

Andean textile goods are made  
from llama and sheep wool.





Raw wool needs to be washed to make it white. It is washed with a soapy extract made from Sacha paraguay root.





Washed fibers need  
to be dyed using  
indigenous plants,  
insects and minerals.













Qolle (*Buddleja coriacea*) dried flowers are boiled to provide yellow and orange colors.





Tara (*Caesalpinia spinosa*) seeds are used to produce a black dye. The roots produce a dark blue color.





Cochineal (*Dactylopius coccus*) is a scale insect that grows on *Opuntia* cactus.





Cochineal (*Dactylopius coccus*) scale





Cochineal (*Dactylopius coccus*) scale insects





Cochineal scale is ground into a powder that makes a red dye used for textiles, cosmetics and as a food colorant.





## Cochineal dye



[Click to view video](#)



Threads are spun by hand on spindles.













Threads are combined  
and final products are  
made on lap looms.





















