

GUIDE TO FELTING NEEDLES

Included in your kit are top quality felting needles made in Germany by Groz-Beckert, a specialist needle manufacturer.

Your needles are colour-coded, with a painted crank to help you identify them among your felting supplies!

NEEDLE	BARBS	WEIGHT	DESCRIPTION
TRIANGULAR CROSS 36	6	Heavy	Heavier gauge needles, useful for quickly building up the main body of a project.
TRIANGULAR CROSS 38	6	Medium	Great 'all-round' medium gauge needles, suitable for most felting projects.
TRIANGULAR CROSS 40	6	Fine	Fine gauge needles, suitable for detailed work and finishing.
TWISTED 36	9	Heavy	A twisted, triangular cross-sectional working area with a greater number of barbs, these needles work faster and leave less visible holes.
TWISTED 38	6	Medium	The triangular cross-sectional working area of these needles has been twisted, which works faster and leaves less visible holes.
TWISTED 40	6	Fine	A twisted cross-sectional working area, making these needles ideal for fine and finishing work.
CROSS STAR 36	8	Heavy	Heavier gauge needles, useful for quickly building up the main body of a project. They have more sides and barbs than triangular needles, and felt faster.
CROSS STAR 38	8	Medium	Medium gauge needles, finer than 36 gauge, but still useful for quickly building up the main body of a project.
REVERSE BARB 32	9	Heavy	Heavy-gauge needles which have opposite pointing barbs to regular felting needles and pull fibres outwards instead of felting inwards, creating a fluffy effect.
REVERSE BARB 40	6	Fine	Fine-gauge needles which also have the barbs pointing the opposite direction to regular felting needles and are also used to create a furry or fluffy effect.

Questions and comments

We treasure you as a customer and your satisfaction with this product is very important to us. If you have any queries or comments, please do not hesitate to get in touch by emailing us at: info@craftykitcompany.co.uk or by calling us in the UK on +44 01620 860907

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NEEDLE FELTING KIT

Peaceful Pond

Needle felt this calming scene and learn to make dragonflies, butterflies and bullrushes.

Items you'll need/handy to have:

- Small, sharp scissors or snips • An awl or poky tool • Glue

Before you begin

To get the best results from this kit, please read the following before starting to create your new project.

We've included some felting needles in your kit. Please refer to the 'Guide to Felting Needles' at the back of these instructions to learn which needles we've included and what they are best used for.

Remember – felting needles are very sharp, so please take care!

A felting needle has a series of notches near the tip, which tangle the fibres when you poke the needle in and out of the wool.

Take your time and don't take your eyes off your work.

Don't twist or bend the needles as you felt; the tips are very fragile and likely to break if you do this.

As you felt a shape it will become smaller and firmer.

Use snips or small sharp scissors to tidy stray hairs and give a neat finish.

The small recycled foam mat that comes with your kit can be used to protect the needle and your work surface.



Your kit contains:

- Chestnut chap wool (Rust) 3g
- Aqua wool 2g
- Bilberry Pie wool (Blue/pink blend) 3g
- Raven wool (Black) 5g
- Parma Violet wool (Plum/blue blend) 1g
- Ginger Pup wool (Honey) 1g
- Comet wool (Grey blue) 5g
- Mink wool 5g
- Drizzle wool (Light grey) 5g
- White wool 5g
- 2 Pipe cleaners
- 7 Thick stems
- Brown floristry tape
- Meadow felt 24 x 12
- Moss felt 24 x 12
- Stone felt 24 x 12
- Silver thread 150cm (3 x 50cm)
- Embroidery needle
- Felting needles
- Felting pad
- Instructions

1. Lay out the contents of your kit. Wool, three pieces of felt, floristry tape, 7 stems, 2 pipe cleaners, silver thread, embroidery needle, felting mat and felting needles. **Pic 1**

Grass

2. To make the grass you will need both pieces of green felt. Lay one piece of felt on a flat surface. Cover the surface of the felt with a thin layer of glue – not too much as it needs to be lump-free. Lay five stems at equal intervals across the felt referring to the photographs. Firmly press the second piece of felt on top. **Tip:** try to be quick as the glue may dry.

Pics 2a, 2b

3. Using the stems as a guide, carefully cut the felt into 1cm strips. Give each tip a graduated point. Now press firmly along the edges to stop any gaping and add a little more glue if needed. Make a little twist at the end for a more natural look. Repeat to create five blades of grass.

