avoid skewing the measurements. If you're unsure of your tension, practice with a yarn that you know the weight of.

Once the yarn is wrapped, use the ruler to measure how many wraps are in an inch. Measure a few places as you would a gauge swatch. Use the chart provided to compare your WPI number to the weight category to determine the weight of your yarn, and what hook or needle to use to reach a standard size gauge.

Keep in mind that WPI is subjective, and results will vary depending on how tightly the yarn is wrapped. Always work up a gauge swatch before starting a project.

Wraps Per Inch (WPI) by yarn weight

CYC weight	WPI
0 Lace	30-40+
1 Super Fine	14-30
2 Fine	12-18
3 Light	11-15
4 Medium	9-12
5 Bulky	6-9
6 Super Bulky	5-6
7 Jumbo	1-4





This chart is based on WPI information shared by industry experts and the two WPI lists noted below.

<http://woolery.com/yarns/help-with-yarn-sizes/wraps-per-inch.html>

<http://www.ravelry.com/help/yarn/weights>

Project Levels — Knit and Crochet

Many crochet and knit projects will include symbols to assist people in determining the techniques that might be included in pattern instructions. Following is the general explanation for Basic, Easy, Intermediate or Complex project levels.

1	 Basic / De base / Básico	Projects using basic stitches. May include basic increases and decreases.
2	 Easy / Facile / Fácil	Projects may include simple stitch patterns, color work, and/or shaping.
3	 Intermediate / Intermédiaire / Intermedio	Projects may include involved stitch patterns, color work, and/or shaping.
4	 Complex / Complexe / Complejo	Projects may include complex stitch patterns, color work, and or/shaping using a variety of techniques and stitches simultaneously.

This Standards & Guidelines booklet and downloadable symbol artwork are available at: YarnStandards.com

Standard Body Measurements/Sizing

To ensure that a finished garment will fit properly, it is important to take the following body measurements, so that you can determine what size you should make. It is always better to have someone else do the measuring. If that is not an option, you can measure a garment that fits you the way you want, and use these measurements as a guide. Most crochet and knitting pattern instructions will provide general sizing information, such as the chest or bust measurements of a completed garment. Many patterns also include detailed schematics or line drawings. These drawings show specific garment measurements (bust/chest, neckline, back, waist, sleeve length, etc.) in all the different pattern sizes. (See more about Schematics p. 26) To insure proper fit, always review all of the sizing information provided in a pattern before you begin.

Following are several sizing charts. These charts show Chest, Center Back Neck-to-Cuff, Back Waist Length, Cross Back, Sleeve Length, Upper Arm, Armhole Depth, Waist and Hip. **THESE ARE ACTUAL BODY MEASUREMENTS FOR BABIES, CHILDREN, WOMEN, and MEN** in both inches and centimeters.

When sizing sweaters, the fit is based on actual chest/bust measurements, plus ease (additional inches or centimeters), sometimes referred to as "negative ease" (less than the actual bust/chest measurement) or "positive ease" (more than the actual bust/chest measurement). The chart entitled "Bust/Chest Fit and Ease Chart" recommends the amount of ease to add or subtract to bust/chest measurements if you prefer a close-fitting garment, an oversized garment, or something in-between.

Both the FIT and LENGTH charts are simply guidelines. For individual body differences, changes can be made in body and sleeve lengths when appropriate. However, consideration must be given to the project pattern. Certain sizing changes may alter the appearance of a garment.

Bust/Chest Fit and Ease Chart

Very close fitting, negative ease:	Very tight fit, smaller than your actual bust/chest measurement. Approximately 2" to 4" (5 to 10cm) less than your actual bust/chest measurement
Close fitting, zero ease:	Body skimming, your actual bust/chest measurement.
Classic fit, some positive ease:	Comfortable fit slightly larger than actual bust/chest measurement. Approximately 2" to 4" (5 to 10cm) more than your actual bust/chest measurement
Loose fit, more positive ease:	Slightly oversized fit, larger than your actual bust/chest measurement. Approximately 4" to 6" (10 to 15cm) more than your actual bust/chest measurement
Oversized, generous positive ease:	Very loose fit, much larger than your actual bust/chest measurement. Approximately 6+" (15+cm) more than your actual bust/chest measurement

The Length Chart provides average lengths for children's, women's and men's garments.

Length Chart

	Back Waist Length	Hip Length	Tunic Length
Child	Actual body measurement	2"/5cm down from waist	6"/15cm down from waist
Woman	Actual body measurement	6"/15cm down from waist	11"/28cm down from waist
Men	Men's length usually varies only 1–2"/2.5–5cm from the actual "back hip length" measurement (see Man Size Chart, p 18)		

