

Sweet and Simple Needle Felted Animals: A Step-by-Step Guide for Beginners



Sweet & Simple Needle Felted Animals: A Step-By-Step Visual Guide by Sachiko Susa

★★★★☆ 4.8 out of 5

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Needle felting is a delightful craft that allows you to create charming and adorable animal sculptures using wool fibers and a special barbed needle. The technique involves repeatedly stabbing the wool fibers with the needle, which causes the fibers to tangle and form a cohesive shape. With a little patience and practice, you can transform fluffy wool into lifelike animals that will bring joy to your home or make perfect gifts for loved ones.

Materials You'll Need

- **Felting needles:** There are various sizes and shapes of felting needles available. For beginners, a medium-sized needle with a triangular cross-section is a good choice.
- **Wool roving:** Wool roving is the raw, unspun wool that is used for needle felting. It comes in a wide range of colors and textures, so you can choose the perfect wool for your project.

- **Foam pad:** A foam pad provides a stable surface for needle felting and protects your work surface from the sharp needles.
- **Scissors:** Scissors are used to trim and shape the wool fibers as needed.
- **Optional:** A wire armature can be used to create a frame for larger or more complex animals, providing support and stability.

Basic Techniques

1. **Stabbing:** The basic technique of needle felting is stabbing the wool fibers with the needle. The repeated stabbing motion causes the fibers to tangle and become more compact.
2. **Shaping:** As you stab the wool fibers, you can shape them into different forms. By applying pressure in different directions, you can create curves, angles, and other shapes.
3. **Layering:** Layering involves adding additional wool fibers on top of existing layers to build up volume and create different textures.
4. **Blending:** Blending is the technique of mixing different colors of wool fibers together to create smooth transitions and color variations.

Step-by-Step Instructions for Needle Felted Animals

Fluffy Bunny

Materials:

- White wool roving
- Pink wool roving (for the nose and ears)

- Black wool roving (for the eyes)

Instructions:

1. **Form the body:** Start by taking a small amount of white wool roving and rolling it into a ball. This will be the body of the bunny. 2. **Shape the head:** Take a smaller amount of white wool roving and form it into a cone shape. This will be the head of the bunny. 3. **Attach the head:** Stab the head into the body, using the needle to secure it in place. 4. **Form the ears:** Take two small pieces of pink wool roving and roll them into cone shapes. These will be the ears of the bunny. 5. **Attach the ears:** Stab the ears into the head, positioning them on top of the head. 6. **Form the nose:** Take a tiny piece of pink wool roving and roll it into a small ball. This will be the nose of the bunny. 7. **Attach the nose:** Stab the nose into the face of the bunny, below the eyes. 8. **Form the eyes:** Take two small pieces of black wool roving and roll them into tiny balls. These will be the eyes of the bunny. 9. **Attach the eyes:** Stab the eyes into the face of the bunny, above the nose. 10. **Shape the tail:** Take a small piece of white wool roving and roll it into a thin, cone shape. This will be the tail of the bunny. 11. **Attach the tail:** Stab the tail into the body of the bunny, near the back. 12. **Finishing touches:** Trim and shape the wool fibers as needed to refine the details of the bunny, such as the whiskers and fur texture.

Cuddly Kitten

Materials:

- Orange wool roving
- White wool roving (for the belly and paws)

- Green wool roving (for the eyes)
- Black wool roving (for the nose and whiskers)

Instructions:

1. **Form the body:** Start by taking a medium amount of orange wool roving and rolling it into an oval shape. This will be the body of the kitten. 2.

Shape the head: Take a smaller amount of orange wool roving and form it into a round shape. This will be the head of the kitten. 3. **Attach the head:**

Stab the head into the body, using the needle to secure it in place. 4. **Form**

the ears: Take two small pieces of orange wool roving and roll them into triangle shapes. These will be the ears of the kitten. 5. **Attach the ears:**

Stab the ears into the head of the kitten, positioning them on top of the

head. 6. **Form the belly:** Take a small amount of white wool roving and roll it into a crescent shape. This will be the belly of the kitten. 7. **Attach the**

belly: Stab the belly onto the body of the kitten, below the head. 8. **Form**

the paws: Take four small pieces of white wool roving and roll them into small balls. These will be the paws of the kitten. 9. **Attach the paws:** Stab

the paws onto the body of the kitten, two in the front and two in the back.

10. **Form the nose:** Take a tiny piece of black wool roving and roll it into a small ball. This will be the nose of the kitten. 11. **Attach the nose:** Stab the

nose into the face of the kitten, below the eyes



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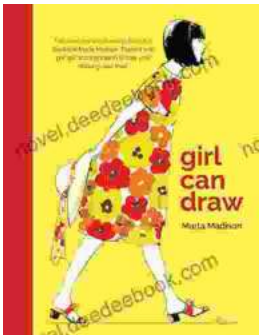
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