

Custom Woolen Mills (403) 337-2221

www.customwoolenmills.com

Survival Notes for Custom Processing

Please read all notes prior to sending your wool or fiber. If you are sending us exotic fiber (such as alpaca, llama, mohair, or buffalo) please note our ***additional*** instructions for exotic fiber processing and also refer to the exotic fiber price list.

Order Instructions

When ordering please be specific. Let us know exactly what you would like your wool processed into.

Make sure that your order instructions include detailed contact information (company name, your full name, address, phone number, email) so that we can reach you to discuss your order.

Shipping Your Fiber

We do not pay postage and handling to and from the mill.

If you have more than one package (sack, box, bag etc.) please number the packages 1 of n, 2 of n, 3 of n, etc. where n is the total number of packages you are sending. If you have more than one lot, number the lots as well.

Put your order instructions in each package, and put your return address on each package.

If shipping by **regular post**, send your wool or fiber to:

Custom Woolen Mills

RR#1

Carstairs, Alberta

T0M 0N0

Canada

Phone: (403) 337-2221

If shipping by **Greyhound Bus**, send your wool or fiber to:

Custom Woolen Mills

Crossfield, Alberta

(403) 337-2221

Wool Length

For best results, your wool must be between 2" and 4" in length. If your wool is longer, please contact us to discuss the options.

Washing

Expect between 40% and 60% weight loss from your raw wool weight to the finished weight. This loss in weight is from removal of dirt, dust, barnyard waste, and grease from the fiber.

Carding & Spinning

Batts - No minimum lot weight

Roping/Rovings - No minimum lot weight

Spinning Rolls - Minimum lot 20 lbs ***clean*** weight

Bulky 6-Strand - Minimum lot 20 lbs ***clean*** weight

All yarns - Minimum lot 20 lbs ***clean*** weight

We are willing to exchange with you if you do not have enough of your own wool for a product or if your fiber is unsuitable for a particular product.

Old Wool

We can refurbish old wool from comforters into batts or comforters again. Please remove the outer cover before sending the wool. The wool cannot be felted or matted; if you can pull it apart by hand, we can process it, if you cannot pull it apart by hand, we will not be able to process it.

Color Exchange

You can get your own natural colors processed. All dyed colors are exchanged (you don't necessarily get your own wool back on dyed colors).

Custom Sewing

You can supply your own batts or your own material or both. If you are sending your own material, we require cotton or cotton blend woven materials with a thread count between 180 and 200. We cannot sew knits and stretchy materials. Be sure to supply enough material for the top and bottom. The price for a custom size will be that of the next larger size.

You Pay Only for the Finished Product

Our Custom Processing Prices are based on your finished product and the finished weight. All processing is included. For example, if you send raw wool and want it processed into socks, you will pay per pair of socks (you don't have to pay washing, dyeing, carding and socks) and if you order rovings, you will pay per pound of finished rovings you receive.

Additional Instructions for Exotic Fiber Processing

We custom produce the following exotic fiber/wool blends.

Roping or Batts

- 100% Exotic Fibers
- Custom Blends

Worsted Weight Yarn Blends (Mule Spinner Yarn)

- 70% Merino Wool / 30% Kid Mohair
- 70% Alpaca / 20% Merino / 10% Kid Mohair
- 60% Alpaca / 20% Merino / 20% Nylon

Sport Weight Yarn Blends (Mule Spinner 2-Ply, 3-Ply)

- 70% Mohair / 30% Wool
- 70% Alpaca / 30% Wool
- 60% Qiviut / 40% Merino Wool
- 50% Buffalo / 50% Merino Wool

Lopi Weight Yarn Blends

- 70% Alpaca / 30% Wool
- 60% Mohair / 40% Wool

- For best results, fiber length must be less than 4 inches (10cm).
- With exotic fibers, expect a 20% weight loss in the washing process.
- For Roping or Batts, there is no minimum lot weight requirement.
- For Yarns there is a minimum lot weight of 14 lbs *clean* exotic fiber per lot. The fiber will be blended with merino wool to bring the total weight to 20lbs per lot.

Why Blend with Wool?

Alpaca, Llama and Mohair are wonderful fibers with some appealing advantages - so why not use 100% of a good thing?

100% of the good qualities of an exotic fiber does not make up for the characteristics it lacks. Wool has "Resilience" or "Elasticity" - a characteristic that helps it withstand the stress of manufacturing and lets it hold its shape as an end product. Almost all machine-spun exotics have some percentage of nylon, polyamide, silk, or wool to give the yarn a lasting shape.