How to Measure

1. Chest/Bust—Measure around the fullest part of the chest/bust. Do not draw the tape too tightly.

2. Center Back Neck-to-Wrist—With arm straight, measure from back base of neck, across shoulder, and along arm to wrist.

3. Back Waist Length—Measure from the most prominent bone at base of neck to the natural waistline.

4. Cross Back—Measure from shoulder to shoulder.

5. Arm Length—With arm slightly bent, measure from armpit to wrist.

6. Upper Arm—Measure around the widest section of the upper arm located above the elbow.

7. Armhole Depth—Measure from the top outside edge of the shoulder down to the armpit.

8. Waist—Measure your waist at the smaller circumference of your natural waist, usually just above the belly button.

9. Hip—Measure at the widest part of your lower hip.

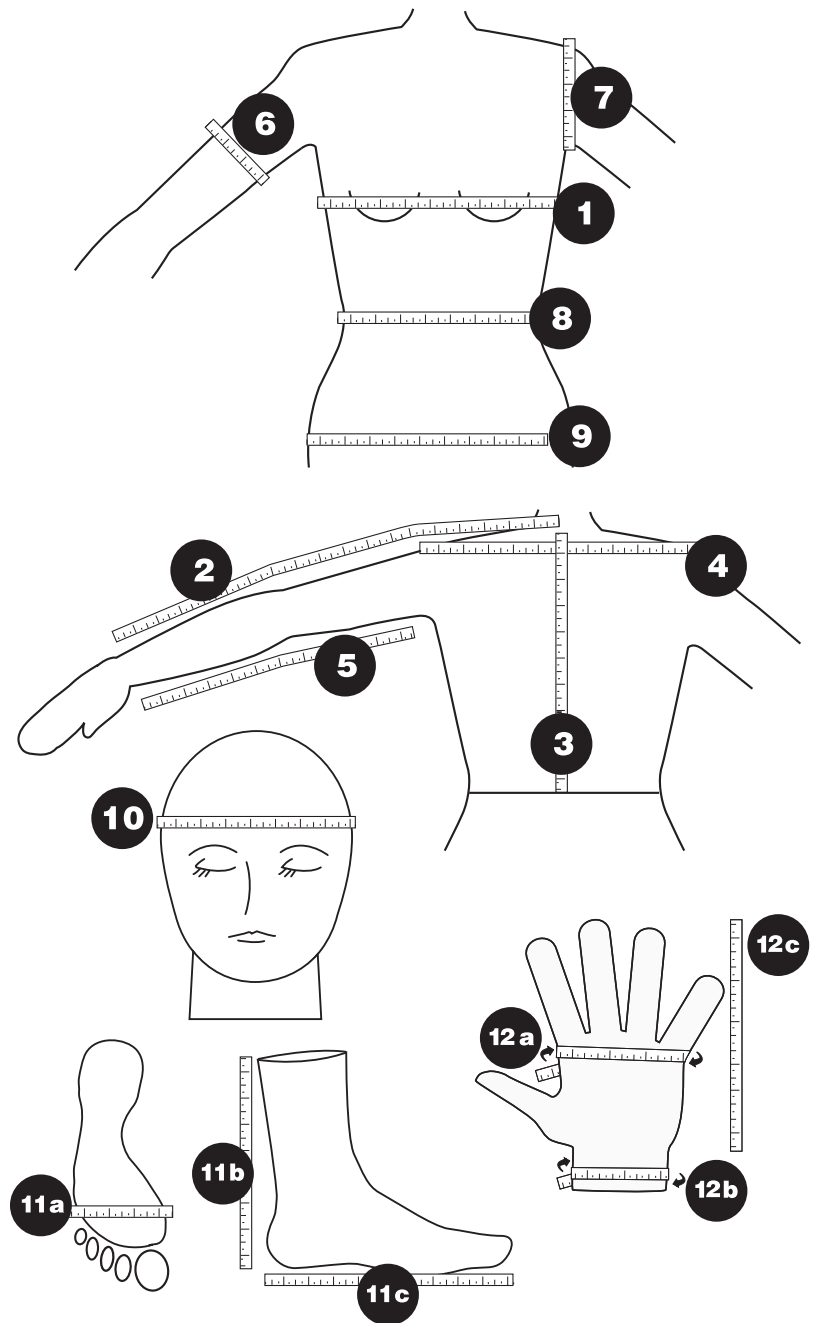
10. Head Circumference—For an accurate head measure, place a tape measure across the forehead and measure around the full circumference of the head. Keep the tape snug for accurate results.

11. Sock Measurements—The following measurements are for crew-style or dress socks, which usually come several inches above the ankle and below the calf.

11a. Foot Circumference—To determine the foot circumference, measure around the widest part of your foot.

11b. Sock Height—To determine the height of the sock, measure from where you start to turn for the heel shaping to the top of the sock.

11c. Total Foot Length—To measure the total length of your foot, place a ruler or tape measure on the floor. Position the back of your heel at the



beginning of the tape and the measure to your longest toe.

12a. Hand Circumference—Measure around the palm of your dominate hand, which is usually just below the knuckles. Exclude the thumb.

12b. Wrist Circumference—Measure around the widest part of the wrist.

12c. Hand Length—Measure from the wrist to the the base of the hand to the tip of the middle finger or to the top of the longest finger.

U.S. Size Charts

Actual Body Measurements

Baby

	3 mo	6 mo	12 mo	18 mo	24 mo
1. Chest (in.) (<i>cm.</i>)	16 40.5	17 43	18 45.5	19 48	20 50.5
2. Center Back Neck-to-Wrist	10½ 26.5	11½ 29	12½ 31.5	14 35.5	18 45.5
3. Back Waist Length	6 15.5	7 17.5	7½ 19	8 20.5	8½ 21.5
4. Cross Back (Shoulder to shoulder)	7¼ 18.5	7¾ 19.5	8¼ 21	8½ 21.5	8¾ 22
5. Arm Length to Underarm	6 15.5	6½ 16.5	7½ 19	8 20.5	8½ 21.5
6. Upper arm	5½ 14	6 15.5	6½ 16.5	7 17.5	7½ 19
7. Armhole depth	3¼ 8.5	3½ 9	3¾ 9.5	4 10	4¼ 10.5
8. Waist	18 45.5	19 48	20 50.5	20½ 52	21 53.5
9. Hips	19 48	20 50.5	20 50.5	21 53.5	22 56

Child

Size	2	4	6	8	10
1. Chest (in.) (<i>cm.</i>)	21 53	23 58.5	25 63.5	26½ 67	28 71
2. Center Back Neck-to-Wrist	18 45.5	19½ 49.5	20½ 52	22 56	24 61
3. Back Waist Length	8½ 21.5	9½ 24	10½ 26.5	12½ 31.5	14 35.5
4. Cross Back (Shoulder to shoulder)	9¼ 23.5	9¾ 25	10¼ 26	10¾ 27	11¼ 28.5
5. Arm Length to Underarm	8½ 21.5	10½ 26.5	11½ 29	12½ 31.5	13½ 34.5
6. Upperarm	7 17.5	7½ 19	8 20.5	8½ 21.5	8¾ 22
7. Armhole depth	4¼ 10.5	4¾ 12	5 12.5	5½ 14	6 15.5
8. Waist	21 53.5	21½ 54.5	22½ 57	23½ 59.5	24½ 62
9. Hips	22 56	23½ 59.5	25 63.5	28 71	29½ 75

Youth

Size	12	14	16
1. Chest (in.) (<i>cm.</i>)	30 76	31½ 80	32½ 82.5
2. Center Back Neck-to-Wrist	26 66	27 68.5	28 71
3. Back Waist Length	15 38	15½ 39.5	16 40.5
4. Cross Back (Shoulder to Shoulder)	12 30.5	12¼ 31	13 33
5. Arm Length to Underarm	15 38	16 40.5	16½ 42
6. Upper arm	9 23	9¼ 23.5	9½ 24
7. Armhole depth	6½ 16.5	7 17.5	7½ 19
8. Waist	25 63.5	26½ 67.5	27½ 69.5
9. Hips	31½ 80	33 83.5	35½ 90

