

Design Resource

Woolen Baby Products - Kangra, Himachal Pradesh

Woolen Crafts

by

Prof. Bibhudutta Baral

NID Campus, Bengaluru

Source:

<https://www.dsource.in/resource/woolen-baby-products-kangra-himachal-pradesh>



1. Introduction
2. Tools and Raw Materials
3. Making Process
4. Products
5. Video
6. Contact Details

Design Resource

Woolen Baby Products - Kangra, Himachal Pradesh

Woolen Crafts

by

Prof. Bibhudutta Baral

NID Campus, Bengaluru

Source:

<https://www.dsource.in/resource/woolen-baby-products-kangra-himachal-pradesh/introduction>

1. Introduction

2. Tools and Raw Materials

3. Making Process

4. Products

5. Video

6. Contact Details

Introduction

Wool is a textile fiber gleaned from sheep and goats, and at some places, even from camelids and angora rabbits. It is a natural filament that thoroughly absorbs moisture and insulates against rough climate. Hence we prefer clothes, blankets, and other things made out of wool cloth to keep ourselves warm and comfortable.

Once the raw wool is sheared from the animal, yarn is created by carding the wool mechanically. The grades of yarn are decided from the two different systems they are subjected to, the woolen and worsted process. These processed yarns are then turned into fabric, clothing products, felts, woolen materials, etc. Felts are non-woven but pressed fabrics produced from wool or a mixture of wool and other fibers. It is a result of woolen fibers being boiled in hot water and rubbed together under pressure.

Though woolen and worsted yarn processes are different, they commonly require the wool to be disentangled and cleaned to produce a continuous web. Their distinctive names apply only during fiber processing and yarn formation but not in the finished garment. Hence their nomenclature applies only to their initial processing stage. Once ready, the finished cloth is therefore just considered under the woolen category among other fabrics. The feature of woolen yarn is that they can be easily knitted and are stretchy with a fluffy character, thus a good insulator, while the worsted yarn is in contrast. They are combed to lie parallel, unlike woolen, hence stiff, strong, and durable. Here worsted yarn demands long fibers and more mechanical processing than woolen, hence significantly more expensive.

Australia is the world's largest producer of raw wool, growing about 30 percent of the total world supply while the US stands as the major consumer. China, Argentina, and New Zealand are other biggest players in the wool business worldwide.

Following are the main characteristics of wool:

Durability

Wool exhibits a property of extreme flexibility because it can bend 20,000 times without breaking, unlike cotton breaking after 3,000 bends, silk after 2,000, and rayon with the least 75 times. Its natural elasticity hence makes it more tolerant and durable. When under pressure, it stretches well to spring for retaining its shape back. If taken good care of, woolen cloths last long and hold colour until a certain limit.

Absorbency

Wool absorbs up to 30% of its weight in moisture without feeling muggy or sticky. It also acts as a temperature regulator in cold and warm conditions by wicking moisture away from the body. This versatile quality makes it an item of regular clothing for people from desert regions where it's hot in the day and cool at night. Mainly

Design Resource

Woolen Baby Products - Kangra, Himachal Pradesh

Woolen Crafts

by

Prof. Bibhudutta Baral

NID Campus, Bengaluru

Source:

<https://www.dsource.in/resource/woolen-baby-products-kangra-himachal-pradesh/introduction>

processed woolen yarns are also used in the fabrication of certain summer collections like suits and jackets. Wool absorbs dyes deeply, so the colours stay strong except fading under extreme conditions.

Comfort

Wool hugs heat to its fibers, making it the best-known fabric insulator. To some extent, it is waterproof, too, with liquid stains, spills, or snow running off the fabric. Even when wet through, wool keeps the person warm since it retains 80% of its insulating value.

Wearability

Wool garments are fairly resistant to stains and greasy substances. It is wrinkle-free but might bring in irritability depending on its micron count and the person's skin sensitivity. It also stands strong against wear and tear. Research says that fibers that possess more than 30 microns in diameter are functionally rigid hence may cause allergic reactions on the skin. Wool clothing exclusively developed for close to skin wearing doesn't hold more than 5% fibers greater than 30 microns, making it a very skin-friendly choice. Wool is also considered perfect for baby blankets and clothing items.

