

ALPACA FUN FACTS

- Alpacas are members of the camelid family and were domesticated in the Andes of South America.
- Alpacas were first commercially imported into the United States in 1984.
- Adult alpacas generally weigh 120 to 200 pounds and stand about 36 inches tall at the withers, where the neck and spine meet.
- Alpacas typically live 15 to 20 years. The longest documented lifespan is 28 years.
- Alpacas mainly eat grass and hay.
- Alpacas require annual shearing and typically produce 5 to 10 pounds of fleece each year.
- Alpaca fleece is soft, warm, lightweight, and available in 16 natural colors.
- Alpacas have two-toed, padded feet instead of hooves, making them gentle on pastures.
- Alpacas have lower front teeth that meet a firm dental pad on the upper jaw.
- Alpacas are herd animals and need the companionship of other alpacas.
- Alpacas are generally quiet and communicate through body language, humming, and alarm calls.
- Alpacas are intelligent and can learn to lead, navigate obstacle courses, and jump small hurdles.



Huacaya (wuh-KAI-ya)
Huacayas have soft,
dense, fluffy fleece.

Suri (SUR-ee)
Suris have long,
silky fleece that
forms locks.



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