Knitting Cheat Sheet

Abbreviations, increases and decreases, needle sizes and yarn weights

HookMath

Basic abbreviations

Abbr.	Meaning	Abbr.	Meaning
k / p	knit / purl	St st	stockinette (UK: stocking) stitch
st(s)	stitch(es)	g st	garter stitch
CO / BO	cast on / bind off (UK: cast off)	sl1	slip 1 stitch
RS / WS	right / wrong side	tbl	through back loop
rep	repeat	wyif / wyib	yarn in front / in back
rnd	round	dpn	double-pointed needle
pm / sm	place / slip marker	w&t	wrap and turn (short rows)
MC / CC	main / contrast colour	tog	together

Increases and decreases

Abbr.	What to do	Effect
k2tog	knit 2 together	decrease, leans right
ssk	slip 2 knitwise one at a time, knit them together tbl	decrease, leans left
skp	slip 1, knit 1, pass slipped stitch over	decrease, leans left
p2tog	purl 2 together	decrease
sk2p	slip 1, k2tog, pass slipped stitch over	double decrease
yo	yarn over (UK: yfwd)	increase with a hole (lace)
m1L / m1R	lift the bar between stitches and knit it	increase, leans left / right
kfb	knit front and back of the same stitch	increase

Cables

C4F / C4B: slip 2 stitches to a cable needle and hold in front (F) or behind (B), knit 2, then knit the 2 from the cable needle.

Needle sizes: metric, US and old UK

Metric	US	Old UK	Metric	US	Old UK
2.0 mm	0	14	6.0 mm	10	4
2.25 mm	1	13	6.5 mm	10½	3
2.75 mm	2	12	7.0 mm	–	2
3.0 mm	–	11	7.5 mm	–	1
3.25 mm	3	10	8.0 mm	11	0
3.5 mm	4	–	9.0 mm	13	00
3.75 mm	5	9	10.0 mm	15	000
4.0 mm	6	8	12.75 mm	17	–
4.5 mm	7	7	15.0 mm	19	–
5.0 mm	8	6	19.0 mm	35	–
5.5 mm	9	5	25.0 mm	50	–

Yarn weights and needle sizes

Yarn weight	Typical needle size
Lace (0)	1.5–2.25 mm (US 000–1)
Fingering / sock (1)	2.25–3.25 mm (US 1–3)
Sport (2)	3.25–3.75 mm (US 3–5)
DK / light worsted (3)	3.75–4.5 mm (US 5–7)
Worsted / aran (4)	4.5–5.5 mm (US 7–9)
Bulky (5)	5.5–8 mm (US 9–11)
Super bulky (6)	8–12.75 mm (US 11–17)
Jumbo (7)	12.75 mm and up (US 17+)

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