

YARN (AS. *gearn*, OHG. *garn*, Ger. *Garn*, yarn). The name applied to the thread spun for the purpose of weaving cloths of various kinds. It differs not only in the materials of which it is made, but also in the fineness to which it is spun. The latter quality is of great importance, as upon it depends entirely the evenness and quality of the manufacture. In order that uniformity may be insured, a pound of the material is taken as the standard, and this is divided into hanks or cuts. Thus, with linen yarn, a hank or cut consists of 300 yards; and if it takes 25 of these hanks to make a pound, the yarn is called 25s; and if 40, 40s; and so on. A hank of cotton consists of 840 yards; a hank of wool is variously estimated in different countries and localities. See COTTON; SPINNING; WOOL.