



MOHAIR

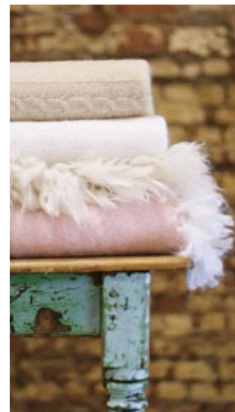
THE MOHAIR STORY

SOUTH AFRICA



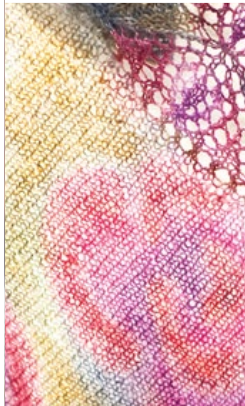
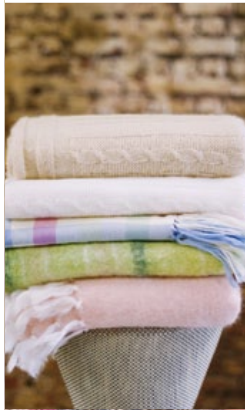
MOHAIR

The fleece of the Angora goat, one of the world's most beautiful and sustainable natural fibres.





THE NOBLE
FIBRE



The founding of the mohair industry in South Africa was a stroke of good fortune after the Sultan of Turkey sent twelve infertile Angora rams and one ewe to South Africa in 1838. Unknown to the Sultan, the ewe was pregnant and gave birth to a ram kid on route, establishing the Angora breeding stock in South Africa. These beautiful, gentle animals ultimately found their way to the Karoo region of South Africa's Eastern Cape, where great flocks of Angoras are now farmed.

Mohair is known worldwide as 'the noble fibre'. Its exclusive qualities – lustre, resilience and colour reflection have been key to its success, and the South African mohair industry has grown into the global leader, producing the world's best mohair.



A NATURAL
ECO-FRIENDLY
FIBRE

Angora Goats are shorn twice a year and are not harmed in any way during the process. In the pursuit of perfection, their fleece has been refined through consistently high breeding standards and meticulous genetic selection.

Angora goats thrive in the Karoo, with its combination of hot, dry summers, cold winters and semi-desert vegetation. This combination of best practice farming and best environment for Angora goats has set South Africa apart. South African mohair is globally acknowledged as one of the finest natural fibres money can buy.

The added beauty of mohair is that it is a renewable, natural resource, providing a sustainable production chain between animal and human, while contributing long-term prosperity to the Karoo region.



A large flock of sheep with thick, curly wool (Mohair) is gathered on a grassy hillside. The sheep are of various shades of cream and light brown. The background features a dramatic sky with dark, heavy clouds and patches of blue. The overall scene is a natural, pastoral setting.

THE MOHAIR PROCESS



SHEARING

The mohair fleece is clipped from the Angora goats twice a year, either by hand or with electric shears. The animals are not harmed in any way.

CLASSING

Sorting the mohair into various lengths, fibre diameter and quality types. Meticulous classing adds value to the product.

SCOURING

Washing the mohair to remove excess dirt and oils.

CARDING

The mohair fibres are positioned in uniform lengths and most of the vegetable matter is removed. A sliver or coil of mohair, called a 'carded sliver' is produced.

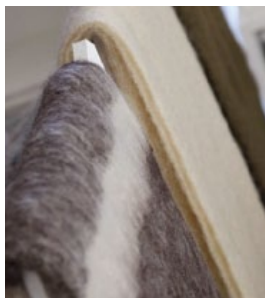
COMBING

The remaining vegetable matter and shorter, irregular sized fibres are removed from the carded sliver to transform the mohair into a soft, luxurious mohair 'top'.

SPINNING

Converting the mohair top into yarn. The top is spun into a yarn specified for structure, thickness (yarn count) and surface. Mohair yarns are often twisted or brushed (raised) for a fluffy appearance.





DYING

Products can be dyed after combing, spinning or weaving.

WEAVING

Yarn is used to manufacture worsted (suiting fabric) or woven cloth.

KNITTING

Yarn is machine knitted into panels for garment production. Hand knitting yarn is sold as balls or skeins which are available in an array of colours, textures and blends.



UNIQUE
QUALITIES

LUSTRE

The fibre's natural lustre gives garments a silky sheen.
It's the ideal garment to wear day or night.

LIGHTWEIGHT

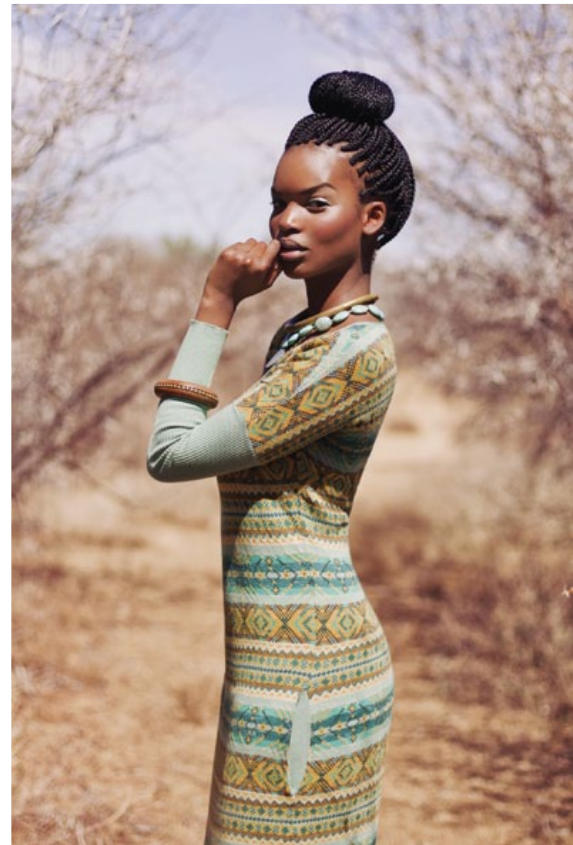
The fabric is luxuriously lightweight and renowned for
its cool in summer and warm in winter versatility.

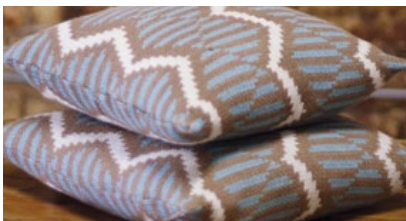
DYE-RESPONSIVE

Mohair responds magnificently to dyes, retaining even
the most brilliant colours over time.

DURABILITY

Because of its pliability, mohair is rated as one of the
world's most durable natural fibres.





CLIMATE CONTROL

Mohair breathes, absorbing and releasing atmospheric moisture and controlling its own 'climate' to ensure optimal comfort.

CREASE RESISTANT

Products made from mohair have an innate elasticity, which ensures they hold their shape.

NON - FLAMMABLE

Mohair is inherently flame resistant.



IMAGE CREDITS

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Sophie Steller Studios
Wheatlands Angora Goat Stud

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