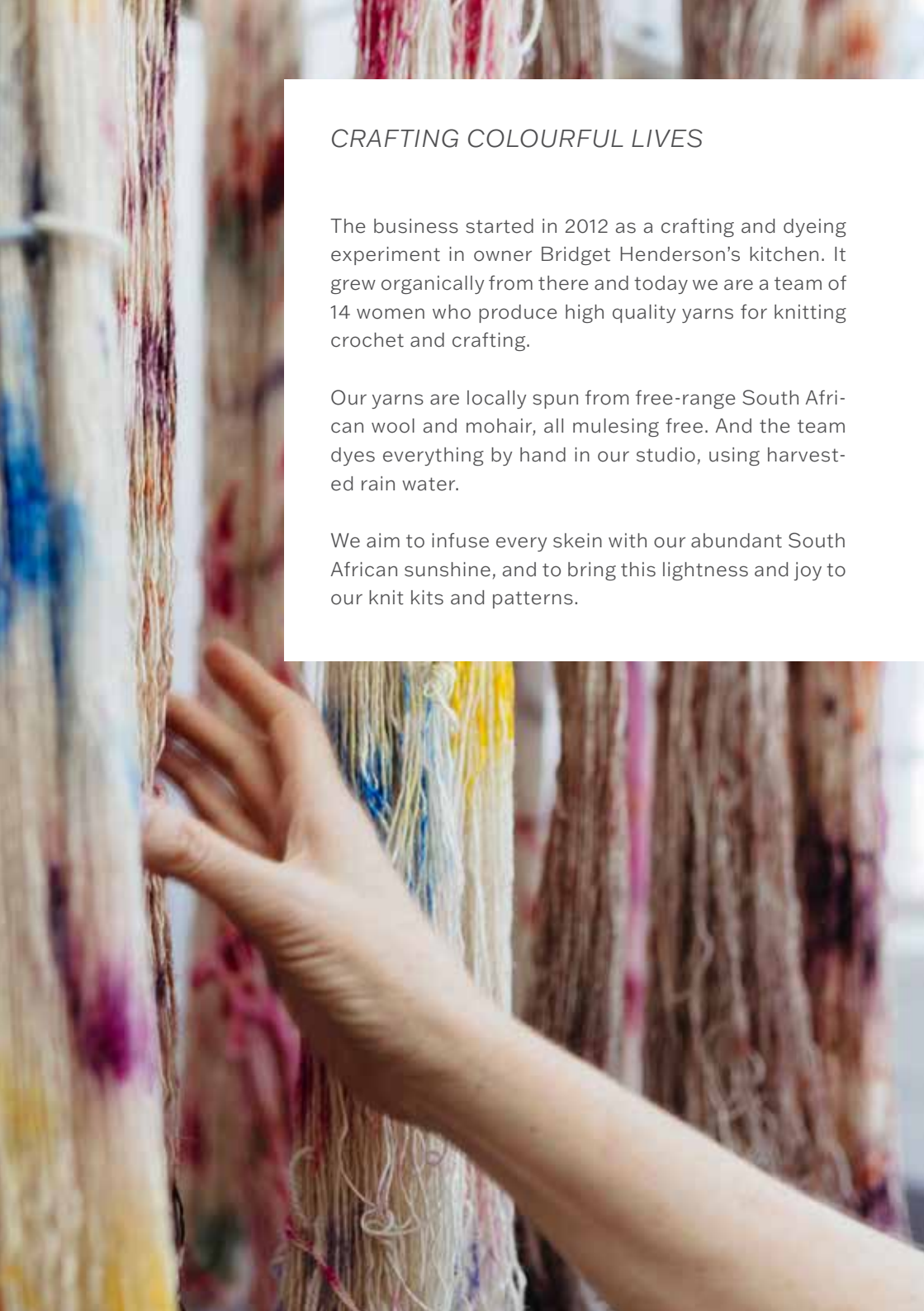
cowgirlblues
CRAFTING COLOURFUL LIVES

PUSH IT AS FAR AS IT WILL GO

"If you take any activity, any art, any discipline, any skill, take it and push it beyond where it has ever been before, push it as far as it will go, push it to the wildest edge of edges, then you will force it into the realm of magic."

