





# Yarn Standards

**T**he Craft Yarn Council has worked with fiber, needle, and hook manufacturers and publishers to set up a series of guidelines and symbols to bring uniformity to patterns and to yarn, needle, and hook labeling. *Spin-Off's* goal is to extend these standards to spinners and to create a system for referencing the yarn we make. We have augmented the Craft Yarn Council standards by adding useful gauges for spinners, such as wraps per inch and yards per pound. We have also added recommended setts for weaving. Our additions come from a variety of sources, from experience, and from patterns. This chart offers only rough guidelines, as a lot of variation is created by what fiber is used and how it is spun.

							
Examples of Types of Yarn	Lace, 10-Count Crochet Thread	Sock, Fingering, Baby	Sport, Baby	DK, Light Worsted	Worsted, Afghan, Aran	Chunky, Craft, Rug	Bulky, Roving
Wraps per Inch	18 or more	16 to 18	14 to 15	12 to 13	10 to 11	8 to 9	7 or less
Yards per Pound	2,401 or more	1,901 to 2,400	1,201 to 1,900	901 to 1,200	601 to 900	401 to 600	400 or less
Knit Gauge* in Stockinette Stitch to 4"	33 to 40 sts**	27 to 32 sts	23 to 26 sts	21 to 24 sts	16 to 20 sts	12 to 15 sts	6 to 11 sts
Recommended Needle in U.S./Metric Sizes	000 to 1 / 1.5 to 2.25 mm	1 to 3 / 2.25 to 3.25 mm	3 to 5 / 3.25 to 3.75 mm	5 to 7 / 3.75 to 4.5 mm	7 to 9 / 4.5 to 5.5 mm	9 to 11 / 5.5 to 8 mm	11 / 8 mm and larger
Crochet Gauge* in Single Crochet to 4"	32 to 42 double crochets**	21 to 32 sts	16 to 20 sts	12 to 17 sts	11 to 14 sts	8 to 11 sts	5 to 9 sts
Recommended Hook in U.S./Metric Sizes	Steel*** 6, 7, 8 / 1.6 to 1.4 mm. Regular B-1	B-1 to E-4 / 2.25 to 3.5 mm	E-4 to 7 / 3.5 to 4.5 mm	7 to I-9 / 4.5 to 5.5 mm	I-9 to K-10½ / 5.5 to 6.5 mm	K-10½ to M-13 / 6.5 to 9 mm	M-13 / 9 mm and larger
Plain-Weave Sett	15 or more	12 to 15	10 to 12	8 to 10	6 to 8	4 to 6	4 or less

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

\*\*Laceweight 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.

Sources: Craft Yarn Council's [www.yarnstandards.com](http://www.yarnstandards.com) and *Handwoven* magazine's [handwovenmagazine.com](http://handwovenmagazine.com).