

PROPERTIES OF WOOL



Properties of wool



Soft — Merino wool fibres are soft and gentle next to your skin.



Elastic — wool clothes stretch with your body, yet return to their original shape.



Breathable and odour resistant — wool can absorb moisture and move it away from the body leaving less sweat against your skin. This means you smell less wearing wool, making it the ideal sportswear.



Warm and cool — wool reacts to changes in body temperature helping you stay warm when the weather is cold, and cool when the weather is hot.



Anti-static — wool tends not to create static electricity, so it is less likely to cling to your body than other fabrics.



Stain resistant — wool fibres have a natural protective outer layer that prevents stains from being absorbed.



Anti-wrinkle — each wool fibre is like a coiled spring that returns to its natural shape after being bent. This gives wool garments a natural wrinkle resistance.



Fire resistant — wool doesn't melt and stick to the skin when it burns, and won't keep burning when the source of the flame is taken away.



Sun-safe — wool is better at protecting skin against UV radiation than most synthetics and cotton.



Healthy — wool helps regulate your body temperature, helping you sleep better.

Did you know?

- **Wool is a natural fibre** — it is grown by sheep that live outdoors, graze (eat) pasture and drink water.
- **Wool is biodegradable** — when it is thrown out it naturally decomposes into soil in a matter of years, releasing nutrients back into the earth.
- **Wool is renewable** — every year sheep grow a new fleece, making wool a completely renewable resource.

Glossary

Merino wool — the highest quality wool, sourced from a breed of sheep called Merino.

Pasture — plants that have been grown specifically to feed animals such as sheep and cattle.

More information

To find out more about the properties of wool, take a look at:

- learnaboutwool.com

FUN FACTS ABOUT WOOL

- Australia produces about 300 million kilograms of wool every year — about 20 per cent of the world's wool.
- The earliest remains of fine wool came from Ancient Greece and dates back to the 5th century B.C.
- Soldiers, fire fighters, astronauts, athletes and mountain climbers all wear wool because of its unique properties.

