



F0065

Felted Mice



Recommended Yarn

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F0065

V.1/ES

Knitting Felting Easy 

Felted Mice

Design: Dorothea Neumann

Unless otherwise noted, figures apply to measurements before felting.

SIZES

Small: before felting 5" [12.5cm]; after felting 3"- 3¼" [7.5-8cm]

Medium: before felting 6" [15cm]; after felting 3½"- 4" [9-10cm]

Large: before felting 7" [18cm]; after felting 4¼" - 4¾" [11-12cm]

MATERIALS

Schachenmayr Wash+Filz-it!, 50 g ball

Color 00002 (white), 1 ball

Color 00041 (hummer), 1 ball

Color 00020 (blanket), 1 ball

Color 00026 (pflaume), 1 ball

Color 00001 (black), 1 ball for eyes, tail, and nose

For one small mouse only: 12-15g of yarn plus small amount of black

For one medium mouse only: 18-20g of yarn plus small amount of black

For one large mouse only: 22-25g of yarn plus small amount of black

One set size 10-10½ [6-6.5mm] doublepointed needles [dpns]

Fiber fill

Approx. 7¾" [20cm] of black satin cord for each mouse

Felting needle

GAUGE

11 sts and 16 rows/rnds = 4" [10 cm] before felting.

15 sts and 26 rows/rnds = 4" [10 cm] after felting.

BASIC PATTERN

Stockinette: k on RS; p on WS.

Stockinette in rnds: k every rnd.

INSTRUCTIONS

Small mouse: cast on 9 sts. Arrange sts evenly on 3 needles – 3 sts per needle. Join for working in the round. Next rnd: knit. Next inc rnd: work yo inc before and after center st on each needle – 15 sts. Next rnd: knit and ktbl all yo's. Repeat last 2 rnds – 21 sts. Cont in Stockinette until a total

of 14 rnds have been worked. Next dec rnd: SKP [sl1 kwise, k1, pss0] first 2 sts and k2tog last 2 sts on each needle. Repeat dec rnd every foll 4th rnd until 9 sts remain. Work 1 rnd even. Next rnd: SK2P [sl1 kwise, k2tog, pss0] 3 sts on each needle – 3 sts. Cut yarn, draw yarn end through remaining sts, pull tight and weave in end.

Medium mouse: cast on 9 sts. Arrange sts evenly on 3 needles – 3 sts per needle. Join for working in the round. Next rnd: knit. Next inc rnd: work yo inc before and after center st on each needle – 15 sts. Next rnd: knit and ktbl all yo's. Repeat last 2 rnds twice more – 27 sts. Cont in Stockinette until a total of 16 rnds have been worked. Next dec rnd: SKP [sl1 kwise, k1, pss0] first 2 sts and k2tog last 2 sts on each needle. Repeat dec rnd every foll 4th rnd until 9 sts remain. Work 1 rnd even. Next rnd: SK2P [sl1 kwise, k2tog, pss0] 3 sts on each needle – 3 sts. Cut yarn, draw yarn end through remaining sts, pull tight and weave in end..

Large mouse: cast on 9 sts. Arrange sts evenly on 3 needles – 3 sts per needle. Join for working in the round. Next rnd: knit. Next inc rnd: work yo inc before and after center st on each needle – 15 sts. Next rnd: knit and ktbl all yo's. Repeat last 2 rnds 3 times more – 33 sts. Cont in Stockinette until a total of 18 rnds have been worked. Next dec rnd: SKP [sl1 kwise, k1, pss0] first 2 sts and k2tog last 2 sts on each needle. Repeat dec rnd every foll 4th rnd until 9 sts remain. Work 1 rnd even. Next rnd: SK2P [sl1 kwise, k2tog, pss0] 3 sts on each needle – 3 sts. Cut yarn, draw yarn end through remaining sts, pull tight and weave in end.

FINISHING

Stuff about two thirds of the mouse with fiber fill. Mouse will shrink during felting, fiber fill will not shrink.

