

Welcome to the World of Felting!

All profits from each sale go directly towards

The Fibre Ark Sheep Sanctuary

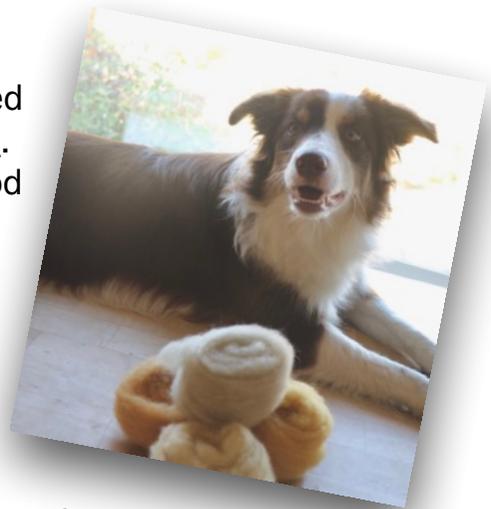
We are a Just-for-wool flock!

www.woollymeadowsfelting.com



There are a few supplies you'll need for Needle Felting. This is a dry method of felting which requires a barbed needle with little notches along the bottom portion to catch and entangle the wool

fibres, creating either a sculpture or painting. There are several needle thicknesses (called gauge) and depending on where the barbs are placed they have different names (eg. Spiral, Star, Graduated). You can simply work with an individual needle, or purchase multi-needle tools. The best way to avoid snapping the needle's delicate tip, is to always poke your needle as straight as possible, in and out, regardless of the angle you may be poking at.



You will also require a felting surface to cushion the needle's tip and offer some support for your felting project. These come in a variety of shapes and sizes, for larger paintings simply place them together, and for sculpture work think about having a few sizes so that you can slide it in to work in tighter spaces (like between legs). For first-time felters, you might choose a foam mat to work on, this is made in North America and is safe/non-toxic to be poking into. Foam is light-weight and works well, but most felters will upgrade to a wool alternative. Your mat will need cleaning, or have a few sheets of felt fabric handy that you can use to protect your sculptures from fibre contamination. This is of less concern for felted paintings, but note that wool paintings cause a lot of wear on your felting mat as the entire surface is poked repeatedly, so these will need replacing more frequently. Our longest-lasting choice is a compressed wool mat.

The next and most important aspect is Wool! There are a lot of different choices out there, but our favourite sheep varieties are Shetland or Corriedale. Raw wool is called 'fleece,' you can also find washed wool 'locks' or curls which provide beautiful texture.

Once processed it then comes in a long ribbon called Roving or Slivers, in carded (intermingled fibres) or top (combed fibres). You can also find wool 'batts' (originally developed for quilters) which is a rolled sheet of fluffy carded wool suitable for felting. Generally speaking, carded wool is better for 3d work, and a mixture is used for wool paintings & wet felting. Core wool is simply wool that goes inside of your project to extend your more valuable wool.





One of the key features of our kits is the to-scale diagram template sheets. Each 2d element can be matched to the size-guide. And the wool can be layered directly over top for wool paintings, and you can slide it out before poking the design down.

Always keep in mind where your fingers are!



Start by tightly rolling basic shapes, add more wool to increase the size/ shape of an area and poke it with your needle. To indent the wool, repeatedly felt over the same line. Attaching parts is easy, simply poke through both!



A great project for kids or to use up left over wool is to felt inside of cookie-cutter shapes, simply fill with wool and give it a poke both sides. Poke gently and until the wool is firm and/or smooth.

If you still have a few wayward fuzzy fibres they can be trimmed with scissors.

Felted Paintings can be framed in a hoop, behind glass (preferably with distance between the glass), or stretched over a canvas.



Wet Felting is a different process, whereby the wool fibres are agitated through rubbing with soap & water. This binds them to each other and to the fabric underneath. Thin layers are placed over silk (Nuno felting), or prepared pre-felt, covered with netting and rubbed with soapy water until the scales on the wool fibres mesh together. Once dry, you can needle felt on top!