

Sheep wool processing charges from 1st July 2022



We base our charges on the actual weight of your fleece remaining at different stages of the process as we turn it into yarn, as detailed overleaf. We've summarised below the price per kg incoming weight (the weight of fleece you send to us for processing) based on an average 60% return rate (how much finished yarn you get back as a proportion of the start weight); but the return rates can vary from 45-70% depending on the breed of sheep. For example, 'character' fleeces (eg. Hebridean, Herdwick, Valais) can produce lovely yarns, but the return rates are usually lower due to the amount of grease, coarser fibre and debris removed during processing.

There's a Ready Reckoner on our website which you can use to estimate the return rate and cost for your fibre, but this can vary considerably even within a breed depending on the quality and condition of the fleece. Please note that we can't process fleece with skin flakes; and please do sort through the fleece before sending it to us to remove any clumps of poo and any excessively dirty or coarse fibre. Fleeces which are very heavily contaminated with vegetable matter will need to go through additional tumbling and fibre separating stage before carding, which will increase the costs by between 3% (for fine yarns) and 10% (for chunky yarns) and reduce the average return rate by c.10%.

Wensleydale and other longwools also usually need fibre separating to open up the staples before carding, as do some dyed fleeces, although in this case the return rate is usually unaffected.

Yarn type <i>Costs for yarn on cone, excluding VAT and delivery</i>	Average cost per kg incoming weight assuming 60% return	Notes
Chunky (3 or 4 plies, 80-100m/100g)	£48.50	There is a minimum charge of £90 + VAT per batch, which equates to c. 2 kg incoming weight for fleece to be spun into yarn NB: depending on the type and quality of fibre, it may not be possible to spin very fine yarns. The length per 100g will also vary by breed (eg. yarns from longwools tend to be heavier for the same gauge)
Aran (4 plies, 100-150m/100g)	£50.50	
Light Aran (2 thick plies, 150-200m/100g)	£52.00	
Double knitting (3 plies, 150-200m/100g)	£54.00	
Light DK (3 plies, 200-250m/100g)	£56.00	
4 ply (2 plies, c. 250-300m/100g)	£57.50	
Light 4 ply (2 plies, c. 300-350m/100g)	£60.50	
2 ply (2 plies, c. 350-400m/100g)	£66.50	
<i>Additional charges</i>		
Sorting (including poo removal!)	£42.00	per hour
Tweed and barberpole blends	£15.00	per batch
Finishing as 100g balls or skeins	£9.50	per kg finish weight
Labels for 100g balls or skeins	£9.50	
Finishing as 50g balls or skeins	£19.00	
Labels for 50g balls or skeins	£19.00	
Tying 100g skeins for dyeing	£7.50	
Tying 50g skeins for dyeing	£15.00	
Dyeing fleece or yarn	£42.00	per kg, minimum 500g

Please note: prices exclude VAT and delivery (see overleaf)

Processing to rovings (washed and carded fibre)		
Loose rovings	£24.00	£90 minimum equates to c. 4 kg start weight
Rovings wound into bumps NB: may not be possible depending on fleece type	£31.50	

Here's how we calculate the charge for your fleece, based on the actual weight of fleece remaining after each stage.

Washing	£12.50	per kg start weight	
	+		
Carding, drafting, spinning, plying, steaming & conewinding			
Chunky	£48.00	per kg washed weight (c. 75% of start weight)	
Aran	£50.40		
Light aran	£52.80		
DK	£55.20		
Light DK	£57.60		
4 ply	£60.00		
Light 4 ply	£64.00		
2 ply	£72.00		
Rovings	£15.00		
	+		
Finishing			
Cone	-	per kg finish weight (c. 60% start weight)	
100g balls/skeins	£9.50		
50g balls/skeins	£19.00		
Labelling			
100g balls/skeins	£9.50		
50g balls/skeins	£19.00		

Please note: for fleeces requiring fibre separating the costs will be c. £5 per kg (start weight) higher than shown. This is likely to apply to:

- **Herdwick**, older **Hebridean**, some **Valais**, and other fleeces with a high proportion of kemp fibres, or short or coarse fibre
- Fleeces with a lot of **vegetable matter** (however, please note that it is impossible to remove all the vegetable matter from very heavily contaminated fleeces)
- **Wensleydale** and other **longwools** usually need to go through the fibre separator to open up the staples before carding
- **Dyed fleece** sometimes also needs separating to open up the fibre
- **Rovings to be wound into bumps** need to go through the fibre separator to allow for carding on our small carder, which has the bump-winding attachment. (However, please note that the small carder isn't suitable for some fleece types, especially softer wools such as fine Shetland. In this case only loose rovings can be supplied.)

Packaging & Delivery Charges *
for return of your yarn

Up to 2 kg	£15.00
Up to 5 kg	£18.00
Up to 10 kg	£21.00
Up to 15 kg	£24.00
Up to 20 kg	£27.00
Up to 25 kg	£30.00
Up to 30 kg	£33.00

* excludes Parcelforce surcharges
for the Isle of Wight and Northern Ireland

Please note: All prices exclude VAT