Tail: cut two strands of black, each strand 19¾" [50cm] long. With both strands, sew opening, leaving a 9¾" [25cm] long tail at beg and end of each strand = 4 yarn tails. Braid yarn tails for approx. 1½" [4cm]. Cut 1 yarn tail and cont braiding remaining 3 strands until tail measures 4-4¾ (5-6 / 6-6¾)" [10-12 (13-15 / 15-17) cm]. Knot ends, leaving a ½" [1cm] long tail.

FELTING

Felt mice according to general felting instructions. Pull mice into shape and let dry.

Eyes: cut 2 strands of black, each strand approx. 6" [15cm] long, one strand for each eye. Lightly knot strand at center and beg at center knot, needle felt until two short ends remain. Knot ends, cont to needle felt, then cut ends.

With black, embroider **nose** with satin stitch, incorporating two 4" [10cm] long satin cords at either side of nose as whiskers. With black, needle felt over satin stitch including satin cords. Cut whiskers to desired length.

Ears: with color used for mouse, ch 4. Sc in first ch. Fasten off. Needle felt ears above eyes and shape.

NEEDLE FELTING MOTIFS

Needle felting is done after item has been felted.

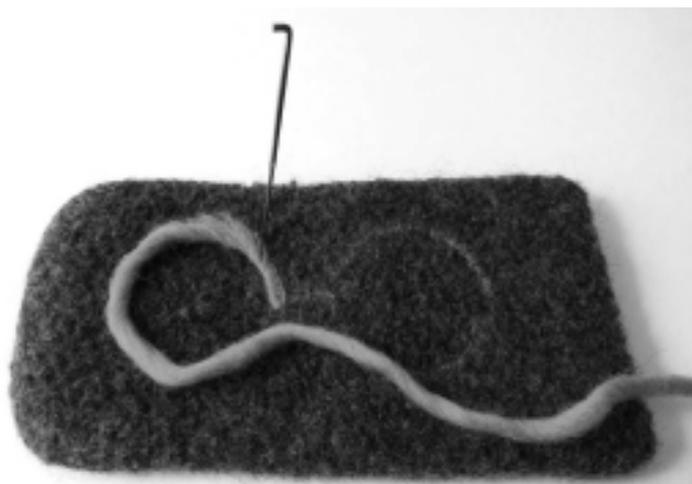
It's easy: use chalk pen or laundry marker to trace motif on felted item. Simple motifs may also be done free-hand. Place your base fabric on a piece of foam. This allows the needle felting needle to go through the fiber and beyond without damaging the needle or the surface below.

Lay strand of yarn onto base fabric. Start punching the needle down through the yarn and through the base fabric. This will fuse the yarn onto the base fiber.

Work carefully:

Needle felting needles are extremely sharp and can do a lot of damage to you and/or your table top if not used properly. The best approach for needle felting is a straight up and down motion with the needle. Try to go in as straight as possible; this makes it less likely you'll break the needle.

Start at one end of your line or shape and work your way around. If needle felting a large shape, start by needle felting around the outside of the shape and work your way in. The more you puncture the fibers with the needle felting needle, the more dimensional your motif will become and the more fused the base fabric and your motif will become. To needle felt small circles, knot yarn loosely, then needle felt to base fabric. Repeat for desired size and dimension. You can also needle felt small knitted or crocheted motifs to the base fabric. After your motif has the desired shape and dimension, cut yarn and needle felt yarn tails.



ABBREVIATIONS

st-st	stockinette stitch
rnds	rounds
sl-st	slip stitch(es)
K2tog	knit 2 together
K	knit
st(s)	stitch(es)
beg	beginning
P	purl
WS	wrong side
Ch	chain
col	color
dc	double crochet
r	row
rnd	round
RS	right side
St	Stitch



GENERAL GUIDE, VERY IMPORTANT

Please read these tips through thoroughly before commencing work. These are full of useful tips to ensure your accessories are always a success. There is no further mention of this in the instructions.

The measurements given in the Method for the felted panels are a guide only. The felting process depends on many factors, including how the wool has been dyed, how loosely or how tightly you knit, the temperature of the water when being washed, the washing program, and even how full the washing machine is. Also, every machine washes differently, for example with more or less revolutions or water. Your felted item can thus turn out smaller or larger than the measurements given.