Flammability

Wool is popular among interior designers for its natural flame repellant nature. When exposed to continuous flame, it scorches or gives out smoke, while when the flame is removed, the combustion subsides on its own. This makes wool a self-extinguisher. Hence woolen blankets and sheets are often recommended to smother small fires.

Natural and Renewable Resource

Every year, sheep are sheared in the early spring so that the shaved fleece can be regrown for the coming winter and followed by summer. This cycle satisfies our demand for wool and the animal's protection from the harsh climate as well. It is taken care that enough fleece and time is left for the sheep so that they prepare to insulate themselves during extreme weather. Less than 1 inch of wool on their body may cause sunburn and quiver. Full fleece also has the disadvantage of overheating their body, causing weakness and other health issues. Hence this animal fiber is a perfect boon for us while being genuinely renewable.



Customized sets of woolen socks in different sizes and designs arranged for sale.

Design Resource

Woolen Baby Products - Kangra, Himachal Pradesh

Woolen Crafts

by

Prof. Bibhudutta Baral

NID Campus, Bengaluru

Source:

<https://www.dsource.in/resource/woolen-baby-products-kangra-himachal-pradesh/introduction>

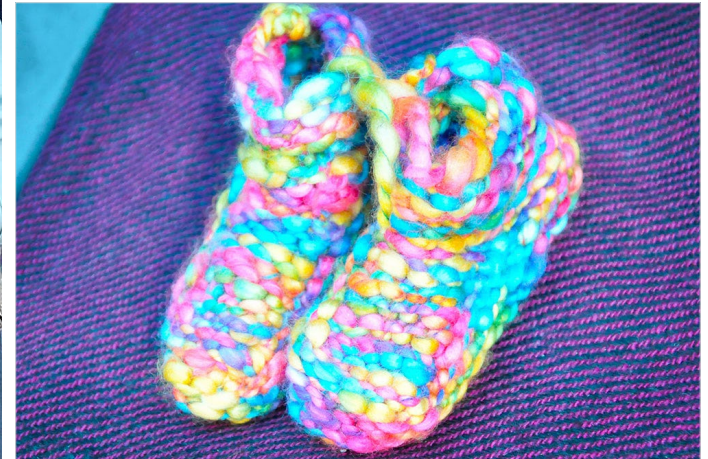
1. Introduction
2. Tools and Raw Materials
3. Making Process
4. Products
5. Video
6. Contact Details



Senior artisan is involved in knitting woolen baby socks.



Hand-stitched simple double-coloured woolen baby socks.



Pair of toddler woolen baby socks.

Design Resource

Woolen Baby Products - Kangra, Himachal Pradesh

Woolen Crafts

by

Prof. Bibhudutta Baral

NID Campus, Bengaluru

Source:

<https://www.dsource.in/resource/woolen-baby-products-kangra-himachal-pradesh/introduction>

