

Yarn, n. (*Manuf.*) The name applied to the thread spun for the purpose of weaving cloths of various kinds. It varies not only in the materials of which it is made, but also in the fineness to which it is spun. This 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 wool or cotton consists of 840 yards. No material admits of such fine spinning as cotton. — *Grège yarn* is spun of wool and silk, and combines the greatest strength with the utmost fineness, and cannot be replaced by either wool or silk alone in the manufacture of long shawls where it serves as warp. This was first, and for many years exclusively, made in France, so that in its manufacture the French were enabled to monopolize the markets of the world. The Germans, in beginning the cultivation of this branch of industry, were obliged to import the Grège yarn, but it is said that in the way of spinning this yarn they have overcome all the difficulties, which are great, as no silk must appear in the fabric, only just enough of it being added to the wool to insure the combination of the greatest strength and greatest fineness.