Woman

Size	X-Small	Small	Medium	Large	X-Large
1. Bust (in.) (cm.)	28–30 71–76	32–34 81–86	36–38 91.5–96.5	40–42 101.5–106.5	44–46 111.5–117
2. Center Back Neck-to-Wrist	26–26½ 66–68.5	27–27½ 68.5–70	28–28½ 71–72.5	29–29½ 73.5–75	29–29½ 73.5–75
3. Back Waist Length	16½ 42	17 43	17¼ 43.5	17½ 44.5	17¾ 45
4. Cross Back (Shoulder to Shoulder)	14–14½ 35.5–37	14½–15 37–38	15½–16 39.5–40.5	16½–17 42–43	17½ 44.5
5. Arm Length to Underarm	16½ 42	17 43	17 43	17½ 44.5	17½ 44.5
6. Upper arm	9¾ 25	10¼ 26	11 28	12 30.5	13½ 34.5
7. Armhole depth	6–6½ 15.5–16.5	6½–7 16.5–17.5	7–7½ 17.5–19	7½–8 19–20.5	8–8½ 20.5–21.5
8. Waist	23–24 58.5–61	25–26½ 63.5–67.5	28–30 71–76	32–34 81.5–86.5	36–38 91.5–96.5
9. Hips	33–34 83.5–86	35–36 89–91.5	38–40 96.5–101.5	42–44 106.5–111.5	46–48 116.5–122

Size cont.	2X	3X	4X	5X
1. Bust (in.) (cm.)	48–50 122–127	52–54 132–137	56–58 142–147	60–62 152–158
2. Center Back Neck-to-Wrist	30–30½ 76.5–77.5	30½–31 77.5–79	31½–32 80–81.5	31½–32 80–81.5
3. Back Waist Length	18 45.5	18 45.5	18½ 47	18½ 47
4. Cross Back (Shoulder to Shoulder)	18 45.5	18 45.5	18½ 47	18½ 47
5. Arm Length to Underarm	18 45.5	18 45.5	18½ 47	18½ 47
6. Upper arm	15½ 39.5	17 43	18½ 47	19½ 49.5
7. Armhole depth	8½–9 21.5–23	9–9½ 23–24	9½–10 24–25.5	10–10½ 25.5–26.5
8. Waist	40–42 101.5–106.5	44–45 111.5–114	46–47 116.5–119	49–50 124–127
9. Hips	52–53 132–134.5	54–55 137–139.5	56–57 142–144.5	61–62 155–157

Man

Size	Small	Medium	Large	X-Large
1. Chest (in.) (<i>cm.</i>)	34–36 86–91.5	38–40 96.5–101.5	42–44 106.5–111.5	46–48 116.5–122
2. Center Back Neck-to-Wrist	32–32½ 81–82.5	33–33½ 83.5–85	34–34½ 86.5–87.5	35–35½ 89–90
3. Back Hip Length	23–24 58.5–61	25–26 63.5–66	26–27 66–68.5	28 71
4. Cross Back (Shoulder to Shoulder)	15½–16 39.5–40.5	16½–17 42–43	17½–18 44.5–45.5	18–18½ 45.5–47
5. Arm Length to Underarm	18 45.5	18½ 47	19½ 49.5	20 50.5
6. Upper arm	12 30.5	13 33	15 38	15½ 39.5
7. Armhole depth	8½–9 21.5–23	9–9½ 23–24	9½–10 24–25.5	10–10½ 25.5–26
8. Waist	28–30 71–76	32–34 81.5–86.5	36–38 91.5–96.5	42–44 106.5–112
9. Hips	35–37 89–94	39–41 99–104	43–45 109–114	47–49 119–124.5

Size cont.	2X	3X	4X	5X
1. Chest (in.) (<i>cm.</i>)	50–52 127–132	54–56 137–142	58–60 147.5–152	62–64 157.5–162.5
2. Center Back Neck-to-Wrist	36–36½ 91.5–92.5	37–37½ 94–95	38–38½ 96.5–97.5	39–39½ 99–100.5
3. Back Hip Length	29 73.5	30 76	30 76	31 79
4. Cross Back (Shoulder to Shoulder)	19–20 48–51	20–21 48–51	21–21½ 51–54.5	22–22½ 56–57
5. Arm Length to Underarm	20½ 52	20½ 52	21 49.5	21½ 53.5–54.5
6. Upper arm	16½ 42	17½ 44.5	18½ 47	20 48
7. Armhole depth	11 28	11½ 29	12 30.5	12½ 32
8. Waist	46–48 117–122	50–52 127–132	54–56 137–142	58–60 147.5–152.5
9. Hips	51–53 129–134	54–56 137–142	56–58 142–147.5	58–60 147.5–152.5

Head

Head Circumference Chart

	Infant/Child					Adult	
	Preemie	Baby	Toddler	Child	Tween	Woman	Man
6. Circumference							
(in.)	9–12	14–16	16–18	18–20	20–22	21–23	22–24
(cm.)	23–30.5	35.5–40.5	40.5–46	45.5–51	51–56	53–58.5	56–61

Foot

Baby, Child & Youth Shoe Size Chart*

(U.S. Sizes)	0-4 (Baby)	5-9 (Toddler)	10-13* (Child)	1-3 (Youth)	4-6 (Youth)
Ages	6-18 mo.	2-3 y.	4-5 y.	6-9 y.	10-13 y.
11a. Foot Circum. (in.) (cm)	4 ½ 11	5 ½ 14	6 15.5	6 ½ 16.5	7 17.5
11b. Sock Height	2 ½ 6.5	3 ½ 9	4 ½ 11.5	5 ½ 14	6 ½ 16.5
11c. Total Foot Length	3-4 ½ 7.75-11.5	4 ¾-6 12-15.25	6 ½-7 ½ 16.5-19	7 ¾-8 ½ 19.75-21.5	8 ¾-9 ½ 22.25-24

* Baby/Toddler/Child sizes go from 0 -13; Youth sizes: 1Y - 6Y.