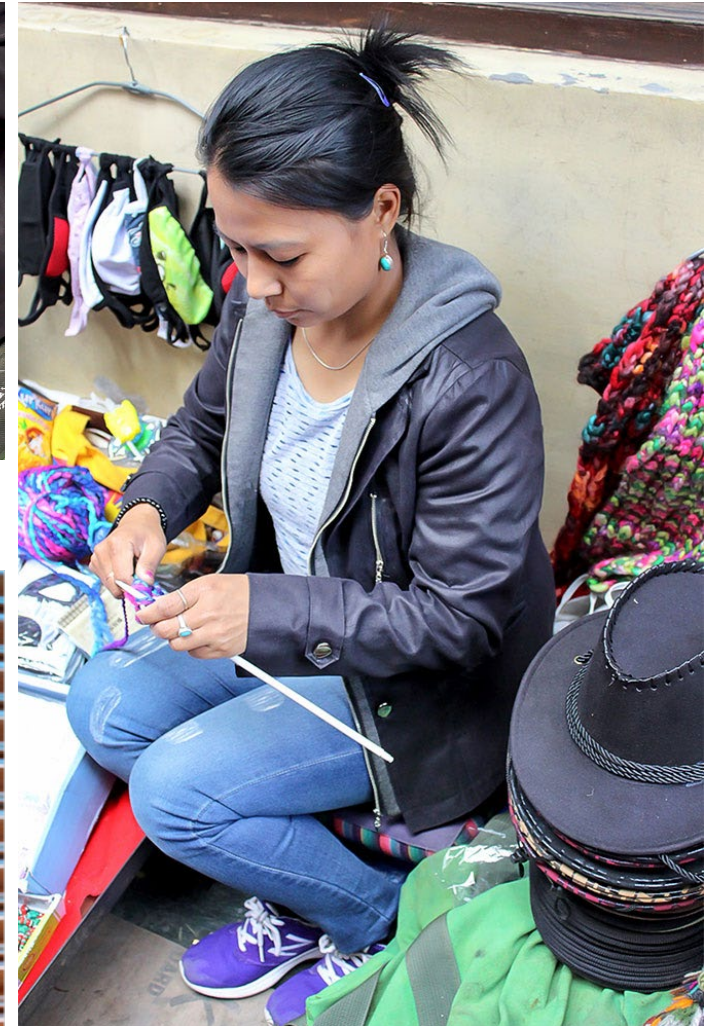
1. Introduction
2. Tools and Raw Materials
3. Making Process
4. Products
5. Video
6. Contact Details



Artisan about to finish the making of woolen bonnet.



Mrs. Dholgar from McLeod Ganj, with years of experience in making woolen products.



Artisan is involved in making woolen bonnet.

Design Resource

Woolen Baby Products - Kangra, Himachal Pradesh

Woolen Crafts

by

Prof. Bibhudutta Baral

NID Campus, Bengaluru

Source:

<https://www.dsource.in/resource/woolen-baby-products-kangra-himachal-pradesh/tools-and-raw-materials>

1. Introduction
2. Tools and Raw Materials
3. Making Process
4. Products
5. Video
6. Contact Details

Tools and Raw Materials

The following are the tools and raw materials used for Woolen Baby Products:

- **Woolen Yarn:** Woolen threads are used for baby socks.
- **Straight Knitting Needles:** It is to knit the woolen baby socks.
- **Scissors:** It is used to cut the thread at the end of the product.



Woolen yarn is used as a raw material in making woolen products.

Design Resource

Woolen Baby Products - Kangra, Himachal Pradesh

Woolen Crafts

by

Prof. Bibhudutta Baral

NID Campus, Bengaluru

Source:

<https://www.dsource.in/resource/woolen-baby-products-kangra-himachal-pradesh/tools-and-raw-materials>

