

Skirting a fleece

Skirting is the process of "cleaning" and removing the inferior parts of the fleece prior to processing or offering it for sale. The degree of skirting will depend upon the market and end use. A minimal amount of skirting should be done to all fleeces. For example, all tags and vegetable matter should be removed.



Belly, leg, and head wool is usually removed at the time of shearing.

After shearing, the fleece is "thrown" onto a skirting table. A skirting table is special table with tubes or mesh. It must be large enough to spread the whole fleece out. Inferior parts of the fleece and debris fall or are pushed through the slats (openings), leaving a clean, quality fleece ready for market or show.



What to remove

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|-----------------|-----------------------|
| Belly wool | Leg wool |
| Britch wool | Manure, dung locks |
| Brittle wool | Second cuts |
| Cotted wool | Stained wool |
| Discolored wool | Paint and crayon |
| Head wool | Vegetable matter (VM) |
| | Tags |