Woman Shoe Size Chart

(U.S. Sizes)	4-6 ½	7-9 ½	10-12 ½
11a. Foot Circum. (in.) (cm)	7 17.5	8 20.5	9 23
11b. Sock Height	6 ½ 6.5	7 17.5	7 ½ 19
11c. Total Foot Length	8-9 20.25-23	9 ¼-10 23.5-25.5	10 ¼-11 26-28

Man Shoe Size Chart

(U.S. Sizes)	6-8 ½	9-11 ½	12-14
11a. Foot Circum. (in.) (cm)	8 20.5	9 23	10 25.5
11b. Sock Height	7 ½ 19	8 20.5	8 ½ 21.5
11c. Total Foot Length	9 ¼-10 23.5-25.5	10 ¼-11 26-28	11 ¼-12 28.5-30.5

Hand

Child Size Chart

Age	2-4 y.	4-6 y.	6-8 y.
Hand circumference (in.)	5	6	6½
(cm)	13	15	16.5
Hand length	4	4¾	5¼
	10	12	13.5









Woman's Size Chart

	Small	Medium	Large
Hand circumference (in.)	7	7½	8
(cm)	18	19	20.5
Hand length	6	6½	7½
	16	16.5	19

Man's Size Chart

	Small	Medium	Large
Hand circumference (in.)	8	8½	9
(cm)	20.5	21.5	23.5
Hand length	7½	7¾	8½
	19	20	21.5

Standard Yarn Weight System

Categories of yarn, gauge ranges, and recommended needle and hook sizes								
Yarn Weight Symbol & Category Names	 LACE	 SUPER FINE	 FINE	 LIGHT	 MEDIUM	 BULKY	 SUPER BULKY	 JUMBO
Type of Yarns in Category	Lace, 10 count crochet thread	Sock, Fingering, Baby	Sport, Baby	DK, Light Worsted	Worsted, Afghan, Aran	Chunky, Craft, Rug	Bulky, Roving	Jumbo, Roving
Knit Gauge Range* in Stockinette Stitch to 4 inches / 10 cm	33–40** sts	27–32 sts	23–26 sts	21–24 sts	16–20 sts	12–15 sts	7–11 sts	6 sts and fewer
Recommended Needle in Metric Size Range	1.5–2.25 mm	2.25–3.25 mm	3.25–3.75 mm	3.75–4.5 mm	4.5–5.5 mm	5.5–8 mm	8–12.75 mm	12.75 mm and larger
Recommended Needle U.S. Size Range	000 to 1	1 to 3	3 to 5	5 to 7	7 to 9	9 to 11	11 to 17	17 and larger
Crochet Gauge Range* in Single Crochet to 4 inches / 10 cm	32–42 double crochets**	21–32 sts	16–20 sts	12–17 sts	11–14 sts	8–11 sts	7–9 sts	6 sts and fewer
Recommended Hook in Metric Size Range	Steel*** 1.6–1.4 mm Regular hook 2.25 mm	2.25–3.25 mm	3.5–4.5 mm	4.5–5.5 mm	5.5–6.5 mm	6.5–9 mm	9–15 mm	15 mm and larger
Recommended Hook U.S. Size Range	Steel*** 6, 7, 8 Regular hook B–1	B–1 to E–4	E–4 to 7	7 to I–9	I–9 to K–10 ½	K–10 ½ to M–13	M–13 to Q	Q and larger









* GUIDELINES ONLY: The above reflect the most commonly used gauges and needle or hook sizes for specific yarn categories.

** Lace weight yarns are usually knitted or crocheted on larger needles and hooks to create lacy, openwork patterns. Accordingly, a gauge range is difficult to determine. Always follow the gauge stated in your pattern.

*** Steel crochet hooks are sized differently from regular hooks--the higher the number, the smaller the hook, which is the reverse of regular hook sizing (p. 27).

This Standards & Guidelines booklet and downloadable symbol artwork are available at: **YarnStandards.com**

Système standard de grosseur









Les catégories de fils, les gammes de tension et les tailles d'aiguilles ou de crochets recommandées.								
Nouvelle catégorie de noms	 LACE DENTELLE Liston	 SUPER FINE SUPER FIN Super Fino	 FINE FIN Fino	 LIGHT LÉGER Ligero	 MEDIUM MOYEN Medio	 BULKY BULKY Abultado	 SUPER BULKY TRÉS ÉPAIS Super Abultado	 JUMBO GÉANT Jumbo
	Dentelle	Super fin	Fin	Léger	Moyen	Bulky	Trés Épais	Géant
Sortes de fils par catégorie	fil à crocheter #10	Bas, Fingering, Bébé	Sport, Bébé	DK, Léger Worsted	Worsted, Afghan, Aran	Chunky, Artisanat, Tapis	Bulky, Roving	Géant Roving
Gamme de tension au tricot* en point jersey sur 4 pouces / 10 cm	33 à 40** mailles	27 à 32 mailles	23 à 26 mailles	21 à 24 mailles	16 à 20 mailles	12 à 15 mailles	7 à 11 mailles	6 mailles et moins
Tailles d'aiguilles recommandées en métrique	1.5 à 2.25 mm	2.25 à 3.25 mm	3.25 à 3.75 mm	3.75 à 4.5 mm	4.5 à 5.5 mm	5.5 à 8 mm	8 à 12.75 mm	12.75 mm et plus grand
Tailles d'aiguilles recommandées américaines	000 à 1	1 à 3	3 à 5	5 à 7	7 à 9	9 à 11	11 à 17	17 et plus grand
Gamme de tension au crochet* en mailles serrées sur 4 pouces / 10 cm	32 à 42 bride**	21 à 32 mailles	16 à 20 mailles	12 à 17 mailles	11 à 14 mailles	8 à 11 mailles	7 à 9 mailles	6 mailles et moins
Tailles de crochets recommandées en métrique	Acier *** 1.6 à 1.4 mm Crochet régulier 2.25 mm	2.25 à 3.25 mm	3.5 à 4.5 mm	4.5 à 5.5 mm	5.5 à 6.5 mm	6.5 à 9 mm	9 à 15 mm	15 mm et plus grand
Tailles de crochets recommandées américaines	Acier *** 6, 7, 8 Crochet régulier B-1	B-1 à E-4	E-4 à 7	7 à I-9	I-9 à K-10 ½	K-10 ½ à M-13	M-13 à Q	Q et plus grand

* LIGNES DIRECTRICES: Les informations incluses représentent les tensions qui sont les plus couramment utilisées, et les grosseurs de crochet et d'aiguille, pour des catégories de fils spécifiques.

** Les fils de poids dentelles sont généralement utilisés pour le tricot ou le crochet, avec de grosses aiguilles ou crochets, pour créer des motifs en dentelle ajourés; comme le niveau de tension est difficile à déterminer, il faut respecter la tension inscrite sur votre patron.

*** Les crochets en acier, n'ont pas les mêmes grosseurs que les crochets habituels et sont classés différemment – plus le numéro est élevé, plus petit sera le crochet, contrairement au classement des crochets habituels (p. 27).

