



HUMANITY HANDSPUN is an idea born of the tragedy in Haiti.

Haiti is a small island nation on Hispaniola in the Caribbean Sea, north of Venezuela, east of Jamaica and south of Cuba. It is commonly thought to be the only Third World Nation in the Northern Hemisphere and suffers staggering poverty, malnutrition and starvation. It has an 80% unemployment rate. On January 12, 2010 Haiti suffered a devastating earthquake with as of yet unknown consequences; there are an estimated 200,000 dead, extensive injuries to the

living, in addition to a complete lack of water and food to many people across the country. Humanity Handspun will help to raise badly needed funds to assist in the immediate and ongoing medical needs of the people of Haiti as well as other broad human tragedies such as Darfur in Sudan, the Tsunami in South East Asia and the flooding of New Orleans. Funds raised will be donated to the situation of most immediate need. As of January 2010 funds will go to Doctors Without Borders (MSF) and the World Food Programme who have both operated in Haiti for over 15 years, meaning that the funds will go to established, functional charities on the ground in Haiti.

How does it work? For every skein of yarn that we sell, \$5 will be directly donated to the charities of focus, currently MSF / Haiti and the WFP. Each spinner sets their own price on the yarn, ensuring that they are adequately compensated for their work. Spinners will be paid on a quarterly basis for any sales generated with their yarn in the prior quarter, less administrative fees and the donation which will be distributed by HH.

OK, I'm in! What do I need to do? Along with sending us your yarn(s) we will need specific information attached to each skein. We use this information to keep inventory records and track any sales. We need to know:

- Fiber Content
- Fiber Country of Origin
- Color
- Hand Dyed? Natural or Synthetic dyes?
- WPI
- Gauge
- Needle size used for swatch (see below)
- Yardage
- Weight
- Spinner's Name (or how you'd like to be identified)
- Your price

We will also need your contact information, including your full name, mailing address, email address and phone number.

Remember, you are responsible for any and all income taxes generated by sales from our site.

What else do I need to know or do?

- If you provide us with 10 or more skeins and have a webstore/blog etc. we will add a link to your info on our "Spinners That Give" webpage. Please provide a short bio if you'd like to.
- We would also like to have a knitted swatch available for each yarn to be displayed alongside the skein at the Stitches show; this will greatly help to sell the yarn. Handspun meant as trims, such as a handspun with goat locks, are exempt from this request. We are asking for swatches to be identical as follows:

Fingering/Sport/DK Yarns: Cast on 20.
Row 1: K4, P4, K4, P4, K4.
Row 2: Knit the knits and purl the purls
Rows 3 – 6: repeat rows 1 and 2.
Row 7: P4, K4, P4, K4, P4
Row 8: Knit the knits and purl the purls
Rows 9 – 12: repeat rows 7 and 8.
Rows 13 – 18: repeat rows 1 – 6.
Bind off.

Worsted/Chunky/Bulky Yarns: Cast on 16.
Row 1: K4, P4, K4, P4.
Row 2: Knit the knits and purl the purls
Rows 3 – 6: repeat rows 1 and 2.
Row 7: P4, K4, P4, K4.
Row 8: Knit the knits and purl the purls
Rows 9 – 12: repeat rows 7 and 8.
Rows 13 – 18: repeat rows 1 – 6.
Bind off.

- When setting your price, please keep in mind that we will be adding on the donation amount (\$5) and an admin fee (\$5) for a total of \$10 to each skein. So if you want \$20 for your skein, we will list it at \$30.
- Your yarn will be held by us on a consignment basis, please understand that though we will care for your yarn as if it was our own, there is some chance of it becoming shop worn if it does not sell within the first few shows.
- Some Fine Print:
 - We will notify you once we have received your yarn. From that point, till you receive it back from us (or until it sells), we will be responsible for its safety. We reserve the right to notify you and return to you yarn we deem to be unsaleable within 48 hours of receipt. If you are not sure if it is saleable, please email us first before sending your yarn.