— TOM ROBBINS

EVEN COWGIRLS GET THE BLUES



CRAFTING COLOURFUL LIVES

The business started in 2012 as a crafting and dyeing experiment in owner Bridget Henderson's kitchen. It grew organically from there and today we are a team of 14 women who produce high quality yarns for knitting crochet and crafting.

Our yarns are locally spun from free-range South African wool and mohair, all mulesing free. And the team dyes everything by hand in our studio, using harvested rain water.

We aim to infuse every skein with our abundant South African sunshine, and to bring this lightness and joy to our knit kits and patterns.

GREEN ISN'T JUST A COLOUR

At Cowgirlblues it's a way of living and being in the world, trying to be more conscious of the impact we have, and doing our best to tread lightly.

Being sustainable is important to us. Our commercial dyes come from reputable manufacturers compliant with European safety standards.

Water is used sparingly and repeatedly where possible. We reduce, re-use, and recycle wherever we can. And we collaborate and get creative to make the best use of the resources available to us.

It's a very African approach.

SEMI-SOLID ***COLOURS***

Sable

Camel

Silver Fox

Charcoal

Natural

Karoo Gold

Mustard

Lemon

Carrot Juice

Terracotta

Faded Rose

Chatterbox

Dusty Rose

Chilli Pepper

Ruby Grapefruit

African Violet

Hot Pink

Girls Night

Orchid Blush

Airforce

Seagrass

Camps Bay

Cobalt

Cape Storm

Indigo

Celadon

Evergreen

Sage

Olive

Rainforest

SOUTH AFRICA
is the world's largest producer of mohair

Merino sheep first arrived in 1789, and while our wool industry is small by global standards, it's strong and well established. And all South African merino wool is mulesing-free.

Angora goats have been farmed and bred in South Africa since 1838. Today we are the world leader in production and sustainability, having developed the Responsible Mohair Standard in partnership with Textile Exchange. This international non-profit specialises in developing standards based on land management best practices, animal welfare and social requirements.

Courtesy of Samil Natural Fibres (Pty) Ltd.

MULTI **COLOURS**

HAPPY DAYS

"The skies above are clear again. So let's sing a song of cheer again. Happy Days are here again." This 1929 song is still going strong, just like this colour.

Solid Colours Used

- Hot Pink
- Orchid Blush
- Chilli Pepper
- Evergreen

R.E.S.P.E.C.T.

"All I'm asking is for a little respect". Aretha said it, and we think everyone deserves more than just a little!

Solid Colours Used

- Hot Pink
- Chatterbox
- African Violet
- Carrot Juice

BETTE MIDLER

Bette Midler sang hits like "The Rose", "Wind Beneath My Wings" and "From A Distance". May this colourway give you wings and inspire many gorgeous projects.

Solid Colours Used

- Olive
- Sage
- Aubergine
- Faded Rose

ADELE

Think "Chasing Pavements", and Adele's smooth vocals, sometimes sad lyrics, and incredibly strong feminine energy.

Solid Colours Used

- Chatterbox
- Faded Rose
- Lemon
- Rainforest

PJ POWERS

A South African singer, PJ was a household name in the 90s with her song "Jabulani" meaning "Rejoice" in Zulu. We hope this colourway makes you want to celebrate.

Solid Colours Used

- Cobalt
- Hot Pink
- Lemon
- Natural

DIANA ROSS

Diana Ross had dreamy songs like "Do You Know Where You're Going To" and "Endless Love". But she could start a "Chain Reaction" and make it zing too!

Solid Colours Used

- Hot Pink
- Sable
- Faded Rose
- Seagrass

CARLY SIMON

"You're So Vain" was one of her biggest hits, but this soft, subtle colourway isn't an attention seeker. It's more in tune with "Let the River Run" another Carly hit.

Solid Colours Used

- Indigo
- Cobalt
- Mustard
- Natural

TINA TURNER

Tina Turner sang "We Don't Need Another Hero" but this colourway might change your mind. It oozes hero potential, alone or as a contrast for a colourwork project.