Pics 3a, 3b, 3c

4. Use the brown floristry tape to tightly wrap around and gather the felt at the end of each grass stem. Now leave the blades of grass to dry completely; this allows the felt to become quite firm. **Pic 4**

Bullrushes

5. Tightly wrap the brown floristry tape around the remaining two stems; this gives a perfect base for the wool to stick to. **Pics 5a, 5b**

6. Tease the rust wool in half. Tightly wrap one half of the wool around the top end of the stem. It should roughly cover about 6cm, leaving 1cm of the stem

poking out at the top. Gently needle felt at an angle to avoid the stem. You're aiming for a sausage on a skewer shape! A combination of hand rolling and felting helps to create a smooth finish. Repeat with the other stem. **Pics 6a, 6b**

Dragonfly

7. Fold one pipe cleaner in half and firmly twist. Wrap slithers of aqua wool around the twisted pipe cleaner to cover. Try not to add too much; at this stage you shouldn't need to use a needle. **Pics 7a, 7b**

8. Add a little more aqua wool at one end to create a thick matchstick shape. Gently needle felt at an angle to avoid hitting the pipe cleaner and damaging the fragile needle. Again, hand rolling helps the finish. Retain a small pinch of aqua; you will need this to attach the wings. **Pic 8**

9. Now for the wings. Cut the remaining pipe cleaner in half. Twist each half into a bow shape making sure each loop is equal. **Pic 9**

10. Now using the felting mat and a large pinch of the beautiful blue/pink blend wool, cover each bow shape. Carefully needle felt to avoid the pipe cleaner wire. Aim for a thin even coverage for a delicate look. Add some black to the tip of each wing.

Pics 10a, 10b, 10c

11. For a little extra sparkle and detail add a chain stitch using the silver thread and embroidery needle. Follow the shape of the wings, again carefully avoiding the wire. Add to one or both sets of wings. **Pic 11**

12. Position the wings on the dragonfly's body, leaving a long tail.

Lay a pinch of aqua wool across the middle of the wings and gently needle felt to attach the wings to the body. Gluing is an option, but felting gives a much cleaner finish. **Pic 12**

13. For an optional extra, using the silver thread tie a butcher's knot down the length of the body. YouTube is great for tips on this! To finish, gently felt a few strands of black for the eyes. **Pics 13a, 13b**

Butterfly

14. Cut the stone felt in half. Use one half of felt and the template in the instructions to cut out the butterfly shape. You will need the other half of the felt for the pond. **Pic 14**

15. Lightly draw the shape of the body onto the felt. This isn't essential but helps as a guide. Using the felting mat and pinches of the blue/pink blend wool, gently needle felt to cover both wings. Turn the felt over and repeat on the other side. **Pics 15a, 15b**

16. Blend small pinches of plum/blue blend on the ends of the wings for detail. For the black outline you could sandwich the felt between two pieces of cardboard; such a handy tip to avoid stabbing your fingers. Work your way carefully around the edge of the wings. **Pics 16a, 16b, 16c**

17. For some finer detail add a little honey wool along the front edge of the wings and two or three spots on the wings. **Pics 17a, 17b**

18. Needle felt the body using the honey wool. Gradually add small pinches to create a rounded effect. Felt a few strands of black for the eyes.

Gently fold the front wings and firmly felt them against the body to give the front wings a bit of lift. **Pics 18a, 18b**

Pebbles

19. Set aside some grey blue wool for the water. Using the remaining wool felt some random shapes to create the pebbles in different shapes and sizes. About 15 pebbles should be enough, depending on how big you make them. Using your fingers, tease different colours of wool together creating wonderful patterns. Remember the hand rolling too! **Pic 19**

Pond

20. Even the felting mat is used in this project! Roughly cut the edges off the felting mat. Wrap the remaining piece of stone felt around the mat. Use glue to attach to the base of the mat. Tip: do not put glue on the top or side of the mat, when the glue dries it's impossible to needle felt into!

Pics 20a, 20b

21. Needle felt the grey blue wool onto the top of the mat and a little around the edges to represent the water. Now add the pebbles by either felting or gluing around the edges. Add some slithers of white semi circles for ripples near the centre of the pond.

Pics 21a, 21b, 21c

Final stage

20. Now to put the Peaceful Pond scene together! Using an awl (poky tool), make holes in the felting pad and push the blades of grass and bulrushes in place. Position the butterfly and dragonfly on the end of a blade of grass and glue to attach.

Pics 22a, 22b







