

# PATTERN SIZING

Follow this simple formula to accurately enlarge patterns from books to the required size. Remember to think of the photocopier as a drawing tool. It can save you a lot of time and also help you to re-create patterns true to the published version!

$$\boxed{\text{the size you want}} \div \boxed{\div} \boxed{\text{the size you have}} \boxed{\%} \quad (= \text{enlargement})$$

**Example:** My pattern needs to be 300mm wide. The original pattern measures 200mm high x 125mm wide. I will use the formula above and the calculator to work out the percentage I need to enlarge my pattern on the photocopier.



$$300 \div 125 \% (240)$$

I will need to enlarge the pattern 240%.



**Checking the enlargement proportion:** To find out the height at the enlargement size, use the reverse formula below.

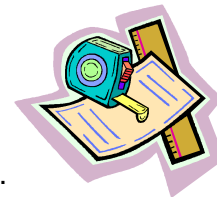
$$\boxed{\text{the size you have}} \times \boxed{\times} \boxed{\text{enlargement}} \boxed{\%} \quad (= \text{new height})$$

$$\text{Example: } 200 \times 240 \% (480)$$

**Summary:** My original is 200mm x 125mm. Enlarging it at 240% on the copier will give me a pattern size of 480mm x 300mm.

## Handy measuring tips:

- The most accurate increment to use is millimeters (mm).
- Take your ruler and calculator with you to the copy service centre. (Don't expect the staff to know how to accurately work out the maths!)
- Most photocopiers have a maximum enlargement of 400% or 800%. When your required size is bigger than this, enlarge the pattern to the copier maximum and then rework the formula using this second copy as your original.
- You must use the percent (%) button on the calculator - not the equals (=) button.
- In a lot of cases the proportion of the height and width won't match exactly as you want. You may need to add or subtract some of the image/background to allow for this.
- It is often only necessary to use the copier to enlarge the more detailed areas of the pattern - not the whole pattern.



This information has been designed to help you re-create accurate size patterns.  
Please contact us with any related feedback.

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