



A Good Yarn

- Essential Yarn Basics Every Alpaca Breeder Should Know
- Why breeders should understand fiber and yarn basics.
- The end product is determined by the raw product.
- All knitterly creation stems from one simple element: Yarn.
- Benefits of Natural Fibers
- Protein Fibers
- Hairs of Fibers that grow on animals
- Think like a sustainable agricultural entity as well as a fiber producer
- Savvy Fiber Producers know how to:
- Breeder/Fiber Producers Responsibilities
- Breed, Feed and House
- Eliminating Fiber Contamination
- Controlling Harvest Procedures
- Standardizing the procedure with some personal flexibility
- Taking responsibility at shearing
- Create Superior Fiber
- Scales
- Size, shape, and height effect luster and handle
- Fineness
- Diameter of the fiber
- Fiber Length
- Shorter fibers
- Longer Fibers
- Crimp
- Use Crimp Style Appropriately
- Let's look at some fiber
- Processor Responsibilities
 - Fiber producers need a basic understanding and the ability to speak the language.
- Woolen Spinning
- Worsted Spinning
- Semi-Worsted



- Plies
- Textured Yarns
- Knitted Tubes
- Thick/Thin Singles
- Boucle Yarns (irregular plying process)
- Brushed Yarns (air or sharp teeth)
- Evaluating Yarns
- Time for some fiber forensics!
- A Good Yarn
- If yarn is all I have,
How do I sell it?
- Have a sample garment created
- Put a kit together for your sample garment
- Hold classes to teach a fiber arts skill
- Good labeling and care instructions
- Creative packaging
- You can't be an effective salesman for a product you've never used
- Wear alpaca on a daily basis.
- Giving it away as a gift.
- Teaching your community about its desirability.
- "The True Alpaca Lifestyle" is abounding in understanding and appreciation for the fiber.
- The Success of the Alpaca Fiber Industry (and ultimately the future of alpacas themselves)
 - **Starts and Ends with you!!!**