Solid Colours Used

- Indigo
- Cobalt
- Mustard
- Aubergine

CHER

Singer, actress and television personality Cher is the only artist (to-date) to have a Billboard number 1 single in six consecutive decades. Six!

Solid Colours Used

- Celadon
- Guinea Fowl
- Mustard
- Chilli Pepper

SAY A LITTLE PRAYER

Aretha Franklin's music reminds us that sometimes we all need to "Say a little Prayer".

Solid Colours Used

- Cobalt
- Camps Bay
- Indigo
- Cape Storm

9 TO 5

Dolly Parton wrote and recorded the song "Working 9 to 5". We aim to work hard without feeling like it's a grind. Because it is "enough to drive you crazy if you let it!"

Solid Colours Used

- Indigo
- Guinea Fowl
- Seagrass
- Carrot Juice

MADONNA

Like a Virgin, Material Girl, Crazy For You, Into the Groove, Live To Tell, True Blue. This colourway celebrates her evergreen music, with some rebellious Hot Pink streaks.

Solid Colours Used

- Hot Pink
- Camps Bay
- Faded Rose
- Lemon

TRACY CHAPMAN

Fast Car was the lead single on Tracy Chapman's 1988 debut studio album. Car (and movie) fans might see the "Fast and Furious" car lights, and city streets at night.

Solid Colours Used

- Cobalt
- Camps Bay
- Evergreen
- Mustard

CELINE DION

From "The Power Of Love" to "Because You Loved Me" and "My Heart Will Go On" we are thinking of Kate and Leo's Titanic romance coming to a sad, cool, watery end.

Solid Colours Used

- Rainforest
- Sage
- Olive
- Natural

ALANIS MORISETTE

Red and Green are opposites on the colour wheel – it's "Ironic" they combine so beautifully, maybe "a little too ironic", like the lyrics from her famous song.

Solid Colours Used

- Rainforest
- Chilli Pepper
- Sage
- Natural

KARMA CHAMELEON

Boy George and Culture Club sang "Karma, karma, karma chameleon; You come and go, you come and go-o-o-oh; Loving would be easy if your colours were like my dreams; Red, gold and green; Red, gold and green."

Solid Colours Used

- Rainforest
- Camps Bay
- Marsala
- Aubergine

CAPE CARNIVAL

Cape Carnival is an annual event on January 2nd where the city bursts into colour, music, singing, dancing and parades. It's a vibrant celebration in a riot of colours.

Solid Colours Used

- Olive
  Rainforest
- Aubergine
  Orchid Blush
- Chilli Pepper
  Dusty Rose
- Hot Pink
  Mustard
  Lemon

TAMBOURINE MAN

"Hey Mr Tambourine Man play a song for me; I'm not sleepy and there is no place I'm going to. Hey, Mr. Tambourine Man, play a song for me; In the jingle jangle morning I'll come following you." Thank you Bob Dylan.

Solid Colours Used

- Dusty Rose
- Rainforest
- Mustard
- Natural

NATURAL WOMAN

For any season this interesting colour combination speaks to everything nature has to offer, a truly "Natural Woman" and another Aretha inspiration.

Solid Colours Used

- African Violet
- Orchid Blush
- Carrot Juice
- Mustard

JONI MITCHELL

17 albums of original songs like "Clouds" and "Both Sides Now" were hugely successful. But "Big Yellow Taxi" is probably most loved. Let's hope we haven't "paved paradise and put up a parking lot".

Solid Colours Used

- Mustard
- Lemon
- Sable
- Camel

BRENDA FASSIE

This South African singer, songwriter, dancer and anti-apartheid activist was best known for her song "Weekend Special". With these colours you'll be ready.

Solid Colours Used

- Charcoal
- Silver Fox
- Chilli Pepper
- Mustard

WRITING IN THE SAND

This colourway has been around for quite some time, unlike writing in the sand. Waves and wind slowly erase it, and you are left with a clean slate to start afresh.

