

Wool in Schools

Fact sheet

From fleece to fabric!

We don't really need to do too much to wool to make it useable. Here is a quick look at how wool is processed.



HOW WOOL IS MADE

WOOL!
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1 GROWING

Every year sheep grow wool on their body naturally. All they need is water, sunshine and grass.

3 PACKAGING

A standard size and weight of wool packaged up as a bale and ready to go.

5 CARDING

Once dry, the clean wool is combed to remove knots and tangles. It's called carding. It makes all the fibres run in the same direction and removes anything that isn't wool, like bits of hay.

7 SPINNING INTO YARN FOR CARPETS

Loose fibres of wool are twisted together to make a longer and stronger fibre called yarn. Woolen yarn is soft, light, stretchy, and full of air.

8 WEAVING WOOLEN YARN INTO UPHOLSTERY AND CURTAIN FABRIC

A special machine weaves the yarns together to make them into fabric.

11 FINAL PRODUCT

Wow, wool can be used in many ways.



2 SHEARING

It's time for a haircut.



4 WASHING

The bath for dirty wool - just add biodegradable detergent to warm water to make the wool nice and clean.



6 DYEING

What colour do I want my wool product to be?

9 FELTING

The carded wool is rubbed together with water and soap, which matts it into a special cloth.

10 PROCESSING INTO INSULATION, SOUND-PROOFING, FILTERS AND BEDDING

Wool is put through a processing machine, which builds up layer on layer of extremely thin carded wool fibres, until it reaches the desired thickness. Wool helps to keep the world warm, clean and quiet!



12 RECYCLING

When you have finished with wool products you can compost them into fertiliser for the garden.

Here's a great [10 minute video](#) showing you more about the process

