

Award Winning Wool: Glen Tamarack Farm

Wool Rovings are long strips of carded wool processed for hand-spinning semi-worsted and all woolen style yarns on a spindle or a spinning wheel. Grades 1-3 can be used for felting, with Grades 1 and 2 are usually fastest for felting. **Combed tops** for pure worsted yarn spinning **or hand painted braids newly available but only one color**. All of our millspun yarns are worsted, however.

Our prices are based on how fellow members of the Fine Fleece Shetland Sheep Association (FFSSA) who produce wool similar to ours and test and grade wool as we do price wool. It costs extra for breeding stock that produce this fine, uniform, single-coated traditional British Shetland style wool, but the quality, versatility, and performance of the wool is well worth it—knitted and crocheted garments hold their shape better and are scratch-free or nearly so, depending on the grade. With FFSSA grading, the lower the Grade Number, the finer the wool. You might find less expensive Shetland wool elsewhere, but it will be untested, ungraded wool and unless it is neck wool or lambs' wool, it often will scratch as many other wools do. FFSSA grades 1 and 2 Shetlands are scratch-free as lambs and as adults. Grade 3's will be low scratch. Much of the ungraded American Shetland wool ranges from the coarse end of Grade 3—Grade 5. Almost all Shetland feels soft relative to other wools, but brush it lightly across the skin above your upper lip or on your inner wrist to really test for scratchiness. See FFSSA Grading Chart <http://www.finefleeceshetlandsheep.org/wool-grading-chart>

Price List (Please refer to FFSSA Grading Chart for best uses of the various grades of wool)

Wool Roving –used for hand-spun yarns and for smaller felted items.

\$3.00/oz for FFSSA Grade 1, Grade 2 Premium, or special blends, \$3.50 per oz. for Grade 1 Premium

\$2.75/oz for Grade 2 or Grade 3 Premium

\$3.00/oz. pencil rovings, any Grade

\$2.50/oz. for Grade 3

\$2.00/ oz. for Grades 4 and 5. Grade 4 roving can be used to spin bulky yarns and single-ply Lopi-style yarns, and Grade 5 is britch/rug/blanket wool. Grades 4 and 5 wear best but will scratch some. They tend to not wet-felt as well as Grades 1-3.

Wool Top

Top is prepared from neck wool and lamb fleeces by combing it. It is very fine—grades of wool used in a batch of top range from Premium Grade 1 to Grade 2. Fibers are perfectly parallel and spin like butter. Suitable for cobweb laces shawls, baby clothes and any next to skin wear, very smooth worsted, semi-worsted or semi woolen yarns. \$4.00 per ounce.

Wool Batts

Wool Batts are primarily for wet felting and needle felting, especially larger items such as garments or kits produced on a larger scale. The finer grades (1 & 2) tend to wet-felt fastest, Grade 3 also wet-felts well but felts a bit more slowly. Grade 4 may also wet felt all right but even more slowly. All grades can be used for needle-felting. Batts are sold by batt units and a batt unit may range from about 8 oz. up to 1 pound (16 oz. or slightly more). Batts are priced by the ounce with same prices as rovings, but you get a 10% discount for buying the larger amount that is in a batt unit. Batts are only sold directly from our farm or website store, and buyer pays shipping and handling charges for non-local purchases. For a bit of extra paperwork WI sales tax charges will be waived if buyer is able and willing to fill out and sign an official WI Dept. of Revenue "Wisconsin Sales and Use Tax Exemption Certificate" (found on WI Dept. of Revenue Website) which states they are using the wool purchased to make items or kits for resale. We keep the form on file here at the farm. Check the box for "Continuous Purchase" if you anticipate repeat purchases from us. We will not waive sales taxes until we have the filled out, signed from purchaser.

Millspun Worsted Yarns

We usually use FFSSA Grade 2 Shetland or Shetland blended with smaller amounts of fine exotics such as goatling mohair or alpaca in our millspun yarns; most will be scratch-free. At this time we have limited colors and weights available for sale, but selection will increase over time as we shear and process wool from more fine-fleeced sheep. Prices vary based on fiber value and production cost, with blended fibers being more expensive to mill than single, 100% Shetland solid colors. Yarn will be labeled with price. Skeins based on yardage (usually 200-250 yards); weight will vary based on yarn weight and fiber content.

Custom Hand-spun yarns

Occasionally available, but currently I keep most of these for my own projects. Price, yardage, weight, and complete description will be on skein label.

Felted or Knitted or crocheted wearables such as hats, scarves, slippers, and mittens. I also felt wine bottle and water bottle cozies.

I make wearables as I have time and occasionally offer them for sale. Prices vary depending on item and work involved. Each item will be price-tagged.

Felted Shawl or Scarf Pins- range from \$5.00 on up depending on cost/uniqueness of materials, size, and time it takes to make them. I dye some of them with natural dyes we grow here on the farm.

Knitted, Braided, or Crocheted wool rugs, mats, and baskets. Hard-wearing grades 4 and 5 Shetland wool, Shetland britch wool, or other sheep breed wools are used for these. The larger baskets and rugs are wool corespun at the mill (core is jute or cotton) for added strength. Price will vary depending on size, amount of dyed vs. natural colored wool used, whether or not the wool is mill-spun, and time it takes to make them. It ranges from \$20 for small (6-8" diameter) roving baskets on up. Mats are less.

Soap Felting Kits –2 sizes--contain enough wool of various colors to felt one or two 3-4 oz. bar of soap. If only natural dyes are used, they will be labeled as such and cost \$0.50 more due to the extra work involved with growing and dye extraction. Base price per kit for one bar is \$3.00, if natural colors and natural dyes used exclusively, \$4.00. Two-bar kit base price is \$5.00 Instructions included on back of label.