Solid Colours Used

- Coffee Bean
- Camel
- Silver Fox
- Natural

BARBRA STREISAND

With Yentl, released in 1983, she became the first woman to write, produce, direct, and star in a major studio film. Her songs "Memory", "The Way We Were" and "It Had To Be You" are dreamy, romantic and gentle, just like these colours.

Solid Colours Used

- Sable
- Coffee Bean
- Terracotta
- Marsala

MIRIAM MAKEBA

Miriam Makeba was a South African singer, songwriter, actress and civil rights activist. Harry Belafonte inspired her move to the US, and she became one of the first African musicians to be recognised worldwide. But she never forgot her African roots.

Solid Colours Used

- Sable
- Mustard
- Camel
- Coffee Bean

Our colours are uplifting. They have a lightness and brightness, inspired by the beautiful Cape landscape, our unique floral kingdom and life near Africa's southern tip.

MERINO LINEN *PROJECTS*

Ochre Cardigan

by Ambah O'Brien

Yarn: Cowgirlblues Merino Linen
Colour: Chilli Pepper
Needle: US2.5/3mm, US3/3.25mm
Quantity: 300g
Size: 7

Actinotus Shawl

by Ambah O'Brien

Yarn: Cowgirlblues Merino Linen
Colour: African Violet, Orchid Blush, Mustard
Needle: US5/3.75mm
Quantity: 100g per colour
Size: One size

Brioche Hearts Shawl

by Anna Sedova

Yarn: Cowgirlblues Merino Linen
Colour: African Violet, Natural, Tina Turner
Needle: US6/4mm
Quantity: 100g African Violet, 100g Tina Turner, 50g Natural
Size: One size

MERINO LINEN *PROJECTS*

Robinia Tee

by Anne Ventzel

Yarn: Cowgirlblues Merino Linen
Colour: Barbra Streisand, Hot Pink
Needle: US2.5/3mm
Quantity: 300g Barbra Streisand, 100g Hot Pink
Size: 3

Alpine Bloom

by Caitlin Hunter

Yarn: Cowgirlblues Merino Linen
Colour: Cape Storm, Cher
Needle: US4/3.5mm
Quantity: 250g Cape Storm, 100g Cher
Size: 4

Hey Sailor

by Andrea Mowry

Yarn: Cowgirlblues Merino Linen
Colour: Celadon, Chilli Pepper
Needle: US1/2.5mm, US3/3.25mm
Quantity: 250g Celadon, 100g Chilli Pepper
Size: 5

MERINO LINEN *PROJECTS*

Heimathafen

by Isabell Kraemer

Yarn: Cowgirlblues Merino Linen
Colour: Airforce, Indigo
Needle: US3/3.25mm, US2.5/3mm
Quantity: 300g Airforce, 100g Indigo
Size: 4

Bolan

by Leila Raven

Yarn: Cowgirlblues Merino Linen
Colour: Karoo Gold
Needle: US4/3.5mm
Quantity: 250g
Size: 6

Ghost Dancer

by Melanie Berg

Yarn: Cowgirlblues Merino Linen
Colour: African Violet, Karoo Gold, Charcoal, Sable
Needle: US6/4mm
Quantity: 100g African Violet, 100g Karoo Gold, 100g Charcoal, 50g Sable
Size: One size

MERINO LINEN *PROJECTS*

Salty Air Tee

by Samantha Guerin

Yarn: Cowgirlblues Merino Linen
Colour: Terracotta
Needle: US4/3.5mm
Quantity: 250g
Size: 5

Stripe Overload

by Spektakelstrik

Yarn: Cowgirlblues Merino Linen
Colour: Hot Pink, Ruby Grapefruit
Needle: US2.5/3mm
Quantity: 100g Hot Pink,
150g Ruby Grapefruit
Size: XL

Lykke Tee

by Spektakelstrik

Yarn: Cowgirlblues Merino Linen
Colour: Miriam Makeba
Needle: US2.5/3mm, US6/4mm
Quantity: 200g
Size: Large

