Learn to felt

wet felting

ashford
WHEELS & LOOMS

WET FELTING

FLAT FELTING

It's simple and easy to make a piece of flat felt. To learn how just follow these steps. Make 6 pieces of flat felt to use as placemats for your dining table.

Wet felting relies on the unique properties of wool and its ability to mat together and shrink under friction, moisture and heat.

You will need:

Carded wool sliver
Dishwashing liquid -1/4 teaspoon
Hot water - 600ml 40°c
Drink bottle
Towel
Bubble wrap

01

Place the towel on a flat surface, then place bubble wrap on top with bubbles down.

02

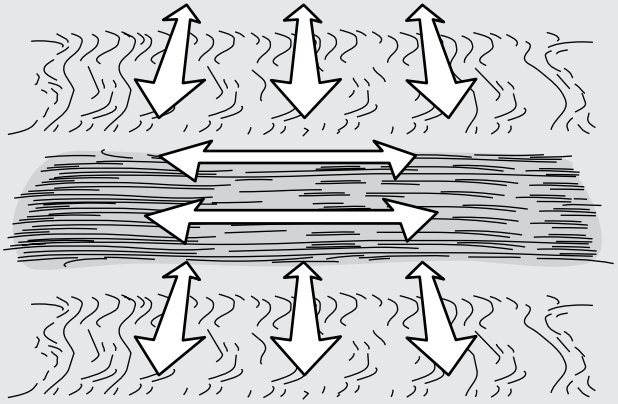

Diagram showing steps 3, 4 and 5, layering the sliver.

03

Start laying out the sliver into a batt (a rectangle of fibre).
Lay the first layer down by holding one end of the fibres down firmly and pulling the other end to make a thin,even layer.

Then place the second layer down at right angles to the first layer.

Lay down the third layer in the same direction as the first layer. In a bottle, add ¼ t dishwashing liquid & hot water. Apply a little water over the complete batt.

Press all over to get the sliver wet. Add more water as necessary to ensure all the wool is damp.

Roll up the batt in the wrap.

Then roll up the batt and wrap in the towel.

Start rolling back and forwards for 50 rolls

Unroll and turn work around 90 degrees, and roll again for another 50 rolls (Pre-felt)
Repeat these 2 steps until you have done 200 rolls per step

If you want to have nice straight edges, cut with the scissors at the pre-felt stage.

Unroll and check to see if the fibre has felted. Pinch the fibre and it should stay together. If not, continue rolling.

Take the felt and squeeze and roll in your hands to shrink more.

When the felt has dimples over the surface, it is finished. Roll in the towel and squeeze out the excess water.

Lay flat and dry in a warm location or outside in the shade.

Now make more to use as placemats for your dining table. Cut or trim to suit your dining table.

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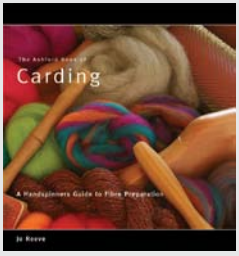

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