Wool — the natural fibre
Did you know?

• Wool provides better protection from UV radiation than most synthetics and cotton.
• Wool is safe for babies and woollen bedding can even help them sleep better.
• Wool is naturally fire resistant, doesn’t melt and stick to the skin, and even stops burning when the source of the flame is removed.

• Primitive humans clothed themselves in the woolly skins of wild sheep.
• World War I increased the need for wool to clothe soldiers. England bought the entire Australian wool clip for the duration of the war.
• In 2011 the Royal Australian Mint produced two commemorative coins to celebrate the Australian wool industry. The one dollar coin featured a shearer hard at work and the 20c coin depicted a wheel illustrated with a series of images representing Australia’s rich history of wool production.

Glossary

Biodegradable — a substance that will decompose naturally.

Petrochemicals — substances obtained from mining petroleum (oil) and natural gas.

Renewable — a resource that can be replenished or regrown after it has been used.

Shearing — removing the wool from the sheep using specially–designed handpieces.

More information

To find out more about natural fibres, take a look at:
• learnaboutwool.com
• woolmark.com/benefits-of-wool
• Beyond the Bale magazine: beyondthebale.wool.com