

the handweavers studio & gallery



catalogue & pricelist | high-twist & stretch yarns

2015–16

All prices include VAT at 20%

www.handweavers.co.uk

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Yarn information

Yarn counts can be very confusing. There are so many systems, and often there is no indication which system is being used. We try to spell out in all cases which system applies, but to enable you to compare and to calculate your needs more easily wherever we can we also give the length per metre/yard and the number of diameters (wraps) per centimetre/inch.

The following abbreviations are used in the yarn descriptions:

| | |
|-----|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ne | the English cotton numbering system, based on the number of 840 yd strands per lb |
| nel | lea, the English linen numbering system, based on the number of 300 yd strands per lb |
| nm | the metric system, based on the number of metres per gram |
| wc | worsted count, the most common wool numbering system, based on the number of 560 yd strands per lb |
| den | the denier system, based on the weight of 9000 metres |
| tex | weight in grams per 1000m length |
| wpc | wraps per centimetre |
| wpi | wraps per inch |
| tpm | turns per metre (a measurement of the amount of twist) |
| tpi | turns per inch (as above) |



high-twist yarns *(for collapse weaves)*

In our experience the amount of twist in any high-twist yarn can vary considerably even when the precise twist is stated, so sampling is particularly important.

For maximum collapse, all these yarns require room to move, so sett and beat them much more lightly than usual. They will also be less effective if used with yarns much heavier than themselves.

Not all high-twist yarns are equally strong. Where we know the turns per inch or metre (*tpi*, *tpm*) we have calculated the angle of twist which is the best indicator of the degree of collapse you can expect - the higher the angle, the greater the degree of overtwist and the greater the collapse.

high-twist wools

52/2 nm high-twist wool

The liveliest of the high-twist wools (especially the Z twist), this works well with both 60/2 nm and 30/2 nm silks.

26,000 m/kg / 12,900 yds/lb

1180 tpm / 30 tpi (Z only; S is less)
angle of twist: 43° (Z only; S is less)

colours: £4.75 - 25 gm
£13.50 - 100 gm

ecru, black: £4.00 - 25 gm
£10.50 - 100 gm



We also have the ecru and black available as "normal" balanced yarns:

£3.25 - 25 gm £7.50 - 100 gm

30/1 nm Japanese high-twist wool

Being a singles yarn this is slightly more delicate than the 52/2 nm. It works particularly well with 60/2 nm silk and many singles linens.

30,000 m/kg / 14,880 yds/lb

1000 tpm / 25 tpi
angle of twist: 36°

£5.25 - 25 gm £15.50 - 100 gm



40/1 nm GIF high-twist wool

A little finer than the Japanese high-twist wool, but with the same number of turns per metre so its effect is a little less strong.

40,000 m/kg / 19,840 yds/lb

1000 tpm / 25 tpi
angle of twist: 32°

£6.50 - 25 gm £19.50 - 100 gm



14.5 nm high-twist merino

A soft, woollen-spun, undyed crepe merino.

14,500 m/kg / 7,190 yds/lb

709 tpm / 18 tpi
angle of twist: 38°

S and Z twists available

£4.75 - 25 gm £13.50 - 100 gm

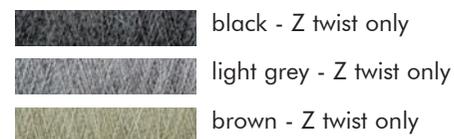
24 nm high-twist alpaca

With 50% alpaca 50% wool, this yarn is quite a bit softer to the touch than the pure wool high-twist yarns. It also creates a less strong collapse.

24,000 m/kg / 11,900 yds/lb

430 tpm / 11 tpi
angle of twist: 19°

£7.25 - 25 gm £24.25 - 100 gm



high-twist silks

high-twist spun silk

This spun silk, in ecru only, is less scratchy than the high-twist filament silks below. We think it has been sized to increase its strength.

70/2 nm

35,000 m/kg / 17,400 yds/lb

S twist only

£6.00 - 10 gm

high-twist hard silk

This filament high-twist silk still contains the sericin and can feel scratchy as a result, so pick your weave structure and accompanying yarns with that in mind. It easily forms into little loops - plan for these to be a decorative feature.

4 x 44 den

55,000 m/kg / 27,500 yds/lb

S and Z twists available

£4.25 - 10 gm

"Crespo" high-twist silk

Available in two weights, both extremely lively, and both twist directions. Partially degummed so they're not as scratchy as the hard silk above.

Crespo 8-strand fine

8x20/22 den*

40,000 m/kg / 19,850 yds/lb

1800 tpm / 46 tpi

angle of twist: 44°

S and Z twists available

£6.00 - 10 gm

Crespo 3-strand super-fine

3x20/22 den*

115,000 m/kg / 57,000 yds/lb

2600 tpm / 66 tpi

angle of twist: 40°

S and Z twists available

£6.00 - 10 gm

* the stated denier refers to the completely degummed state and therefore doesn't correlate exactly with the metrage

high-twist yarns (cont)

high-twist cottons

60/1 nm high-twist cotton

Very fine and very lively singles cotton. It looks fragile but the twist makes it quite strong and it has a lovely hand when woven. Different colours in S and Z twist give great possibilities for colour and twist interactions.

