

Angelika's Yarn Classifications

Inside is a list of the yarns I carry. They are in stitches per inch order, and can be of some help for substituting yarn in patterns, or just general "what needle do I use" guideline.

This is just a general guideline. The stitches per inch are the manufacturers starting suggestions. Sometimes they are very accurate, and sometimes we will prefer to knit or crochet at a different gauge. Sometimes you will need to go up or down a needle/hook size to get the same gauge as a friend. Because of this, it is extremely important to do a gauge swatch.

The yarns in *stitches per inch* order. You will notice that the needles suggested are rather "all over the board".

Everyone has their own way of doing a swatch. Some will do a 4" swatch. I actually prefer to do an 8" swatch.

For an 8" swatch, cast on for what you think might be 8". For example, if I want to do a test swatch for a yarn that claims to be 4.5sts per inch, I will cast on 36 sts (8 x 4.5). If my test piece is working out to 8", I know I am right on. If it is working out too large, then I need to move down a needle size, in an attempt to get a smaller swatch. Once I am on gauge, I will begin the back of the sweater first. After knitting (or crocheting) about 4", I will lay it down and measure to make sure it is working up to gauge. If I am just a hair short, I am happy, as the garment will relax and tend to grow a bit. If I am right on or a hair over, I may need to consider reswatching, or at least keep checking it as my piece progresses.

Swatching on 18 sts over 4" will not accurately tell you what 108 sts will do in a full size, often heavy, sweater. That is why I do 8" swatches. While they are not 108 sts, they are closer than a 4" swatch, then I watch gauge carefully as I start up the back.





The Craft Yarn Council has created an extremely loose set of guidelines. These guidelines consist of 7 categories numbered 0 through 5. Many yarn manufacturers now print a category on their ball wrapper. For experienced knitters these guidelines are just frustration. But for a brand new knitter it helps to get a size of the different sizes and what needle/hook size might be most appropriate for it.



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www.yarn-store.com

Lace Weight				
Yarn Name	Stitches per inch	Suggested Needle Size	Suggested Crochet Hook	
Helen's Lace ₁	8	3	E / 3.25mm	
Kid Seta ₁	6.5	3	E / 3.25	
Heaven ₁	3.5	8	I / 5mm	
Cascade Alpaca Lace ₁	7	2	E / 3.25mm	
Fingering Weight				
Poems Sock	8	1	C/2.25mm	
Heritage Sock	8	2	D / 2.75mm	
Poems Sock	7.25	2	D/2.75mm	
Shepherd Sock	7	3	E / 3.25mm	
Heritage Sock	7	1	C / 2.25mm	
Poems Sock	6.75	3	E/3.25mm	
DK & Sport Weight				
Fixation ₂	6.5	7	H / 4.5mm	
Kid Seta ₁	6.5	3	E / 3.25mm	
Shepherd Sport	6	4	F / 3.5mm	
Fixation ₂	5.5	8	I / 5mm	
Silk Purse	5.5	6	G / 4mm	
Pima Tencel ₃	5.5	7	G / 4mm	
Cascade 220 Superwash	5.5	6	G / 4mm	
Honor	5.5	5	I/5mm	
Ultra Pima	5.5	5	I/5mm	

Knit and Crochet Note:

Remember that these are just suggested sizes if you have no idea where to start. These are not hard and fast rules. You need to use the hook or needle necessary to get the fabric you desire.

Crochet Note:

Suggested crochet hook size is also listed. But because the stitch gauge can be totally all over the place, I have left this column blank. When I am able to feel good about suggested stitch gauges, I will fill in this column.

- 1: Mohair blend yarns, while quite thin, are knit looser to allow the mohair to work out.
- 2: This yarn has lycra in it. It is easily knit tighter and looser.
- 3: I just was not happy with this yarn at 5 sts per inch. Using the 7 needle I got 5.5 sts per inch, and felt the resulting fabric was much nicer.

