

WASHING WOOL

Joanne Strauch's hints for washing wool:

- Water should be at least 150° to break down the lanolin (grease).
- Put wool into water, layering it with squirts of DAWN. Do not pour the water onto the wool. I do 1 to 1-1/2 lbs at a time in the kitchen sink and put screening or netting in the bottom of the sink to hold the wool. You can also use a net bag.
- Push the wool down in the water & squish the soap through the wool. AVOID AGITATING or RUBBING the wool; it will felt.
- Let it soak, but not so the water cools lower than 130° to 135° .
- Drain the soapy water out of the sink and squeeze the wool inside the screening to remove excess soap.
- Fill the sink with rinse water that is 130°/135° . You can use a liquid fabric softener, this helps remove the soap.
- Put the wool into the rinse water and again, push it down and squish to remove soap.
- Let soak a bit then drain rinse water and gently squeeze the wool in the screening to remove excess water.
- You can roll the wool in a towel to remove excess water or spin in a washing machine without using the water spray.
- Then spread out to dry.
- Remember: AVOID AGITATING & EXTREME CHANGES IN WATER TEMPERATURE....THE WOOL WILL FELT!

WASHING OTHER FIBERS

- Fibers without the lanolin (grease) can be washed in the same manner. But you can use water at a lower temperature. You can use 130 deg water instead of 150 deg.
- A note: I soak mohair for a day in warm, soapy water in a pail prior to washing. This loosens up the dirt, otherwise you have to wash it several times.

Have fun!!

Otto & Joanne Strauch