MERINO LINEN & KIDSILK *PROJECTS*

Seoul Blouse

by Aegyo Knit

Yarn: Cowgirlblues Merino Linen and Kidsilk
Colour: Faded Rose, Olive
Needle: US6/4mm
Quantity: 300g Faded Rose Linen, 50g Olive Linen, 150g Fade Rose Kidsilk
Size: 3

Flora Vest

by Nicoline Sofie Knit

Yarn: Cowgirlblues Merino Linen and Kidsilk
Colour: Natural, Carly Simon
Needle: US3/3.25mm US5/3.75mm US7/4.5mm
Quantity: 150g Natural Linen, 100g Carly Simon Kidsilk
Size: 4

Fynbos Slipover

by Tatiana Uluceviz

Yarn: Cowgirlblues Merino Linen and Kidsilk
Colour: African Violet, Diana Ross
Needle: US6/4mm
Quantity: 300g African Violet Linen, 300g Diana Ross Kidsilk
Size: M/L

MERINO LACE *PROJECTS*

Sideways Shawl Solids

by Bridget Henderson

Yarn: Cowgirlblues Merino Lace
Colour: Karoo Gold, Ruby Grapefruit, African Violet, Faded Rose
Needle: US2.5/3mm
Quantity: 50g per colour
Size: One size

Sideways Shawl Multi

by Bridget Henderson

Yarn: Cowgirlblues Merino Lace
Colour: Dusty Rose, Bette Midler, Terracotta
Needle: US2,5/3mm
Quantity: 50g Dusty Rose and Terracotta
100g Bette Midler,
Size: One size

Joys of Spring Shawl

by Bridget Henderson

Yarn: Cowgirlblues Merino Lace and Kidsilk
Colour: Chatterbox, Sage Lace, True Colours Kidsilk
Needle: US5/3.75mm
Quantity: 50g Merino Lace Chatterbox and Sage,
100g True Colours Kidsilk
Size: One size

MERINO LACE & KIDSILK *PROJECTS*

Mud Season

by Elizabeth Smith

Yarn: Cowgirlblues Merino Lace and Kidsilk
Colour: African Violet Lace, Natural Woman Kidsilk
Needle: US7/4.5mm
Quantity: 100g African Violet Merino Lace, 100g Natural Woman Kidsilk
Size: XL

Ranunculus

by Midori Hirose

Yarn: Cowgirlblues Merino Merino Lace and Kidsilk
Colour: Cobalt Lace, Tina Turner Kidsilk
Needle: US4/3.5mm
Quantity: 150g Cobalt Lace, 100g Tina Turner Kidsilk
Size: 6

Sweet Surrender Wrap

by Irina Schaar

Yarn: Cowgirlblues Merino Lace and Kidsilk
Colour: Custom Colour Merino Lace and Kidsilk
Needle: US6/4mm
Quantity: 100g Merino Lace, 50g Kidsilk
Size: One size

MERINO LACE & KIDSILK *PROJECTS*

Erinome

by Lily Kate France

Yarn: Cowgirlblues Merino Lace and Kidsilk
Colour: Camps Bay Lace, 9 to 5 Kidsilk
Needle: US3/3.25mm, US5/3.75mm
Quantity: 200g Camps Bay Lace, 150g 9 to 5 Kidsilk
Size: 4

Jeol Sweater

by Aegyo Knit

Yarn: Cowgirlblues Merino Lace and Kidsilk
Colour: Celadon, Indigo
Needle: US4/3.5mm US8/5mm
Quantity: 200g Merino Twist Celadon, 100g Kidsilk Celadon, 150g Merino Twist Indigo, 75g Kidsilk Indigo
Size: 1

Reagan Cardigan

by Isabell Kraemer

Yarn: Cowgirlblues Merino Lace and Kidsilk
Colour: Cher Kidsilk, Cape Storm Merino Lace
Needle: US4/3.5mm US5/3.75mm
Quantity: 150g Cher Kidsilk, 200g Cape Storm Merino Lace
Size: Large