Sistema de Peso Estandar para Estambre

Numeros y Nombres								
Nouvelle catégorie de noms								
	Liston	Super fino	Fino	Ligero	Medio	Abultado	Super Abultado	Jumbo
Tipos de Estambres Actuales dentro de la Categoría	Liston Estambre delgado, Crochet calibre 10	Calcetin, Digitación, Bebe	Deporte, Bebe	Doble tejido de punto, Tejido de estambre ligero	Estambre	Fornido, Grueso, Manualidad, Alfombra	Abultado,	Jumbo Roving
Rango del Calibre* del Punto en Tela de Punto de 4 Pulgadas / 10cm	33 a 40** sts	27 a 32 sts	23 a 26 sts	21 a 24 sts	16 a 20 sts	12 a 15 sts	7 a 11 sts	6 sts y menos
Aguja Recomendada en el Rango de Tamaño Métrico	1.5 a 2.25 mm	2.25 a 3.25 mm	3.25 a 3.75 mm	3.75 a 4.5 mm	4.5 a 5.5 mm	5.5 a 8 mm	8 a 12.75 mm	12.75 mm y mas
Aguja Recomendada en el Rango de Tamaño para E.U.	000 a 1	1 a 3	3 a 5	5 a 7	7 a 9	9 a 11	11 a 17	17 y mas
Calibre de Crochet* en Crochet Sencillo de 4 Pulgadas / 10 cm	32 a 42 punto alto**	21 a 32 sts	16 a 20 sts	12 a 17 sts	11 a 14 sts	8 a 11 sts	7 a 9 sts	6 sts y menos
Gancho Recomendado en el Rango de Tamaño Métrico	Acero *** 1.6 a 1.4 mm Gancho normal 2.25 mm	2.25 a 3.25 mm	3.5 a 4.5 mm	4.5 a 5.5 mm	5.5 a 6.5mm	6.5 a 9 mm	9 a 15 mm	15 mm y mas
Gancho Recomendado en el Rango de Tamaño para E.U.	Acero *** 6, 7, 8 Gancho normal B-1	B-1 a E-4	E-4 a 7	7 a I-9	I-9 a K-10 ½	K-10 ½ a M-13	M-13 a Q	Q y mas

* GUÍA: La tensión o calibre del punto, y el tamaño de las agujas y ganchos que se mencionan anteriormente, son los que se usan más frecuentemente dentro de cada categoría de hilo.

** Los hilos de peso "Listón" usualmente se tejen con agujas o ganchos más grandes para crear diseños abiertos, tipo encaje. Por lo tanto, es difícil determinar la tensión o calibre del punto. Siga siempre la tensión o calibre del punto que se indica en su patrón.

*** Los ganchos de acero se clasifican de manera distinta que los ganchos regulares – entre más alto el número, más pequeño es el gancho. Esto es al contrario de la manera usual de clasificar los ganchos (p. 27).

Hand Knitting and Crocheting



The HAND symbol, added to the Standards and Guidelines in Q4 2018, can be used to represent gauge for yarns that do not require hooks and/or knitting needles, including, but not limited to, loop yarns and arm/hand knitting and crocheting yarns. This symbol can also be used on patterns to note that tools are not needed to complete the project.

Schematics

A schematic is a visual rendering of a knit or crochet piece. Relevant measurements are indicated on the schematic.

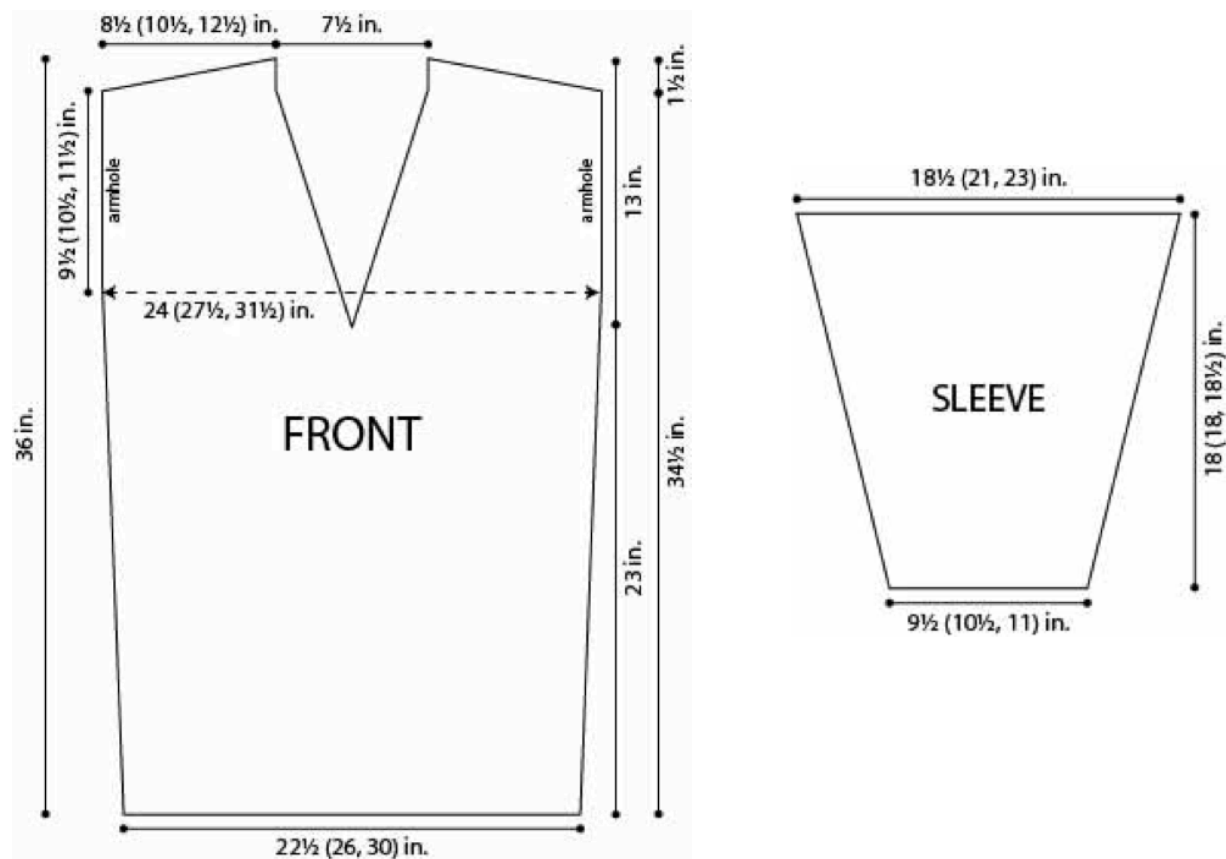
A schematic provides the knitter or crocheter with

- an overview of the size and shape of the piece
- a point of reference for determining the fit of a garment
- a template for use in modifying the size of the piece

It's important to review the schematic before embarking on a project. Using the shape and measurements of the schematic, you can determine whether changes are needed to achieve your desired fit.

