

Yarn Substitution Worksheet



Complete this in conjunction with the Knit School Yarn Substitution Mini Series

YARN SUBSTITUTION

The Yarn	Pattern Yarn	Substitute Yarn
Yarn Brand / Line		
Pattern Gauge		(After swatching)
Yarn Fibre		
Meterage/yardage per ball/skein		
Yarn Construction		
Required meterage/yardage for your size		(After swatching)
Needles required		(After swatching)

Area	Questions to ask	Pattern adjustment required?
Colour	Will my colour choice show off the design/stitches or will they be lost?	
Item Wear/Use	Will my yarn choice be suitable for how the garment will be worn/used and cared for?	
Yarn Weight	Is my yarn the same weight as the pattern yarn or different? If different, how much adjustment is required?	
Meterage / Yardage	Is my yarn the same meterage/yardage as the pattern yarn or different? If different, how much adjustment is required?	
Composition	Will the fibre in my chosen yarn give me the feel/drape/etc as the yarn in the pattern? If not, what will the outcome be?	
Construction	Is the construction of my yarn the same, similar or different? What implications does that have for stitch definition/look/feel/etc	

Next steps

1. Based on the details above, decide whether or not to use the substitute yarn
2. Knit a swatch to determine if adjustments are required

SWATCHING

Swatch Notes	
No. of stitches cast-on	
Number of rows knit	
Needles size used	
Knit flat or round?	
Yarn used	
Blocking method used	

	Pattern Gauge	Swatch Gauge
Stitches per 4 inches / 10 cm		
Rows per 4 inches / 10 cm		

Situation	Action
Gauge is incorrect	Do nothing and accept it, decide that you are knitting the item regardless OR decide to make something else
Your swatch has less stitches/rows	Try a smaller needle to see if you can get closer
Your swatch has more stitches/rows	Try a larger needle to see if you can get closer
Only row gauge is incorrect	Adjust number of rows where row counts are specified
Only stitch gauge is incorrect	Try a different needle size as compensating for stitch gauge can be trickier
Overall gauge is a % smaller/bigger	Work out if you can make a % bigger/smaller size that will give you the size you need
Cannot get gauge but want to continue	Time for Knitting Maths!

Next steps

1. Based on the details above, decide what action to take
2. Calculate any adjustments

KNITTING MATHS

In this section, use the Pattern and Swatch gauges from the previous page

Step	
Key Measurements	Cast-on/cast-off etc, waist, armhole, neck depth, neck width etc
Measurements as stitches & rows in swatch gauge	1 inch = ____ rows & ____ stitches, therefore ____ inches = ____ rows, ____ inches = ____ stitches
Key Increases / Decreases	Starting count, end count, over how many rows?

KNITTING MATHS

In this section, use the Pattern and Swatch gauges from the previous page

Step	
Increase / Decrease rates	
Do stitch counts match any stitch patterns?	
Do pieces that meet others match?	
Yarn requirements	Swatch = ____ square inches, ____ grams Piece 1 = ____ square inches etc

Extra space

Next steps

1. Using all of the details above, print out the pattern and update all the relevant counts!
2. Knit your project :)