



The Nude Ewe Conservation Wools



the little non-profit wool company

prices effective January 2014



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the sheep

Nude Ewe sheep may be different breeds but they have one thing in common: they all graze for nature conservation. These flocks help manage large National Nature Reserves, local County Wildlife Sites and small private fields.

All of the flocks are heritage breeds which thrive on rough pasture and live easily outdoors. The breeds range from the tiny seaweed-eating North Ronaldsay to the huge Wensleydale with its long, lustrous fleece. They come from the Scottish Islands, the Yorkshire Dales, the Welsh Hills and the East Anglian fens.

Best of all, Nude Ewe sheep produce beautiful wool in a range of colours and textures without any help from bleach or dyes. It's pure. It's British. And it's just the way they made it.



Pure. British. Wool.
Just the way the sheep made it.



Heb

Heb is a near black DK wool great for outerwear, mittens, hats and bags. It is available in 50g balls (100–120m).

The Nude Ewe Hebrideans can be found grazing several nature reserves in Bedfordshire and Northamptonshire.

Proceeds from Heb sales go to the Wildlife Trust for Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Northamptonshire.

£4.50/50g ball



Manx

Manx is a red-brown DK all-purpose wool available in 50g balls (100–120m).

The Nude Ewe Manx Loaghtans graze at Pegsdon Hills and Knocking Hoe nature reserves, and are part of a mixed flock with Hebrideans and Norfolk Horns.

Proceeds from Manx sales go to the Wildlife Trust for Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Northamptonshire.

£4.50/50g ball



Ron

Ron is a soft grey-brown DK wool that comes in 50g balls (100–120m).

The North Ronaldsay flock grazes at High Wood and Meadow Site of Special Scientific Interest near Northampton. The breed is considered 'endangered' by the Rare Breeds Survival Trust.

Proceeds from Ron sales go to the Wildlife Trust for Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Northamptonshire.

£4.50/50g ball



Shel

Shel is a mid grey DK Shetland wool great for most purposes, and comes in 50g balls (100–120m).

The Nude Ewe Shetlands are a private flock which grazed Thurleigh Airfield County Wildlife Site.

Proceeds from Shel sales are returned to the flock owner to offset shearing and maintenance costs.

£4.50/50g ball



Speck

Speck is a cream coloured light Aran weight all-purpose wool. It comes in 50g balls (80–100m).

Speck comes from a large flock of Beulah Speckled-face sheep located at Aston Rowant National Nature Reserve in Lewknor, Oxfordshire.

Proceeds from Speck sales go to Aston Rowant National Nature Reserve.

£4.50/50g ball



Wes

Wes has been worsted spun to preserve the Wensleydale fleece's natural lustre. It is a DK weight wool available in 100g hanks (200–240m).

The small private flock grazes in a traditionally managed Damson orchard on the Bedfordshire/Buckinghamshire border.

Proceeds from Wes sales are returned to the flock owner to offset shearing and maintenance costs.

£9.00/100g hank



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7.



6.



5.

knit kits

1. WAVES shoulder cosy kit (£22)
2. FIESTA wrist warmers kit (£14)
3. GLADSTONE teddy kit (£14)
4. NANCY sheep softie (£10)
5. GALA scarf kit (£23)
6. CONKERS skylark crochet kit (£8)
7. LORD DERBY hat kit (£19)



4.



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the concept

Nude Ewe wool comes from sheep used in nature conservation projects in Bedfordshire and the surrounding counties. Grazing with heritage breed sheep mimics the traditional farming practices which created our grassland habitats and pastoral landscape. Unfortunately these sheep are not very profitable and many conservation graziers lose money. By giving sales proceeds back to the flock owners the Nude Ewe is helping them to keep our countryside beautiful.

the wool

Our wool is undyed and unbleached, reflecting the many natural colours of Britain's native sheep breeds. Each produces a distinctly different wool, from the hardy, water-repellent near black Hebridean to the soft, lustrous cream-coloured Wensleydale. We also offer a series of 'knit kits' featuring designs created especially for us. Kits include wool, a pattern and — when available — 'pre-loved' knitting needles.

the company

The Nude Ewe is a non-profit Community Interest Company limited by guarantee. It has won awards from the Chilterns Conservation Board, Campaign to Protect Rural England and The Green Organisation. The Nude Ewe has been featured in various publications including *The Knitter*, *Yarn Forward*, *Positive News* and *Knitting* magazines.

Sheep are used in nature conservation to maintain grassland and heathland habitats. These habitats are quite rare and some are globally important.

The sheep eat bramble, shrubs and other rough vegetation. Without this grazing lowland England's hills and fields would become covered by scrub. Grazing keeps the scrub down, allowing sunlight to reach the grassland plants. The sheep's hooves gently disturb the soil, providing small gaps for delicate seedlings to germinate.



in the field



shearing



freshly shorn

from field to fibre



fleece



spinning



yarn



our range

Sheep must be shorn every year, which costs over a pound per animal. The fleeces however often just go to waste. This is because many of the heritage breeds used in conservation grazing have coarse or coloured fleeces which cannot be dyed and so are of little economic value. The Nude Ewe turns these 'waste' fleeces into a marketable product, with benefits going back into the local economy.

The Nude Ewe

(the little non-profit wool company)

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