An easy way to determine whether modifications to the pattern are needed is to compare the measurements of an existing, well-fitting garment to the measurements shown in the schematic.

Example:



Hooks & Needles

As a result of innovation, yarn trends and globalization, the variety of hook and needle sizes and the materials with which they are made has grown over the years. U.S. needle and hook manufacturers continue to use both numbers and/or letters as well as metric sizing (millimeter/mm) on hook and needle packaging. Because letter and number sizing vary from company to company, rely on the package millimeter (mm) sizing, which is an accurate measurement.

Regardless of the number, letter or millimeter sizing, always complete a gauge swatch and compare it to the pattern gauge information. If your swatch is larger than the pattern gauge, redo a swatch using a smaller hook or needle. Conversely, if your gauge swatch is too small, redo it using a larger hook or needle to obtain the gauge indicated in the pattern.

Knitting Needle Sizes

Millimeter Range	U.S. Size Range
1.50 mm	000
1.75 mm	00
2 mm	0
2.25 mm	1
2.75 mm	2
3 mm	
3.125 mm	3
3.25 mm	3
3.50 mm	4
3.75 mm	5
4 mm	6
4.25 mm	6
4.50 mm	7
5 mm	8
5.25 mm	9
5.50 mm	9
5.75 mm	10
6 mm	10
6.50 mm	10 ½
7 mm	
8 mm	11
9 mm	13
10 mm	15
12.50 mm	17
12.75 mm	17
15 mm	19
19 mm	35
25 mm	50
35 mm	70

Crochet Hook Sizes

Millimeter Range	U.S. Size Range
2.25 mm	B-1
2.50 mm	
2.75 mm	C-2
3.125 mm	D
3.25 mm	D-3
3.50 mm	E-4
3.75 mm	F-5
4 mm	G-6
4.25 mm	G
4.50 mm	7
5 mm	H-8
5.25 mm	I
5.50 mm	I-9
5.75 mm	J
6 mm	J-10
6.50 mm	K-10 ½
7 mm	
8 mm	L-11
9 mm	M/N-13
10 mm	N/P-15
11.50 mm	P-16
12 mm	
15 mm	P/Q
15.75 mm	Q
16 mm	Q
19 mm	S
25 mm	T/U/X
30 mm	T/X

Steel Crochet Hook & Crochet Thread Sizes

Steel crochet hooks are generally used with crochet threads and lace-weight yarns. They are sized differently than regular hooks: the higher the number, the smaller the hook, which is the reverse of regular hook sizing. Crochet thread is similarly sized: the smaller the number, the thicker the thread.

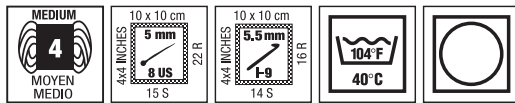
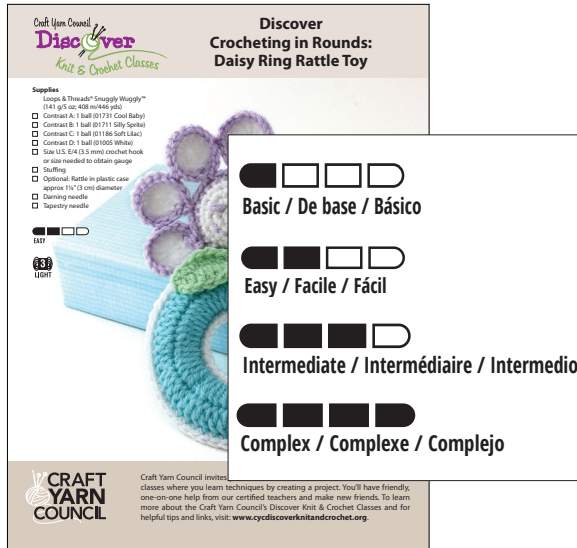
As with regular crochet hooks, there are variations in steel crochet hooks numbering. Regardless of the number or millimeter sizing, always complete a gauge swatch and compare it to the pattern gauge information.

The most common crochet threads are sizes 3, 5, 10, 20, and 30, though they are available in increments of 10 up to size 100, which is the finest.

Millimeter Range	U.S. Size Range
3.50 mm	00
3.25 mm	0
2.75 mm	1
2.70 mm	00
2.55 mm	0
2.35 mm	1
2.25 mm	2
2.20 mm	2
2.10 mm	3
2 mm	4
1.90 mm	5
1.80 mm	6
1.75 mm	4/0
1.70 mm	5
1.65 mm	7
1.60 mm	6
1.50 mm	8/7/2
1.40 mm	9/8
1.30 mm	10
1.25 mm	9/4
1.15 mm	10
1.10 mm	11
1.05 mm	11
1 mm	12/6
0.95 mm	13
0.90 mm	14/8
0.85 mm	13
0.75 mm	14/10
0.60 mm	12

Yarn Label Information

The samples below are typical of how you can expect to see the yarn and project symbols in a pattern or on a yarn label.



WORSTED • MEDIUM  MOYEN • MEDIO

Care Symbols

Universal care symbols are being used to reduce language on yarn and clothing labels. These symbols indicate how best to care for an item that will be made from the yarn. When giving a hand knitted or crocheted item as a gift, it's so helpful to include a label from a ball or skein of yarn used for the project so that the recipient will know how to care for the item.

Fortunately the international symbols adopted by the International Organization for Standards (ISO) from the International Association for Textile Care Labeling (referred to as Ginetex) and those developed by the American Society for Testing and Material (ASTM) are very similar, making it easier for consumers to understand no matter where the yarn comes from. However, there is one caveat: an international washing symbol will have suggested water temperature in Celsius scale, not Fahrenheit, while yarn from North America companies will list both.