1. Introduction

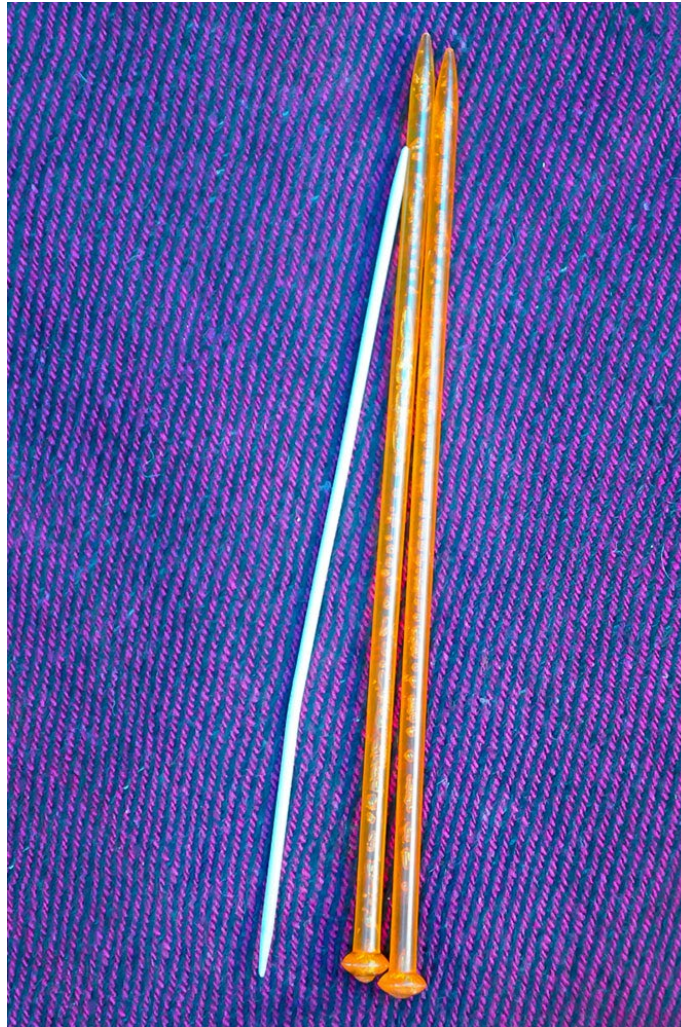
2. Tools and Raw Materials

3. Making Process

4. Products

5. Video

6. Contact Details



Double pointed Knitting Needle and Straight Knitting Needle, both used for doing circular knitting individually and used in pairs to knit flat pieces.



Scissors is used to cut the ends of woolen yarn.

Design Resource

Woolen Baby Products - Kangra, Himachal Pradesh

Woolen Crafts

by

Prof. Bibhudutta Baral

NID Campus, Bengaluru

Source:

<https://www.dsource.in/resource/woolen-baby-products-kangra-himachal-pradesh/making-process>

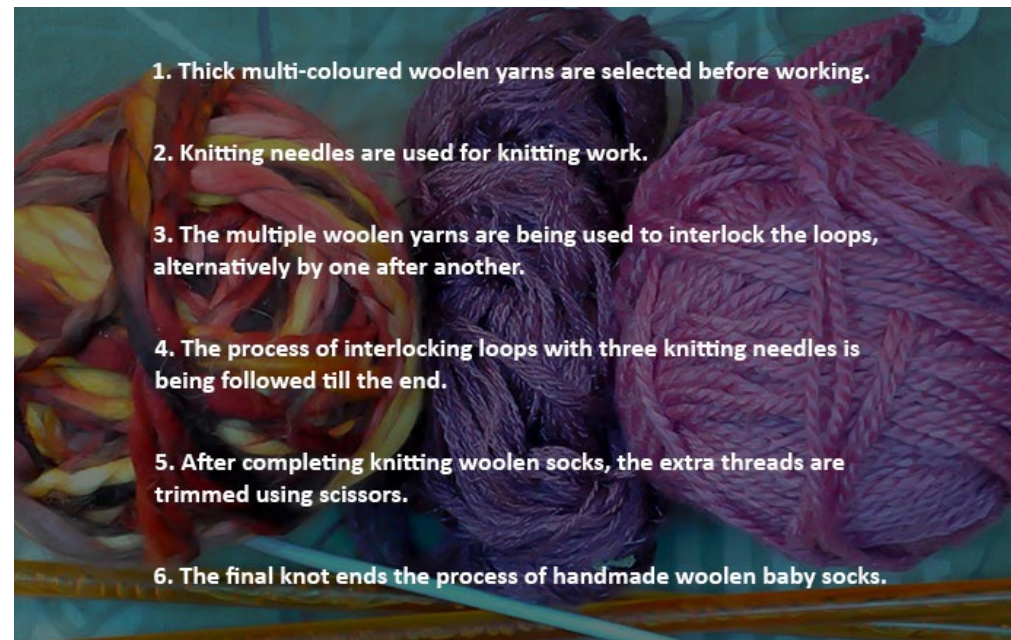
Making Process

Woolen knitting is a process of interlocking yarn loops using long needles. This method is a time-consuming one, demanding patience, but the output always pays off for it.

