

## Appendix 1 - How to Calculate Yarn Amounts

Yarns vary enormously from each other; cotton is quite heavy and dense while acrylic can be very airy and light. A 50g ball of cotton may contain only 90 metres of yarn, while a ball of acrylic could be 150 metres long. So, if you try to use 50g of cotton to knit pattern designed for 50g of acrylic, you're going to run out before your item is finished. When trying to use up part-used balls, or knit a pattern designed for a different yarn to the one you've got, it's easy to work out how many metres you have and whether you have enough to complete your project.

- First, find out from your yarn label or manufacturer's website

How many metres are in each ball?

Let's say that your 50g ball is 145metres long.

- Divide the number of metres by the number of grams:

$$145 / 50 = 2.9m$$

This means that every gram of yarn in your ball, measures 2.9m long.

- Weigh your yarn. You'll need accurate weighing scales for this. If you haven't got any, try the self service scales at your local supermarket.

Let's say you've got 38 grams of yarn remaining.

- Multiply the weight of your yarn (38), by the grams per metre (2.9)

$$38 \times 2.9 = 110.2m$$

You have 110m left.

All you need to do now is find out whether your yarn will be long enough for your project. If your pattern states that you need 32 grams of a certain yarn, work out using the instructions above, how many metres this would be. Then you will know if the yarn you have is long enough to use.