There are five basic categories of symbols:

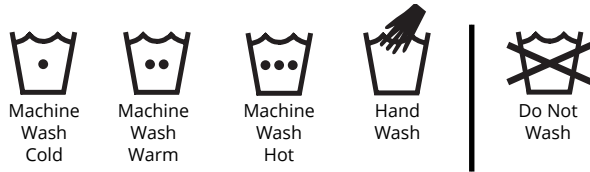
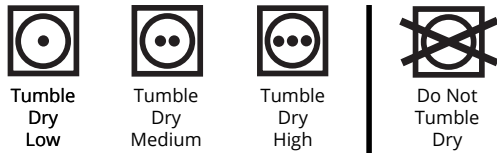
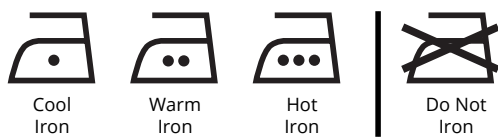
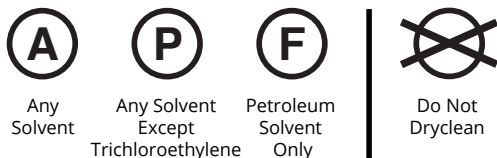
- Washing: a trapezoid-shaped tub with squiggly lines representing water
- Bleaching: a triangle
- Drying: a square
- Ironing: an iron
- Professional Textile Care: a circle

There is additional helpful care information accompanying each symbol. For instance, inside the washing symbol there might be a suggested water temperature or a hand dipping in the tub to indicate hand washing. If there is a BIG X through a symbol that means: Do Not Wash or Do Not Bleach!

Following is a list of symbols that most frequently appear on yarn labels. If you come across a different symbol, check out the ISO or ASTM websites.

WASH

If dots or numbers are shown inside the "tub", they indicate water temperatures.

**BLEACHING****DRYING****IRONING****PROFESSIONAL FABRIC CARE/DRY CLEANING****Designer Guidelines**

The Craft Yarn Council has compiled the following helpful designer guidelines for aspiring designers who want to submit a project idea to a yarn company or magazine but don't know where to begin. These guidelines do not replace those of individual companies. However, they represent the base standards which have been adopted by many members of the Council and industry publishers.

Before you submit your design

- Submit your design concept to one yarn company/magazine at a time. If your design is accepted the yarn company/magazine will expect it to be exclusive to them.
- Make sure you can execute the idea that you're proposing. For example, if you've never knit a top-down raglan cardigan, save that idea for another time when you have more experience. Stick to what you know.
- If you submit a design for a garment, you will most likely be asked to write the pattern in several sizes (this is known as "grading" a pattern), so you must have a working knowledge of garment construction and fit for a large range of sizes.
- In addition to an artistic sensibility, designing requires solid math skills, a knowledge of yarns and garment construction, and the ability to communicate. You must also be flexible enough to make any modifications required by the editors.
- Avoid design elements (such as very large pattern repeats) that will limit the size range.
- If designing for a print publication, think about how much space your pattern will take up in the magazine or book and edit your design, if necessary. Most publications have a limited amount of space allotted for patterns, so make sure your design isn't so complicated that it will require a large number of pages for the written instructions and/or charts.

- Think about the user's experience when knitting or crocheting your pattern and keep things simple whenever possible. A complex stitch pattern together with complicated shaping may make stitching the garment a frustrating experience for the consumer (and require a lot of pattern support).
- Keep in mind that most publishers are looking for originality and you have a greater chance of having your submission selected if it's something the editors haven't seen before. You don't have to create a stitch pattern from scratch (most designers use patterns from stitch dictionaries), but if you use a stitch pattern to create a long rectangle and put some fringe on it, there's a good chance the exact same thing has already been done by someone else (or many other people).
- Also include some words about the yarn choice (i.e., "This top relies on an open stitch and a fluid, inelastic yarn to make the blouson waist drape properly. A linen or bamboo in worsted or lighter weight would be ideal").
- The swatch should be large enough to give the editors an idea of what you intend the fabric to look like in the garment and the yarn should be appropriate to the design. Make sure that the swatch is blocked and the edges are even because it will give the editors an idea of how you will execute the finished sample.
- Your submission should not have been previously published (even on your blog), nor should it be submitted at the same time to other publications.
- Include a few words about yourself to give editors a feel for your sensibilities. This is especially important if you are a new designer.
- When submitting yarn swatch(es) with your idea or proposal to a yarn manufacturer, always use that company's yarn(s).

The Design Submission

- Your submission is a representation of who you are and how you work—a thoughtful, neat, and well-organized submission will leave a better impression than one that looks as if it has been hastily thrown together.
- Generally, companies/magazines will ask you to submit a sketch and knitted/crocheted swatch. Do not send a completed project because there is no guarantee that it will be returned (however, photos of completed projects are fine).
- You can submit more than one design at a time, but make sure to label each swatch/sketch with your name, address, phone number, and e-mail.
- If the publication requires a physical submission (many are turning to email submissions), include a postage-paid envelope with your submission if you want it returned.
- Provide a written description for each project, including construction, technical, and decorative details; sketches or photos of the finished piece to show fit, silhouette, and style (you don't have to be a professional artist to sketch a design); and schematics for garments that show construction, proportion, and sizing.

The Submission Process

- The yarn company/magazine may post a submission call as early as 10 months before the publication is scheduled to go to press. Many yarn companies/magazines post their submission calls in the Designers group on Ravelry. Or you can contact the editors and ask to be added to their email list alerting you to submission calls.
- Editors will usually provide links to their storyboards to give you an idea of their themes for a particular issue.
- Generally, you can expect the submission review process to take between 2 to 8 weeks. The yarn company/magazine may (but won't always) confirm that they have received your submission and give you an approximate date when they will let you know if your design has been accepted.
- If there is a delay in getting back to you, the manufacturers or editors might be preparing for trade shows or rushing to meet a deadline.

Refrain from continually calling/emailing about your submission.

- If your design idea is accepted, generally a design fee will be discussed in advance and a contract issued.

How a publication or yarn company processes submissions

- For each issue's designs, the editor has to balance all kinds of details: types of projects, difficulty levels, seasonal and color trends, how different designs can be combined for stories, and so on. Yarn companies work on seasonal collections and have themes that they develop based on colors, yarn types, etc.
- Magazine editors may get many design submissions for each issue, and normally they can only use 16 to 20 projects per frequency issue. Sometimes great designs simply don't fit into the concept for a given issue, and the editors may ask if they can hold a design for another issue. Generally, yarn companies will not hold a design for another season.

What happens after a design is accepted by a magazine

- The editor contacts each designer to propose contract terms. Once everybody has agreed to terms, the editor sends contracts out.
- The editor selects and orders yarn for each project, sent straight to the designer or a designated sample knitter. The editor sends out a pattern-writing style guide and/or template.
- Once you receive the yarn, you may have anywhere from 3 to 6 weeks to knit or crochet the garment and mail it in. Make sure to leave enough time to mail projects in order to arrive by the deadline.
- Designers knit or crochet samples and write patterns to be delivered by the deadline in the contract. They're encouraged to contact the editor with any questions along the way. It's vital that designers make every effort to meet the agreed-upon deadline. If, through unforeseen circumstances (such as yarn getting delayed)

you're going to have trouble meeting your deadline, contact the editor as soon as possible.