Here is a brief explanation of the steps in woolen socks knitting:

The raw materials required here are; woolen yarn and three straight knitting needles. The process starts with a slipknot and then interlocking of wool loops from its start end. These interlocking are slowly developed until it forms the expected pattern. Multi colours of woolen threads are used to innovate with the designs and patterns. Once the skill is mastered, the artist would take only a few hours to complete a pair of socks. At such conditions, their hands would perform the knitting so fast that an observer can hardly identify the prime loop through which the whole pattern is connected. Though the artisan starts with two straight needles, later, when the work grows, the third needle is added for faster completion. Once the sides are finished, the artisan flips the woolen knitting and connects the base layer by knitting it. After knitting the base, the artisan ends it with a knot. The interlinking of multi-coloured yarns is what makes these baby socks more likable. For baby socks, the woolen threads used are extra soft and usually combine contrast colours.

Flowchart



Design Resource

Woolen Baby Products - Kangra, Himachal Pradesh

Woolen Crafts

by

Prof. Bibhudutta Baral

NID Campus, Bengaluru

Source:

<https://www.dsource.in/resource/woolen-baby-products-kangra-himachal-pradesh/making-process>



Woolen yarn and needles are kept ready before starting the knitting process.



Artisan using a straight knitting needle and wrapping the woolen yarn one side over the other towards her fingers.

The artisan creating a loop through and inserting the straight knitting needle pulls the loop out.

1. Introduction
2. Tools and Raw Materials
3. Making Process
4. Products
5. Video
6. Contact Details

Design Resource

Woolen Baby Products - Kangra, Himachal Pradesh

Woolen Crafts

by

Prof. Bibhudutta Baral

NID Campus, Bengaluru

Source:

<https://www.dsource.in/resource/woolen-baby-products-kangra-himachal-pradesh/making-process>

1. Introduction
2. Tools and Raw Materials
3. Making Process
4. Products
5. Video
6. Contact Details



A slip knot is made and sided on the straight knitting needle.



Artisan twisting the thread and pulling it back through the loops.



Making of the slip knot is continued until there is a chained row.

Design Resource

Woolen Baby Products - Kangra, Himachal Pradesh

Woolen Crafts

by

Prof. Bibhudutta Baral

NID Campus, Bengaluru

Source:

<https://www.dsource.in/resource/woolen-baby-products-kangra-himachal-pradesh/making-process>

1. Introduction
2. Tools and Raw Materials
3. Making Process
4. Products
5. Video
6. Contact Details



Using two more straight knitting needles, she is adding more rows of knitting.



Woolen yarn is knitted accordingly to attain the shape of a product.



Making one stitch at the end of a row to start a new row.

Design Resource

Woolen Baby Products - Kangra, Himachal Pradesh

Woolen Crafts

by

Prof. Bibhudutta Baral

NID Campus, Bengaluru

Source:

<https://www.dsource.in/resource/woolen-baby-products-kangra-himachal-pradesh/making-process>

1. Introduction
2. Tools and Raw Materials
3. Making Process
4. Products
5. Video
6. Contact Details



Artisan counting the number of loops made in a row, to make the other pair in the same size.



Woolen baby socks.

Artisan turning the stitched work upside down to start connecting the base layer through knitting.

Design Resource

Woolen Baby Products - Kangra, Himachal Pradesh

Woolen Crafts

by

Prof. Bibhudutta Baral

NID Campus, Bengaluru

Source:

<https://www.dsource.in/resource/woolen-baby-products-kangra-himachal-pradesh/products>

1. Introduction
2. Tools and Raw Materials
3. Making Process
4. Products
5. Video
6. Contact Details

Products

The product types include baby socks, adult socks, woolen caps, woolen bags, woolen lanterns, wall hangings, etc. The prices of the products are set between Rupees 100 to a maximum of Rupees 950. The production cost varies from one another according to their type.



Elegantly hand-stitched woolen baby socks.



Polychromatic hand woven woolen baby bonnet.