- Should yarn be damaged beyond repair or go missing you will be compensated for the sales price that you set only.
- To keep our costs down we ask that you let us keep your yarn for a minimum of 6 months. We will pay shipping costs on yarns you would like returned after 6 months have passed. Prior to the first six months if you would like your yarn back you will be responsible for the return shipping fees.
- *We require that the same skein of yarn not be listed anywhere else for sale (such as your website, Ravelry or Etsy store), if we do find the same yarn listed for sale then we reserve the right to ship all of your yarn back to you at **your** cost.*
- We will not be responsible for yarn lost in shipping from you to us.
- *We will not be responsible for damages caused by any yarns that we sell for you. Please be sure your yarns are colorfast and your fiber information is accurate.*
- Lastly, there is a dog in the studio, but she will have no access to the yarns at any time.
- We will be responsible for retail sales taxes and the donation collection and distribution.
- Send your carefully packed yarn to us at:
 - HumanityHandspun
 - 6023 Christie Avenue
 - Emeryville, CA 94608
- If you live locally you may also make arrangements to drop it off at our studio. Please call us at 510-595-1385 to schedule a time that works.
- You will be paid quarterly via Paypal for any sales from the previous quarter within 30 days of end of that quarter. This means, sales generated between Jan – March would be paid to you by the end of April.

Where does the \$5 admin fee go? As each skein comes in it will be photographed, logged into our inventory and tagged for selling. After our initial launch at Stitches West we will be re-photographing for the website and listing each skein in our shop site. We will also be bringing or shipping the handspun yarns to the various retail shows that we do across the US. This project will not, nor is it intended to be a money-making venture, the running of the site will take time and funding to maintain. It is estimated that the admin fees will go initially to website costs (set up and maintenance), shipping fees, as well as banking fees and promotional costs (printing and advertising). Until we iron out the rough spots we do reserve the right to change the structure of this fee without notice.

Can I donate my handspun to you to sell? At this time, for logistical reasons, we will only be offering handspun where the designer is also compensated for their work. Once we are up and running and have a system down, then donations of high quality, saleable handspun yarn will be accepted and welcomed. At that time a larger portion of the sale would go to the charities of choice. Please keep in mind, the idea is to raise funds; we would like to have on offer the best yarns to generate the most sales and for the largest number of donations.

What charities will you be donating to? Donations will be focused on global medical, nutritional and educational needs; our current charities where the funds will be equally divided are Doctors without Borders (<http://doctorswithoutborders.org/index.cfm>) and the World Food Programme (<http://www.wfp.org/>). We are open to suggestions of other charities that you may know of but we cannot direct sales from specific skeins to specific charities on an individual basis. To avoid potential conflict, we will not be making donations to any charities affiliated with any religion. Our website will be updated quarterly with the total raised to date.

I don't have any yarn for you at the moment but I'd still like to help / How can I donate some of my yarn sales earnings? Humanity Handspun also has a fundraising page where you can donate directly to MSF. You can find it here: <http://www.firstgiving.com/humanityhandspun>. Help us reach our first \$10,000!

Where do I tell people to find the yarn? The site is still in its infancy. Though we are not selling online at this time, customers will be able to initially find our handspun yarns at 2010 Stitches West in Booth 96 with Knitwhits.

Who are you? My name is Tina Whitmore and I'm the founder and lead designer for Knitwhits (<http://www.knitwhits.com>), a knitting pattern and kit company established in California in 2003. I've had a love affair with fiber all my life and recently have developed an addiction to spinning. Spinning allows me to enjoy fiber outside of my "real" fiber-related job. Once I started spinning I needed to find a home for my handspun yarns. This also sadly coincided with the Haitian earthquake. I saw a way that I could make my spinning more productive than just the process; by using it to raise funds it immediately becomes so much more than yarn, in many ways, to many people. My grandmother worked tirelessly for the St. John's Ambulance for as long as I can remember, and she always drilled into us how important it was to be useful. HumanityHandspun brings together my love of fiber, my retailing background, my desire to help others in need and my wish to be useful all under one umbrella.

Thank you for your interest in helping us and helping others!

<http://www.humanityhandspun.com>

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