



Alpaca identification sheet

There are two types of alpaca: A huacaya (pronounced wa-ky-ya) alpaca; A suri alpaca



Huacaya alpaca

The huacaya appearance is due to its fibre growing vertically out of its skin in small bundles with a tight crimped wave which makes the fleece sit vertically off the skin giving it a 'Teddy Bear' look. The huacaya fibre is more akin to a woollen process of manufacture.



Suri Alpaca

The suri appearance is due to its fibre growing out of the skin in bundles/locks without any crimped wave. This makes the suri locks twist and hang down along the flank of the alpaca giving it an appearance much like a Wensleydale sheep. The suri fibre at its best is akin to silk and lends itself to the worsted process of manufacture. It is seeing increasing use in men's suiting and coats.



Alpaca identification sheet

There are two types of alpaca: A huacaya (pronounced wa-ky-ya) alpaca; A suri alpaca



There are two main types of alpacas, the huacaya and the suri (sometimes spelled suriya depending on where you are).

The main difference between the two is price and appearance. Huacayas are more common which makes them cheaper to buy. They are also easier to take care of because their coats require less maintenance.

Suris are more expensive due to their rarity and the fact that their wool can be sold for more because it is more luxurious and thicker. Their coats require more daily maintenance.