Design Resource

Woolen Baby Products - Kangra, Himachal Pradesh

Woolen Crafts

by

Prof. Bibhudutta Baral

NID Campus, Bengaluru

Source:

<https://www.dsource.in/resource/woolen-baby-products-kangra-himachal-pradesh/products>

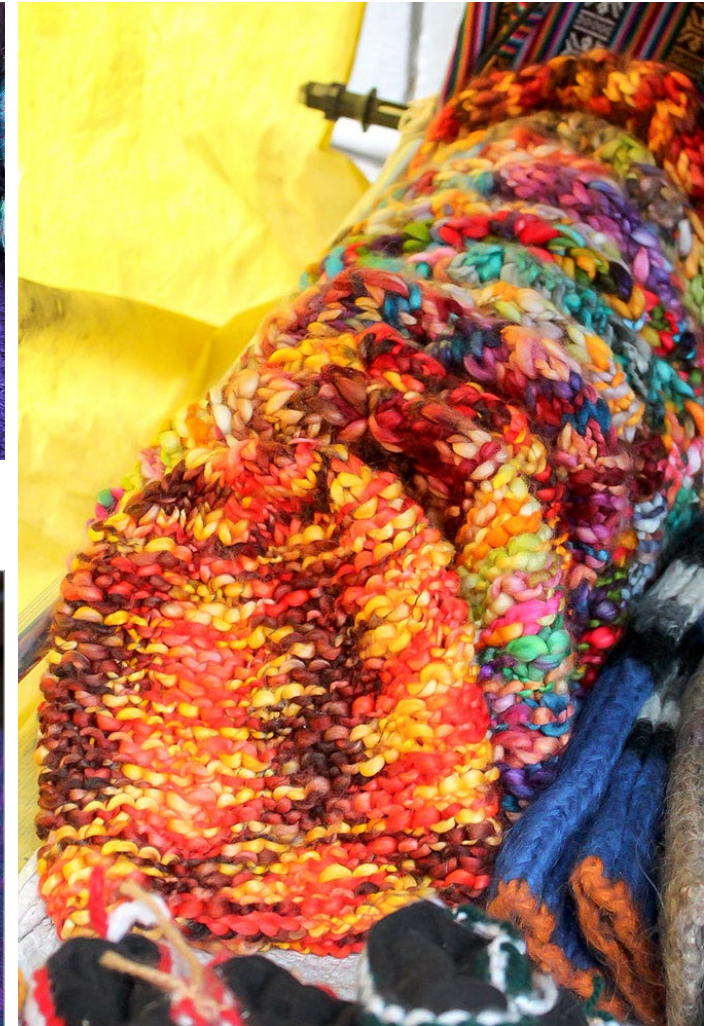
1. Introduction
2. Tools and Raw Materials
3. Making Process
4. Products
5. Video
6. Contact Details



Single coloured interlaced woolen caps.



Set of multi-coloured woolen toddler socks.



Set of woolen baby bonnets arranged for sale.

Design Resource

Woolen Baby Products - Kangra, Himachal Pradesh

Woolen Crafts

by

Prof. Bibhudutta Baral

NID Campus, Bengaluru

Source:

<https://www.dsource.in/resource/woolen-baby-products-kangra-himachal-pradesh/video>

Video



Woolen Baby Products - Kangra, Himachal Pradesh

1. Introduction
2. Tools and Raw Materials
3. Making Process
4. Products
5. Video
6. Contact Details

Design Resource

Woolen Baby Products - Kangra, Himachal Pradesh

Woolen Crafts

by

Prof. Bibhudutta Baral

NID Campus, Bengaluru

Source:

<https://www.dsource.in/resource/woolen-baby-products-kangra-himachal-pradesh/contact-details>

Contact Details

This documentation was done by Prof. Bibhudutta Baral at [NID, Bengaluru](#).

You can get in touch with him at [bibhudutta\[at\]nid.edu](mailto:bibhudutta[at]nid.edu)

You can write to the following address regarding suggestions and clarifications:

Key Contacts:

Norbulingka Institute
Palampur - Dharamshala Road,
Sidhpur, Himachal Pradesh 176057
Mobile: +91 98821 44210

Helpdesk Details:

Co-ordinator
Project e-kalpa
R & D Campus
National Institute of Design
#12 HMT Link Road, Off Tumkur Road
Bengaluru 560 022
India

Phone: +91 80 2357 9054
Fax: +91 80 23373086
Email: [dsource.in\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:dsource.in[at]gmail.com)

1. Introduction
2. Tools and Raw Materials
3. Making Process
4. Products
5. Video
6. Contact Details