- Designers usually get paid after the editor accepts the sample and pattern. The patterns have to match the knitted sample and follow the publisher's style guide and/or template. The knitted/crocheted samples have to be suitable for photography, made to the size stipulated in the contract and of high technical quality. (Models are hired based on the contracted sample size, and photographers take close-up detail shots. Knitting/crocheting and sizing errors can cause significant problems at the photo shoot.)
- Samples and patterns go through tech-editing. Many companies have in-house technical editors or have a relationship with freelance editors.*
- You don't have to have your pattern test-knitted /crocheted, though some designers choose to do so, anyway. Make sure you tell your testers not to post photos of the projects publicly until the pattern is published.

*NOTE: Yarn companies may work very differently from magazines. At some yarn companies, the designer may be responsible for getting the pattern tech-edited and may even be responsible for photography. These are all points that will be included in the contract terms.

Before you begin the project

- Reconfirm yarn and color selection with the editor or design director and check all ball bands to be sure they are all the same dye lot number.
- Reconfirm with the yarn manufacturer that the yarn you have chosen will be available for at least the next year. Most magazines and book publishers work six months in advance.
- Reconfirm the size of the sample garment required to fit the photography model.
- Keep notes as you work on your project so that you can refer to them when an editor has questions. Do not rely on your memory to write

the pattern after the project has been mailed to the company.

- Check the Standards & Guidelines measurements chart and size your project accordingly (www.yarnstandards.com/sizing.html).
- As you are working on your project submission, if you feel there is a problem with the yarn or yarn color, contact the manufacturer or editor and discuss your concern. If you have an alternative, suggest it.

The completed project

- Affix a label or hang tag to the inside back of your project with your name and contact information, including your address, phone number, e-mail address, and project number (if assigned).
- Projects must be clean, free of cat/dog hair, perfume or other scents and cigarette smoke.
- Proper finishing is critical. Weave in all yarn ends and pay attention to blocking. Remember, acrylic yarns should not be blocked with heat because it flattens the fibers. If you have questions about blocking a specific yarn, contact the company/publication.
- Return all skein bands/yarn labels from the various yarns you used to complete the project.
- Email the pattern at the same time that you send in the sample, unless you have made other arrangements with the editors.
- Indicate front/back or left/right (for socks and mittens) using a tag or other marker.
- Return shipping is the expense of the designer. Return all unused and used yarn.
- Complete your project (including the pattern) on time!
- Never make changes to a design or substitute yarn without consulting the editors in advance.

The pattern

- Project instructions must be submitted in an editable electronic file. Generally, a Word file is preferred, but always check with the editor. Remember to write your name and contact

information, plus project number (if assigned) on the first page of the instructions.

- Indicate the type of yarn used, put-up (skein/ball yardage and weight), fiber content, the number of skeins/balls required for each project size, and yarn amounts for each size.
- Indicate Yarn Weight Symbols using the Yarn Standards.
- If the yarn is used doubled, make sure to note this in the gauge as well as in the pattern.
- Include all needles used and note all needle or hook sizes in millimeter and U.S. sizes.
- List all materials required to complete the project (needle sizes, circular needle lengths, stitch markers, buttons [number and size], crochet hooks, tapestry needle), including necessary additional supplies and accessories such as beads, snaps, purse handles, etc., with specific sizes and quantities noted, and source information if possible, i.e., where a consumer most likely will find these items.
- Use standard abbreviations, punctuations, and pattern language whenever possible. If you use a technique that is not widely known, make sure to provide a definition and/or a good online reference.
- List all measurements including finished chest, back and armhole measurements for each size submitted in the case of garments and indicate which size was made. For accessories, list the finished dimensions of the project. Make sure the measurements match the gauge(s) given in the pattern.
- It is the designer's job to write multiple sizes for a pattern, taking into account gauge, shaping and pattern repeats.
- Make sure the information in the pattern is as correct as possible. The tech editor's job is to check your pattern for accuracy and consistency, not to fill in missing information or correct multiple math errors.
- Use the Standards & Guidelines Project Level chart on page 12 to determine the difficulty level of the project.
- Provide stitch counts after every row/round that contains an increase or decrease.

- List the stitch patterns used (with multiples) before the actual garment instructions.
- Indicate pattern repeats on charts. Number chart rows.
- If a project, such as a cardigan, has sides that are mirror images of one another, write out complete shaping directions for both sides.
- Be sure to mention finishing details such as bind off or fasten off; sew up the side seams, or set in or sew sleeves in place. If the piece is assembled in an unusual way, provide sketches, a diagram or step-by-step photos to augment your written instructions.
- Create a schematic for each piece of the project/garment that shows the actual knitted/ crocheted measurements of the individual pieces before seaming, with all relevant measurements. (Some companies don't require a schematic for accessories.) Schematic should include length measurements from cast-on row to underarm, depth of armholes, and sleeve length. Schematic should also include all major width/circumference measurements. If different parts are worked in different direction, arrows showing the direction of work are very helpful.
- If you don't have a computer program for drawing schematics, most companies will accept hand-drawn and scanned schematics.
- Use the recommended industry symbols to create charts for stitch or color (intarsia) patterns.

Sending an invoice

- An invoice should be submitted along with your completed project. Fees are generally negotiated when your design concept is first accepted by a manufacturer/magazine. On the invoice include an invoice number, your name, current address, phone number, e-mail address, social security number or tax id, name and number of design if you have one, and brief description of the project. Generally, companies require that a signed design agreement/contract must be included with the invoice.



The Craft Yarn Council is the yarn industry's trade association. For more than 35 years, it has heightened consumer awareness of yarn crafts through education and promotion programs. Its membership represents the leading yarn companies, fiber producers, needle and hook manufacturers and publishers.

Craft Yarn Council
3740 N. Josey Lane, Suite 152
Carrollton, TX 75007

Tel: 972-325-7232

E-mail:
info@craftyarncouncil.com

Web sites:
knitandcrochet.com
learntoknit.com
learntocrochet.com
Knit911.com
Crochet911.com
craftyarncouncil.com
ILoveYarnDay.org
discoverknitandcrochet.org
eachoneteachtwo.com

This Standards & Guidelines booklet and downloadable symbol artwork are available at:
YarnStandards.com

On Social Media:

