



The Journey of your Jumper

The Wool Process

Our clothes can be made from lots of different materials. Some clothes, such as a jumper, are made from wool. Where does the wool come from and why is it so lovely and warm to wear?

From sheep
to jumper!



The Wool Process



Where does wool come from?

Wool comes from sheep which have a thick woolly coat called a **fleece**.



How does wool keep us warm?

Sheep stay warm in winter because their thick coat traps warm air to stop warmth from leaving their body. If we wear a sheep's wool jumper it does the same for us!



How do we get the wool from the sheep?

In the warmer months, the sheep will have their fleeces shaved off. This is called **shearing** and is a little bit like a hair cut!

The fleece is then sent to British Wool where it is sorted into different types and qualities. This is called **grading**.



How do we make the wool into a jumper?

Wool taken straight from a sheep can be dirty. The wool must be cleaned to get rid of the dirt and any grease. This is called **scouring**. The clean wool is then **carded** and **combed** to get tangles out and to make the wool straighter.

Big machines are used to **spin** the wool into long strands called **yarn**.

Wool yarn can be turned into lots of different colours by adding special **dyes**.

Wool is used to make lots of things like hats, gloves, blankets, carpets, scarves and, of course, jumpers.



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Wool Facts

FACT: A sheep is a living thing

Your favourite wool jumper might be a non-living thing but the wool used to make it comes from a sheep and sheep are animals which means they are living things.

FACT: Wool is a natural product

Because wool comes from a sheep, which is an animal, it is a natural product. Natural means that it comes from nature. The opposite of natural is man-made which means it has been created by people. Some of the clothes we wear are made from man-made material.

FACT: Jumpers have been made from wool a long time

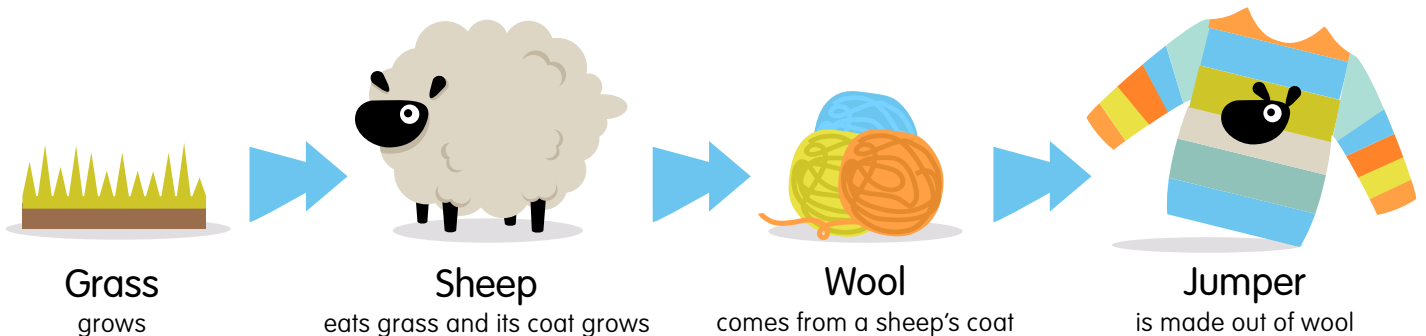
Wool has been used to make many different types of clothes for a very, very long time. Stone Age people used wool to protect them from the weather.

FACT: A sheep can grow lots of wool

As long as there is grass to eat, a sheep will grow a new coat every year.

FACT: There is no such thing as a blue sheep

Although the wool used to make our woolly jumper comes in many different colours, when a sheep is sheared the wool is a white, cream, beige, brown or black colour. To make wool colourful, special dyes are added to it.





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Wool Process Pictures



1

Shearing

Cutting the fleece from the sheep



2

Grading

Sorting the wool into types



3

Auction

Buying and selling the wool



4

Scouring

Washing the dirty wool



5

Carding

Taking tangles out of the wool



6

Combing

Making the wool straighter



7

Spinning

Twisting the wool to make strong yarns



8

Weaving

Joining the wool together to make cloth or carpet



9

Dyeing

Making the wool different colours

