

## Crochet Gauge Cheat Sheet (Printable)

A simple guide to help your projects turn out the right size every time

---

### What Is Crochet Gauge?

Crochet gauge measures how many **stitches and rows fit into a 4-inch square**.

Matching the pattern gauge ensures your project turns out the correct size.

---

### How to Make a Gauge Swatch

1. Use the same yarn and hook listed in the pattern
  2. Chain more stitches than needed (at least 5–6 inches wide)
  3. Crochet using the exact stitch pattern
  4. Make your swatch larger than 4 inches
  5. Lay flat and measure from the center
- 

### How to Measure Gauge

- Measure **4 inches across the middle**
  - Count full stitches only (not partial stitches)
  - Count rows vertically
  - Do not measure from edges
- 

### Quick Gauge Fix Guide

Problem	What It Means	How to Fix It
Too many stitches	Too tight	Go up a hook size
Too few stitches	Too loose	Go down a hook size
Rows too short	Tight	Relax or size up hook
Rows too tall	Loose	Tighten or size down
Matches pattern	Perfect	Start your project

---

### Hook Size Adjustment Tips

- Change hook size—not the pattern
  - Always re-make your swatch after adjusting
  - Stick with the same hook brand for consistency
- 

### Common Gauge Mistakes

- Skipping the swatch
  - Measuring edges instead of the center
  - Using a different stitch pattern
  - Ignoring row gauge
  - Switching hooks mid-project
- 

### Does Yarn & Blocking Affect Gauge?

- **Wool / Alpaca:** Can stretch or grow
- **Cotton:** May stretch slightly

- **Acrylic:** Minimal change (unless steam blocked)

👉 Measure your swatch *after blocking* if the pattern calls for it

---

## 🔄 Gauge Can Change As You Crochet

Your tension may shift due to:

- Fatigue or stress
- Speed
- Temperature
- Hand position

✓ Check your gauge throughout larger projects

---

## 🧸 Gauge for Amigurumi

- Focus on **tight, dense stitches**
- No visible gaps or stuffing
- Go down a hook size if stitches feel loose

👉 Size matters less than structure

---

## 💡 Remember This

Gauge is your crochet “fingerprint.”

Taking a few minutes to check it can save you hours of rework—and help your projects turn out just right.