
Why is Alpaca fiber so much softer than wool?

Posted by songbird2490 - 2007/09/14 15:02

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Re:Why is Alpaca fiber so much softer than wool?

Posted by clearskyblues - 2007/09/15 02:30

The scales of the 'cuticle' or outside covering of the individual fibers of sheep's wool protrude further from the shaft than the scales of the alpaca, giving the alpaca fiber a softer 'hand' than sheep's wool of a comparable micron.

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Re:Why is Alpaca fiber so much softer than wool?

Posted by gabbie04176 - 2007/09/15 03:58

The staple length of the fibers is also an important factor, since the ends of the fibers tend to stick out from the yarns and prickle the skin of the wearer.

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Re:Why is Alpaca fiber so much softer than wool?

Posted by antongs - 2007/09/15 04:07

The most important factor in softness and comfort is generally considered to be the fineness of the fiber, measured in microns, with 'prickle' attributed to fiber that measures over 30 microns.

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