

Yarn Finishing Techniques

Yarn: Your yarn needs to be rinsed or washed to bring it up to its true beauty. Some call this “fulling” but this term has also been used to describe felting the yarn. These instructions are not going to felt the yarn if it is carefully followed. You will need to have the yarn in skeins.

NEEDED: Top load Washer Yarn in Skeins

1. Be sure to set the wash dial to where the washer will not agitate while the lid is open or stand with the washer during this process. Pick up a group of skeins and place them in the washer around the sides. Do not loop them around the agitator. Put in 4-6 groups of skeins. Do not over fill the washer with yarn as you want the water to be able to surround the yarn so the soapy water will flow around the yarn.



2. Fill the washer with hot water. The temperature needs to be very warm if not hot and you will be rinsing the skeins in the same temperature. As the washer is filling with water, put in your normal laundry detergent, using the same amount as you would use for a regular load of laundry. When the washer is full [if you have found the spot] the washer will stop on its own else you will need to push the knob to turn off the washer. **DO NOT ALLOW IT TO AGITATE.** Push the yarn below the water surface. Allow the yarn to soak in the hot/warm soapy water for 10-20 minutes, then close the lid and turn the knob to the spot where the washer will spin out. After the washer stops, fill the washer again with plain hot/very warm water to rinse out the yarn. **DO NOT ALLOW IT TO AGITATE.** Allow the yarn to soak in the rinse water 10 minutes; then spin out. Your yarn is now ready to hang to dry.



3. You are now ready to remove the yarn from the washer. Your yarn should still be in the groups of skeins. Remove each group of skeins and place in a laundry basket. You will need a good spot to hang and allow the yarn to dry.
4. I use a 1 ½ plastic pipe to hang yarn on as it is easy to keep clean and will not leave any metal marks on the yarn. I have used broom sticks before also. Pick up a single skein of the yarn and pull it to straighten it out and then place it on the pole you are using.



5. Continue placing your skeins on the pole until you have it filled. Some yarns need to have weight added to straighten it out and to set the twist. You can use another pole to accomplish this or you can use anything that will add some tension to the skeins



6. After the skeins are dry they are ready to be used or twisted into skein knots for storage. To twist the skein knot just place your thumbs into each of the end of the loops and with one hand twist until you have the desired amount of twist. This sometimes takes a little practice to determine how much this would be. When you have enough twists, allow the skein to fold in the middle and twist back on itself and then tuck one end inside the other to form the skein.



7. Your yarn is now ready for storage or for you to place on your own special label.