MERINO TWIST *PROJECTS*

Sweet Dreams Shawl

by Jane Renton

Yarn: Cowgirlblues Merino Twist
Colour: Indigo, Silver Fox, 9 to 5
Needle: US4/3.5mm
Quantity: 100g per colour
Size: One size

Foxtrot Shawl

by Jane Renton

Yarn: Cowgirlblues Merino Twist
Colour: Bette Midler, Sage, Plum, Orchid Blush, Camps Bay
Needle: US2.5/3mm US6/4mm
Quantity: 200g Bette Midler, 100g each Sage, Plum, Orchid Blush, 50g Camps Bay
Size: One size

I've Got Sunshine Shawl

by Bridget Henderson

Yarn: Cowgirlblues Merino Twist
Colour: Cape Carnival, mini mixed balls
Needle: US4/3.5mm
Quantity: 200g Cape Carnival, 200g mini mixed balls
Size: One size

MERINO TWIST *PROJECTS*

Twists and Turns

by Stephen West

Yarn: Cowgirlblues Merino Twist
Colour: Cobalt, Airforce, Silver Fox
Needle: US4/3.5mm
Quantity: 100g per colour
Size: 4

Autumn Alpine

by Caitlin Hunter

Yarn: Cowgirlblues Merino Twist
Colour: Indigo, Carly Simon
Needle: US3/3.25mm US4/3.5mm
Quantity: 350g Indigo,
100g Carly Simon
Size: 4

Pressed Flowers Cowl

by Amy Christoffers

Yarn: Cowgirlblues Merino Twist
Colour: Hot Pink, Bette Midler
Needle: US6/4mm
Quantity: 100g per colour
Size: Medium

MERINO DK *PROJECTS*

Winter Albina

by Caitlin Hunter

Yarn: Cowgirlblues Merino DK
Colour: Chilli Pepper, Sable
Needle: US4/3.5mm, US7/4.5mm
Quantity: 400g Chilli Pepper, 200g Sable
Size: 3

Loom Sweater

by Ruthemann Design

Yarn: Cowgirlblues Merino DK
Colour: Olive
Needle: US4/3.5mm US7/4.5mm US9/5.5mm US10.5/6.5mm
Quantity: 600g
Size: 4

Trouvaille Vest

by Samantha Guerin

Yarn: Cowgirlblues Merino DK
Colour: Charcoal, Karoo Gold
Needle: US8/5mm
Quantity: 300g Charcoal, 100g Karoo Gold
Size: 4

MERINO DK *PROJECTS*

Stitch Journey no.1 Beanie

by Bridget Henderson

Yarn:	Cowgirlblues Merino DK
Colour:	Sage, Rainforest, Evergreen, Karoo Gold, Olive
Needle:	US6/4mm
Quantity:	20g per colour (5 x 20g)
Size:	One size

Stitch Journey no.2 Cowl

by Bridget Henderson

Yarn:	Cowgirlblues Merino DK
Colour:	Indigo, Celadon, Cape Storm, Seagrass, Airforce, Cobalt, Silver Fox
Needle:	US6/4mm
Quantity:	20g per colour (7x20g)
Size:	One size

Nordic Bloom Vest

by Caitlin Hunter

Yarn:	Cowgirlblues Merino DK
Colour:	Girls Night, Bette Midler
Needle:	US7/4.5mm US8/5mm
Quantity:	300g Girls Night, 100g Bette Midler
Size:	3

MERINO DK & KIDSILK *PROJECTS*

Loveletter Cowl

by Bridget Henderson

Yarn: Cowgirlblues Merino DK
Colour: Say a little Prayer, Cape Storm
Needle: US7/4.5mm
Quantity: 100g Say a little Prayer, 100g Cape Storm
Size: One size

Blouse No. 1

by MyFavouriteThings Knitwear

Yarn: Cowgirlblues Merino DK and Kidsilk
Colour: Ruby Grapefruit, Barbra Streisand
Needle: US6/4mm
Quantity: 550g Ruby Grapefruit DK, 150g Barbra Streisand Kidsilk
Size: 5

