

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. There are some sample order instructions at these end of these notes for your reference.

### **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 processing 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 **courier**, send your wool or fiber to:

Custom Woolen Mills

30453 Range Road 27-2

Carstairs, AB

T0M 0N0

(403) 337-2221

### **Wool Length**

For best results, your wool must be between 2" and 5" in length. If your wool is longer, please contact us prior to sending your fibre 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

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

Socks - Minimum lot 20 lbs **clean** weight - **NOT CURRENTLY AVAILABLE**

Quilting - No minimum lot 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**

Custom Woolen Mills (403) 337-2221

www.customwoolenmills.com

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, carding, yarn making, and sock knitting) 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:** We can process 100% exotic fibre into rovings or batting, or we can blend with wool or other fibres. We can provide fine white wool for blending with.

**Yarns:** We cannot process 100% exotic fibre yarns - we always require that a minimum of 30% fine wool, or 20% fine wool and 20% nylon be blended in for making yarns. We can provide the fine blending wool and nylon. Below are some common blends that we make

- 70% Fine Wool / 30% Kid Mohair
- 70% Mohair / 30% Fine Wool
- 70% Alpaca / 30% Fine Wool
- 60% Alpaca / 20% Fine Wool / 20% Nylon
- 50% Buffalo / 50% Fine Wool

- For best results, fiber length must be less than 5 inches (13 cm).
- 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 fine 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. Blending wool in with exotic fibres provides elasticity to assist it through our processing and enhance structure in the finished product - this results in a more consistent, higher quality end product.

**SAMPLE 1 of instructions included with a bag of wool:**

North Pole Farm  
Sarah Clause  
Box 387  
North Pole  
H0H 0H0  
Canada  
403-337-2221  
sarah@northpole.com

Bag: 1 of 7 in shipment

Lot 1: White Romney Wool

Bag: 1 of 6 in lot

Lot Instructions: Please process into minimum batch of 2-ply yarn,  
any remaining clean weight please process into rovings.

**SAMPLE 2 of instructions included with a bag of wool:**

North Pole Farm  
Sarah Clause  
Box 387  
North Pole  
H0H 0H0  
Canada  
403-337-2221  
sarah@northpole.com

Bag: 7 of 7 in shipment

Lot 2: Grey Suffolk Wool

Bag: 1 of 1 in lot

Lot Instructions: Please process into batting