

The Colors of Crooked Tree Yarn



Three Pines Studio's Colors of Crooked Tree are hand painted artisan yarns. These remarkable yarns are first spun for us locally at Stonehenge Fiber Mill in East Jordan, from a blend of rare, luxurious luster long wool fleeces produced by the special sheep of our friends and neighbors at Lake View Farm owned by Paul and Allison Loubert and Larkspur Farm, owned by Janet and Russ Cieslak.

The Farms of Crooked Tree continue the tradition of tending fine fiber animals in the wind swept, moist micro-climate that exists near the waters of northern Lake Michigan.

Next, they are hand painted by Joann Condino and the artists at Three Pines Studio in Cross Village with dyes formulated to express a celebration of the Colors of Crooked Tree – the colors and textures of this unique region that is a jewel in the crown of the Great Lakes.

– *Wensleydale Cross* –

Developed in the 19th century by carefully and selectively breeding for fine, curly fleece, the Wensleydale is a blue-faced, long wool breed producing a strong, high luster fleece with a very long staple (up to 12"). It is often blended with fine but shorter-stapled wools where a strong wool is required. It is extremely rare in North America.

– *English Leicester* –

The English Leicester Longwool, a large longwool breed with a white face, was created by Robert Bakewell towards the end of the 18th century. With its distinguished head and long, curly, lustrous wool the Leicester Longwool is one of the sheep breeds listed by the American Livestock Breeds Conservancy as rare and critically endangered.

– *Bluefaced Leicester* –

Bluefaced Leicester is a fine, semi-lustrous longwool with a staple length that ranges from 3 to 6 inches. It originated from the Border Leicester breed. Their name comes from the fact that the skin on their head that shows through their fleece is a dark blue color. Yarns spun from this breed are very soft, yet strong.



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