Worsted Weight

<i>Yarn Name</i>	<i>Stitches per inch</i>	<i>Suggested Needle Size</i>	<i>Suggested Crochet Hook</i>	
Sierra	5	7	H / 4.5mm	
Pearl	5	7	H / 4.5mm	
Pima Tencel ₃	5	7	H / 4.5mm	
Kid Seta ₁	5	7	H / 4.5mm	
Angel	5	8	I / 5mm	
Cascade 220	5	7	H / 4.5mm	
Cascade220 Superwash	5	7	H / 4.5mm	
Venezia	5	7	H / 4.5mm	
Fisherman	5	8	I / 5mm	
Cascade Eco Alpaca	5	7	H / 4.5mm	
Cotton Supreme & Batik	5	7	H/4.5mm	
Cascade Pure Alpaca	5	7	H / 4.5mm	
Classic Shades	4.5-5	8 or 7	5mm or 4.5mm	
Sierra	4.5	8	I / 5mm	
Cash Vero	4.5	8	I / 5mm	
Cotton Supreme & Batik	4.5	8	I/5mm	
Shepherd Worsted	4.5	7	H / 4.5mm	
Cascade 220	4.5	8	I / 5mm	
Lion & Lamb	4.5	8	I / 5mm	
Bullfrog & Butterflies	4.5	8	I / 5mm	
Classic Shades	4	9	J/5.5mm	
Pastaza	4	9	J / 5.5mm	
Glory ₁	4	10	K / 6mm	
Grace ₁	4	10	K / 6mm	
Cotton Supreme & Batik	4	9	J / 5.5mm	
Cascade Eco Wool and Eco+	4	9	J / 5.5mm	
Bulky Weight				
Cascade Eco Wool and Eco+	3.5	10	K / 6mm	
Shepherd Bulky	3.5	10	K / 6mm	
Cascade 128 Superwash	3.5	10	K / 6mm	
Baby Alpaca Chunky	3.5	10	K / 6mm	
Heaven ₁	3.5	8	I/5mm	
Revelation	3.5	10.5	K / 6.5mm	



Yarn Symbol "0" is a recent addition. This indicates a yarn that is most often knit in Lace. Lace weight yarns are generally very thin. They are sometimes called fingering, but in my opinion, fingering weight yarns fall into the next category. Lace weight yarns, while they are very small, are often knit on larger needles. This is to produce that very light weight airy fabric, most often done in a lace pattern.



Yarn Symbol "1" is for sock and fingering weight yarns. Sometimes you will find these weights called baby. These yarns usually get 7-8 sts per inch, and usually use the US#1, 2 or 3 size needle. This fabric is great for socks, but also perfect for infants. I like this weight for summer shells and short sleeve tops.



Yarn Symbol "2" is for sport weight, and here again, you will find some calling it baby. These yarns usually get 5.75 - 6.5 stitches per inch, and usually use a US#3, 4 or 5 size needle. This is also a great size for socks, as well as infants. Also this is my prefer size for crochet. I like the softness of this weight and the crochet fabric is not too heavy. Category 2 and 3 overlap slightly.



Yarn Symbol "3" is for DK and Light Worsted yarns. These yarns usually get 5.25 - 6 stitches per inch, and usually use a US#5, 6 or 7 needle. A bit thicker fabric, this makes great cool weather pullovers. Cables begin to really show up well at this weight. US#7 yarns are what I seem to use the most. Large enough that my projects don't take forever, but small enough that they still look good on most average bodies.



Yarn Symbol "4" is for Worsted and Aran weight yarns. These yarns usually get 4 to 5 stitches per inch, and usually use a US#7, 8 or 9 needle. Great for "walking on the beach" pullovers, when you live on the Oregon Coast, jackets and vests. Also a great size for afghans. As you can tell from my table, Angelika's Yarn Store carries a lot of this weight. It is an extremely popular size.



Yarn Symbol "5" is for Bulky weight yarns. These yarns usually get 3 - 3.75 stitches per inch, and usually use a US#9, 10 or 11 needle. These produce a very bulky garment. I caution knitters to know their body types. I knit myself one, and thought I looked like a football linebacker. But these yarns can make up some beautiful vests and shawls and will knit up very fast. Don't rule them out, just understand their limitations.



Yarn Symbol "6" is the very largest yarns, called Bulky and Roving. These yarns usually get less than 3 sts per inch. Again, watch out that the project you are creating will look good on the body it is planned for. These projects will knit up superfast. Consider shawls and loose, cropped jackets. As you can tell from the table, Angelika's Yarn Store does not stock this weight.



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