Love Armour

by Meijuknits

Yarn: Cowgirlblues Merino DK and Kidsilk
Colour: Camel DK, Girls Night Kidsilk
Needle: US7/4.5mm, US8/5mm
Quantity: 200g Camel DK, 50g Girls Night Kidsilk
Size: 2

FLUFFY MOHAIR *PROJECTS*

Big Brioche Scarf

by Bridget Henderson

Yarn: Cowgirlblues Fluffy Mohair
Colour: Rainforest, Alanis Morisette
Needle: US 11/8mm
Quantity: 100g Rainforest,
100g Alanis Morisette
Size: One size

Gillian Version B

by Julie Weisenberger

Yarn: Cowgirlblues Fluffy Mohair
Colour: Girls Night
Needle: US 11/8mm
Quantity: 500g
Size: 4

New Canaan Cowl

by Elizabeth Smith

Yarn: Cowgirlblues Fluffy Mohair
Colour: Tracy Chapman
Needle: US10/6mm
Quantity: 100g
Size: One size

FLUFFY MOHAIR *PROJECTS*

Sunday Sweater

by PetiteKnit

Yarn: Cowgirlblues Fluffy Mohair
Colour: Cape Storm
Needle: US5/3.75mm, US6/4mm
Quantity: 400g
Size: Large

Marble Sweater

by PetiteKnit

Yarn: Cowgirlblues Fluffy Mohair
Colour: Cobalt
Needle: US15/10mm
Quantity: 200g
Size: Large

Ruke Fluffy Cardigan

by Ruke Knit

Yarn: Cowgirlblues Fluffy Mohair
Colour: Mustard
Needle: US11/8mm
Quantity: 300g
Size: 3

FLUFFY MOHAIR *PROJECTS*

Veer Sweater

by Eri Shimizu

Yarn: Cowgirlblues Fluffy Mohair
Colour: African Violet, Natural Woman
Needle: US8/5mm US10/6mm
Quantity: 200g African Violet, 100g Natural Woman
Size: Medium-Large (2)

Easy Fluffy Poncho

by Bridget Henderson

Yarn: Cowgirlblues Fluffy Mohair
Colour: Ruby Grapefruit, Orchid Blush
Needle: US10.5 / 6.5mm
Quantity: 100g per colour
Size: XL

Speedster Scarf

by Bridget Henderson

Yarn: Cowgirlblues Fluffy Mohair
Colour: Bette Midler
Needle: US15/10mm
Quantity: 100g
Size: One size

PROPER SOCK *PROJECTS*

Grumpy Sunshine

by Lauren Rad

Yarn: Cowgirlblues Proper Sock
Colour: Barbra Streisand, Ruby Grapefruit
Needle: US1.5/2.5mm
Quantity: 100g Barbra Streisand, 20g Ruby Grapefruit

Helms Deep

by Megan Gonzalez

Yarn: Cowgirlblues Proper Sock
Colour: Cher, Lipstick
Needle: US1.5/2.5mm
Quantity: 100g Cher, 20g Lipstick

Starry Night

by Jalene van Niekerk

Yarn: Cowgirlblues Proper Sock
Colour: African Violet, Karoo Gold
Needle: US1.5/2.5mm, US2/2.75mm
Quantity: 100g African Violet, 20g Karoo Gold

OUR ***TEAM***

Our team is at the heart of the business, and many of them say that working here feels like being part of a family. We take that as a huge compliment.

These women (and one man now) are proud to work at Cowgirlblues. They are a competent, capable group of strong people whom we hugely admire and respect.

One of our ongoing priorities is to offer opportunities for continuous improvement. Each person is skilled in more than one aspect of the production process. Some techniques are specific to dyeing yarns. But by learning to use a sewing machine or a computer, everyone builds skills that could also be useful in a different work environment.

COWGIRLBLUES IS ALL ABOUT INSPIRING AND EMPOWERING WOMEN

CONTACT US

@cowgirrlblues

Address

7 Beach Road, Maitland, Cape Town

Telephone

(+27) 071 083 4850

Email

shopping@cowgirlblues.co.za

wholesale@cowgirlblues.co.za

www.cowgirlbluesyarn.com