

**SOCK YARN**

**Lorna's Laces Shepherd's Sock**  
 This gorgeous 80% merino sock yarn comes in a stunning range of hand-painted colourways. One skein is enough for a pair of socks. It costs £14.30 per 100g (397m) hank from **01279 771153**, [www.modernknitting.co.uk](http://www.modernknitting.co.uk)

**King Cole Zig Zag**  
 Available in striped or pooling patterns, this 50/50 wool-acrylic blend produces pretty yet practical socks and costs £5.30 per 100g (448m) ball from **01844 273739**, [www.clickettyclack.co.uk](http://www.clickettyclack.co.uk)

**The Knitting Goddess Alpaca, Silk and Cashmere Laceweight**  
 Treat yourself to a skein of this beautiful yarn and knit yourself something truly special. It's a hand-dyed blend of three exquisite fibres and costs £18.50 per 100g (800m) skein from **01983 731209**, [www.theknittinggoddess.co.uk](http://www.theknittinggoddess.co.uk)

**LACE YARN**

**Rowan Fine Lace**  
 A new offering from Rowan for AW11/12, this delicate yarn is a great choice for beginners to lace, and is so soft, comprising 80% baby suri alpaca and 20% merino. It is priced at £7.50 per 50g (400m) ball from **01782 862332**, [www.cucumberpatch.co.uk](http://www.cucumberpatch.co.uk)

**NEEDLES**

**Knit Pro Symfonie Interchangeable Needles**  
 These wooden needles are a dream to knit with and come in so many useful sizes. The tips can be fitted to different cables, just choose the size that best suits your project. Prices start at £18.95 from **01548 831911**, [www.hulucrafts.co.uk](http://www.hulucrafts.co.uk)

**Vintage second hand needles**

If you're not fussed about the material of your needles, why not ask in charity shops – some stores keep them behind the counter – or raid your mum's stash to find the size you're after!

**DK YARN**

**Artesano Superfine Alpaca DK**  
 If you want your alpaca fibres to be bright and beautiful then this is the yarn for you. There are some more natural tones too if you prefer. This yarn costs £4 per 50 (100m) ball from **01865 820808**, [www.addicted2knitting.co.uk](http://www.addicted2knitting.co.uk)

**Toft Alpaca Baby Alpaca DK**  
 Spun in the UK from British alpacas, this wonderfully soft yarn comes in ten natural shades and is also available in kit form. A 100g (230m) ball costs £15 from **01788 810626**, [www.thetoftalpacashop.co.uk](http://www.thetoftalpacashop.co.uk)

**SPLURGE VS SAVE**

Whether you're feeling the pinch or have some cash to splash we've got some goodies you might be interested in

**W**e all know that money can be tight but that doesn't mean you have to give up all of your favourite pastimes. Admittedly, knitting a complete long-sleeved sweater in pure cashmere might not be the most economic course of action but there are plenty of lovely alternative and more affordable yarns that you can choose instead. At the same time though, it is nice to treat yourself every now and again. We've had a hunt for some great items that you'll love whatever your budget.