If you have never felted any knitted or crochet item in the washing machine we would recommend starting with a piece where the exact fit is not so important, e.g. with a placemat or a bowl or a basket. Even if the felted measurements turn out different to those given, you will

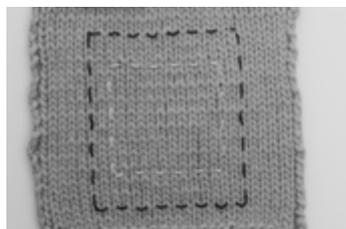
MATERIALS

All designs were made using **Schachenmayr Wash+Filz-it!** (100% wool, about 55 yd / 1¾ oz [50m / 50g]) from Schachenmayr. Since this yarn consists entirely of new wool and is not machine washable, it is particularly suited to felting by machine.

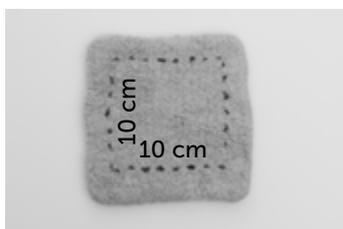
GAUGE AND FELTING SWATCH

Only by working a tension swatch you will be able to determine the correct needle size to use and the correct wash program for the felting.

For particularly large pieces we recommend making up a tension swatch and felting sample first.



Dia 1. The prepared unfelted swatch.



Dia 2. The swatch after washing or felting in the machine.

For the gauge cast on with the needle size given 6 sts more than given for the felted gauge and work in the desired pattern about 8 rows more than given, then bind off all sts. With a contrasting piece of dark waste thread embroider running stitches around the number of stitches and rows at the center as given in the gauge after felting (see Dia 1), working the stitches very loosely. The area surrounded by the light cotton thread corresponds with the stitches and rows given in the gauge before felting. This area should measure about 4 x 4" [10 x 10cm]. If it is bigger, you knit too loosely and need to knit firmer and/or use smaller needles. If it is smaller, you knit too firmly and need to knit looser and/or use larger needles. For crochet designs felt the swatch in the machine under the same conditions as you will later felt the completed item.

Then pull the swatch into shape well, allow to dry, then measure out the area marked out with the dark thread; it is now smaller than the unfelted swatch and should measure about 4 x 4" [10 x 10cm]. If the swatch is not felted enough, you can always wash it again, select a different wash program with more movement or even a higher temperature.

If the swatch has been felted too much, you will need to use a program with less movement and/or a lower temperature.

FELTING IN THE WASHING MACHINE

In general, felting in the washing machine is done at a temperature of 40°C; or you can use the gentle wash if the felting effect is not to be too strong, or your machine felts too strongly. Use a color detergent or all-purpose detergent, but not a detergent for woolens and no fabric conditioner.

To increase the felting effect on the pieces, and make the most economic use of your washing machine, wash the pieces together with other hard-wearing colored items, jeans or towels (but not new towels as these are still losing fibers that could attach themselves to the items to be felted).

Different designs and colors can be washed/felted together. When washing together with light colors and/or if you add jeans or coloreds to the machine, always add a color protect sheet.

In the washing machine the parts will shrink by about 30%; these figures are only a general guide.

If your item is still too big or has not been felted enough after the first wash, wash it again at 40°C, or even at a higher temperature, or select another wash program, see also the section on "Gauge and Felting Swatch".

SHAPING AND DRYING

After washing, pull your felted item to measurements well, as given in the Method, and press the seams apart well from the inside. Rounded shapings are easily worked over a fist.

Bags, bowls, etc. can be stuffed with paper or towels to dry, but these should be changed frequently. Some designs also need to be brought over the object to dry, e.g. bottle warmers or tea cosy.

MORE CARE TIPS FOR FELTED ITEMS

Note that felted items will felt even more if washed by machine. These can be carefully washed by hand with a standard detergent at a water temperature of about 20°C. Avoid rubbing together, allow the items to soak just very briefly, swish gently back and forth, and use the same water temperature for both washing and rinsing. To dry, roll the item up in a towel and press out well, do not wring, then block to measurements and allow to dry.