

Spinning Sample by Deb Greer

After the Turquoise Breeze dye pot, I had to make yarn to go with that Kid Mohair. I carded the baby alpaca lightly with equal weight of creamy tussah silk top, barely mixing them on my hand cards to make two tone rolags for spinning a fairly fine (for me) slubby, spotted singles. The singles didn't seem terribly strong to me, and spun up a little fatter than I planned (18 wpi), so I set the bobbin aside to set the twist, and went to the hankies. The hankies drafted forever and ever, continuously, and truly wanted to be thread thin. The nature of spinning hankies is there are little thick, fuzzy places on the edges that just like to be slubs! And I love textured yarn, so I was really pleased with this singles. I used a 17.5:1 ratio and spun this singles S. The yarn measured 40 wpi. I plied this singles with a fine commercial white mohair yarn to lighten up the color and give it some fluff. Plied Z at the same ratio as the singles, allowing only enough twist to ply lightly. The result was a 2 ply yarn at 20 wpi. I used my McMoran yarn balance to figure the approximate yardage. According to my calculation this yard is approx. 2700 ypp. My skein weighs 1.2 oz., so I spun approximately 202 yards. This yarn turned out to be exactly as I visualized it! It is nearly a match for the original kid mohair, and should bloom in a similar fashion, while adding a super strong element to the visualized scarf. I eventually spun some tussah silk top and plied the baby alpaca/silk yarn with it, but this ended up to be a beautiful yarn that didn't suit the purpose, it is too heavy for the ethereal vision I have for the scarf.



Dyed Baby alpaca and tussah silk rolags

Singles, Baby Alpaca and Tussah Silk Top



The perfect skein for the task!



Silk Hankie Singles



2 ply, commercial Mohair and silk hankies