60,000 m/kg / 29,750 yds/lb

1760 tpm / 45 tpi

angle of twist: 41°

| ecru: | colours: |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| £5.25 - 25 gm | £6.00 - 25 gm |
| £15.50 - 100 gm | £18.50 - 100 gm |



50/1 nm GIF high-twist cotton

A slightly thicker high-twist cotton, available in black only.

50,000 m/kg / 24,800 yds/lb

1450 tpm / 36 tpi

angle of twist: 38.5°

| |
|-----------------|
| £5.00 - 25 gm |
| £22.50 - 100 gm |

high-twist linens

21/1 nm bleached

A bleached singles linen, equivalent to 32 lea, which we think has been sized to stop it snarling so much during weaving.

21,000 m/kg / 10,400 yds/lb

angle of twist: 34°

S and Z twists available

£7.25 - 25 gm

24/1 nm GIF unbleached

An unbleached singles linen, equivalent to 40 lea.

24,000 m/kg / 11,900 yds/lb

880 tpm / 22.4 tpi

angle of twist: 35°

Z twist

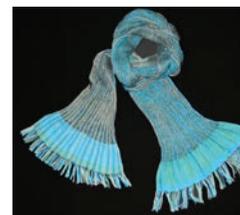
£7.25 - 25 gm

collapse scarf kits

There's something quite magical about using collapse yarns, but you do have to get the warp and weft sett exactly right in order to get the best effect. Our kits give you exact sett instructions, along with enough yarn to weave two skinny scarves or one broader one, depending on your taste and your loom!. Kit contents:
6 x 20 gm spools 30/1nm silk in three or four colours (for warp)
1 x 100 gm spool of 52/2 nm high-twist wool (for weft)

Colours vary - check the website of phone for current colours.

£37



books on collapse weave

Weaving Textiles that Shape Themselves

Ann Richards

An absolute mine of information on high-twist yarns, why they behave the way they do

and how to use them, and also a tremendous resource for understanding yarn properties, weave structures, and the interaction between them in general.

£25



Magical Materials to Weave

Lotte Dalgaard

Lotte covers the use not only of high-twist yarns but also their combination with other "magical materials" including a number of the special yarns we stock.

£16.99



Collapse Weave: Creating three-dimensional cloth

Anne Field

A clear overview of using collapse and shrink yarns, especially wool, with a number of specific drafts and instructions for you to try yourself, although some of the yarns specified are only available in New Zealand. Anne was a renowned spinner as well as an internationally known weaver, and her book includes hints on creating your own high-twist yarn for collapse effects.

£19.99



stretch yarns

elastomeric

A very elastic yarn composed of 81% nylon, 19% lycra. Use a temple to avoid pull-in when you weave (or improvise one by clipping a long thread with a weight at the bottom to either selvedge, and let them hang over the side pieces of the loom).

5 nm
5,000 m/kg / 2,475 yds/lb
£4.00 - 25 gms



colcolastic (stretch cotton)

Colcolastic is a fine cotton with lycra. Try it in combination with our 30/2 silk or 2/16 cotton for interesting collapse pleat bump effects.

34/2 nm cotton plus 100/1 lycra
14,500 m/kg / 7,200 yds/lb

£3.85 - 10 gms
£11.25 - 50 gms



lycra

A fine lycra, probably plied with polyester, as used by Margo Selby.

Counts vary slightly, but very fine
£4.00 - 25 gms



stretch yarns (cont)

stretch linen

90% linen (approx 40 lea) and 10% elastane.

24 nm
24,000 m/kg / 11,900 yds/lb

£7.25 - 25 gm



apricot



red



moss green



light grey



navy

stretch linen - upholstery weight

Ideal for heavier weight fabrics for use in interiors, to give stretch to cushions and seating or to create textured fabrics.

93% linen, 7% elastane
6.5 nm
6,500 m/kg . 3,225 yds/lb

£7.25 - 25 gm



unbleached

puma stretch viscose

With 80% viscose and 20% elite, this is a yarn that gives a soft and stretchy fabric once steamed.

28/2 nm
14,100 m/kg / 7,000 yds/lb
14 wpc / 36 wpi

£5.25 - 25 gms
£15.50 - 100 gms



sand



corn



dark taupe



copper



madder



antique rose



lavender



grape



rice



blue frost



denim



okra



menthol



deep teal



midnight



black

stretch silk

88% silk, 12% elastomeric. Shrinks in progressively with heat from approx 40° upwards. Off white only, but two weights.

standard (multiple thread)

6 x 85 den
17,500 m/kg / 8,650 yds/lb
£5.25 - 250m minicone

fine (single thread)

85 den
105,000 m/kg / 50,000 yds/lb
£5.25 - 1,500m minicone

GIF stretch wool

Only available in black and white, this yarn is 95% wool and 5% elite for gentle stretch once steamed.

21 nm
21,000 m/kg / 10,400 yds/lb
£6.50 - 25 gm
£21.00 - 100 gm



white



black