

Knitting Pattern Writing Checklists



Gauge Section

Hello! I'm thrilled that you, like me, are interested in writing knitting patterns. Providing the accurate information knitters will need to successfully and enjoyably knit your design in a clear and consistent manner is a worthy endeavor!

On **page 1**, there's a list of what to include in a knitting pattern's gauge section. Convenient check boxes are placed next to each item in the list. Feel free to print **page 1** checking off each box as you write down the gauge details of your knitting pattern.

Page 2 contains tips and answers to different questions on the topic of writing a gauge section. Also, you'll find links to free resources I refer to.

If you have questions, please email me at hannah@worksofourhands.com.

Gauge Section Checklist

- Number of stitches per 4 inches / 10 centimeters is listed. *
- Number of rows/rounds per 4 inches / 10 centimeters is listed. *
- Rows** is the word used for a swatch to be worked flat; **Rounds (Rnds)** is the word used for a swatch to be worked in the round (circularly).
- Note for measuring the gauge of a blocked or unblocked swatch is included. +
- Stitch pattern (stockinette, garter rib, etc.) to work gauge swatch is listed. ^
- (For patterns with multiple needle sizes) Recommended needle size to work gauge swatch is listed, matching US and metric sizes (US 8 and 5 mm match). <
- Note that knitter may need to change needle size to match the gauge listed in pattern.
- Check that all gauge information is arranged in the order of the designer's current pattern writing style. >

Repeat above Checklist for all gauge swatches listed in pattern.

Notes

* Listing partial numbers of stitches, rows, or rounds can cause knitters to miscalculate their gauge much more easily than listing whole numbers. For example, listing 22 1/2 stitches per 4 inches / 10 cm is a partial stitch count while 45 stitches per 8 inches / 20 cm is a whole stitch count.

Also, listing for knitters to measure gauge over 4 inches / 10 cm is standard, but not required (as in the above 8 inches / 20 cm example). Listing an accurate whole number stitch and row/round counts is more important than listing gauge measurements over 4 inches / 10 cm.

+ Wondering whether to list the gauge measurements for a blocked or an unblocked swatch? In everyday life, most items will be blocked (soaked or steamed with water) affecting the finished size. Blocked gauge measurements are the most accurate to base the design on and list for knitters to meet gauge in most cases.

^ After naming the stitch pattern in the gauge section, it's very helpful to list the page number knitters can find that stitch pattern instructions on or write the stitch pattern instructions in the gauge section.

< For matching US and metric knitting needle sizes, [visit this chart](#).

> To learn more about style sheets and developing a pattern writing style, [check out this article](#).

Example Gauge Section

Gauge

27 sts & 37 rnds = 4 in (10 cm) in Diagonal Rib (pg. 3) on US 1 (2.25 mm)
after blocking

Note: To match the gauge listed in pattern, adjust needle size as needed.



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