

# **Washing recommendations for eco-stitch linen yarn.**

## **Linen yarn skeins (dyed).**

It is not necessary to wash the linen skeins before using because they have already been washed twice with organic laundry detergent (Ecos), once before and once after the dyeing process.

If for some reason you have to wash them, we recommend careful hand-washing and air-drying to avoid tangling. They can be spun in a laundry bag to help with the drying.

The undyed linen yarn skeins have not been washed and will need washing before dyeing to remove any impurities which may hinder the uptake of your dye.

## **Washing your finished object.**

Hand-washing is recommended for the first couple of washes in case of loss of excess dye. After hand-washing, if your finished object requires blocking, squeeze out any excess liquid using a towel or it can be spun in a laundry bag in the machine before blocking. Alternatively, the finished object may be spun in the machine and dried in the tumble-dryer. Drying in the tumble dryer will make your FO softer, but personally I prefer to leave it to dry flat. Once air-dried, it is quite crisp, but a little shake softens it immediately and it will also soften up a lot with wear. I find drying in a tumble-dryer removes the natural crispness and definition of the linen and I prefer to keep that, especially if it's a sweater or top.

For subsequent washes, you can machine wash on a gentle cycle using a non-bleach, mild soap. The finished garment/item can be laid flat to dry. For a softer result, dry the item/garment in the dryer for 15/20 minutes. Steam-ironing will improve the natural lustre of the fibre.

Linen does not mind changes in temperature (unlike wool) and can easily be washed in the machine. However, prolonged washing at high temperatures may affect the colour of your item. If your finished item is quite large/heavy (for example more than 600g of linen yarn), we don't recommend that you wash it in the machine. This is because the linen can shed tiny fibres during washing which *may* accumulate and clog up your machine filter. This word of warning is more to protect your machine than the linen itself.

## **My personal preferences.**

Sweaters, tops: Hand wash, short spin, lay flat to air-dry, shake a little when dry.

Cowls, scarves: Might machine wash, 15/20 mins in tumble-dryer to soften for wearing around the neck.

Spa cloths: Machine wash, machine dry.