

# WOOL From Fleece to Fabric

Wool is harvested today much as it was centuries ago, by shearing the sheep's fleece, a job still done by hand, one person to one sheep.



1

## SHEARING

The fleece is removed with clippers, graded, rolled up and packed into bags.



2

## SCOURING

Fleece is washed with a soap and water solution removing soil, grass, and a natural grease called lanolin. The purified lanolin by-product is used in face creams, soaps, and ointments.



3

## CARDING

The wool is combed to straighten the fibers and remove any foreign matter.



4

## SPINNING

The wool is spun into yarn. Coarser wool is spun into woollen yarn to be used in carpets or thick sweaters. Finer wool is spun into worsted yarn used to make lightweight fabrics for suits and dresses.



5

## KNITTING/WEAVING

The yarn is knit or woven into the finished product.

