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CYMRU

FROM FLEECE TO FABRIC

THE COTTAGE INDUSTRY

Before 1850, getting wool and making fabric was mainly done by hand.

2 WILLOWING BY HAND

The wool needs to be willowed to open up the wool and loosen the fibres a little before it can be carded.



4 SPINNING USING THE GREAT WHEEL

Spinning turns the woollen rolag into strong yarn. This only creates one yarn at a time.



6 WASHING IN THE FULLING MILL

Some cloth was pounded as it was washed in order to shrink it. The cloth would be dried on a Tenter Frame.



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1 SHEARING WITH HAND SHEARS

Sheep are sheared for their wool. The wool is called fleece. The fleece is sheared in one piece using hand shears.



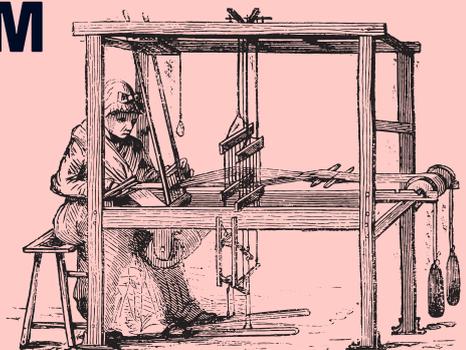
3 CARDING WITH HAND CARDS

Carding gets all the knots out of the wool and straightens it ready for spinning. This made one rolag of wool at a time, ready for spinning.



5 WEAVING ON A HAND LOOM

The yarn is woven into cloth.



Turn over to find out how the process changed when machines were used to make fabric.

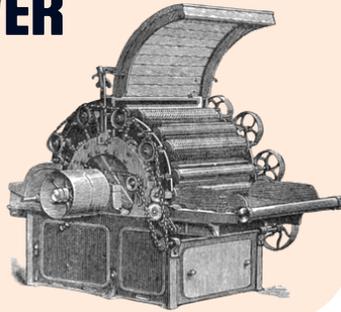
FROM FLEECE TO FABRIC

THE WOOLLEN MILL

After 1850, large woollen mills used machines to make fabric.

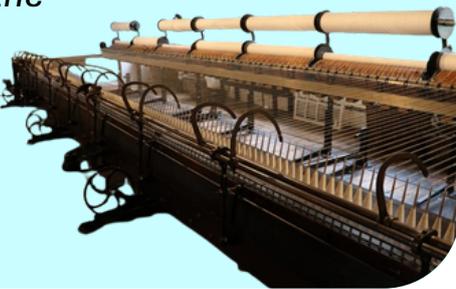
2 WILLOWING USING THE WILLOWER

This is a large rotating metal drum with big teeth.



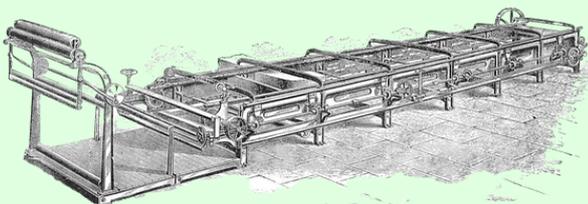
4 SPINNING ON THE SPINNING MULE

Spinning turns the woollen rolag into strong yarn. The spinning mule spins the carded wool into yarn. It spins 400 threads at a time.



6 WASHING USING THE MILL'S INDUSTRIAL WASHING MACHINE

The cloth would be dried on the mill's industrial Tenter Machine.



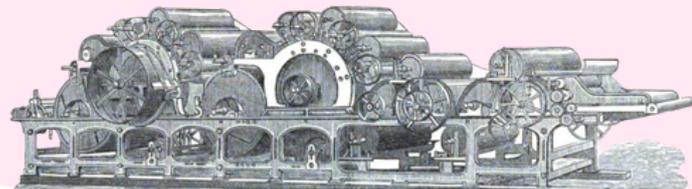
1 SHEARING WITH AN ELECTRIC SHEARS

Sheep are sheared for their wool. Shearing of sheep is done with electric shears.



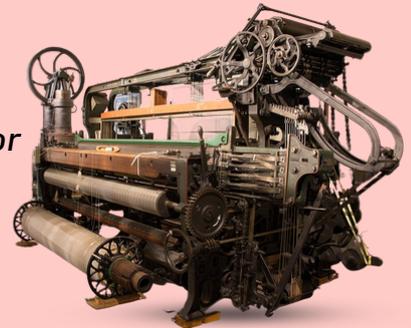
3 CARDING USING THE CARDING ENGINE

This machine can make endless rolags or wool ready for spinning.



5 WEAVING ON THE 'DOBCROSS' LOOM

Weaving turns yarn into cloth or fabric.



Turn over to find out how the process changed when fabric was made by hand.