

Calculating Yardage for Braided Rugs

1. For the Whole Rug

When calculating yardage for a whole rug, get a rough estimate by multiplying the length times the width of the desired rug, and getting the total fabric needed in yards.

Rectangular and Oval Rugs:

Example: For a 5' X 8' Rug,

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} \text{Length (in feet)} & \text{X} & \text{Width (in feet)} & = & \text{Yards Needed for Rug} \\ 8' & & 5' & = & 40 \text{ yards needed for rug} \end{array}$$

In actuality, this is an overestimate, but not by a whole lot.

Note that we do not fuss with eliminating the rounded area for ovals.

Round and Octagonal Rugs:

Area of a round is πr^2 , where π is 3.14 and r^2 is the radius, squared, in feet.

Example: for a round rug 8 feet in diameter, the yardage needed is:

$$\pi r^2 = 3.14 \times (4 \text{ feet})^2 = 3.14 \times 16 = 50.24 \text{ or } 50 \frac{1}{4} \text{ yards.}$$

2. For a Single Color within a Planned Rug: (from Pam Rowan)

This explanation presumes that you have a rug plan from someone like Barbara Fisher or Betty Mutina (or others), who create rug plans with the colors pre-planned for each row. See the beautiful heart with its associated color plan, below. The plan was created by Betty Mutina with triangles of fabric sewn onto a muslin strip, and the rug was made by Pam Rowan.



Pam Rowan
Heart
5-6-08

1-	32
2-	36
3-	40
4-	44
5-	48
6-	52
7-	56
8-	60
9-	64
10-	68
11-	72
12-	76

1. Add Up Sets To figure out how much of the raspberry plaid you'll need – found in rows 6, 7, 8 and 11 in the plan shown right – you need to add up the “sets” (which are the 3 colors in a row within a braid) listed to the right of each row in which the color is featured.*

In this example, Row 6 has 52 sets, Row 7 has 56 sets, Row 8 has 60 sets, and Row 11 has 72 sets. Add them up and you get 240 sets.

2. Divide by 20, which is the number of loops of one color within a braid that is a yard long (*your gauge may be different*). Example: 240 divided by 20 is 12.

3. Divide by 12 to get the yardage. Example: 12/12 = 1 yard.

*If there are two of the same color within a row, remember to add in that row's number of sets twice.