



Needle Felted Sheep Instructions

Thank you for purchasing my Goldieknots Needle-Felted Sheep Ornament Kit. I hope you enjoy creating one (or an entire flock) of your own! If you need additional fiber, kits, or other supplies, please feel free to contact me at 406-633-0073 or via email at: goldieknotsmt@gmail.com.

Included in your kit:

Fiber to complete one ornament (larger rolled piece, smaller rolled piece, small flat piece - all in natural wool color for your sheep's body, and a piece of colored fiber For your sheep's scarf) Please note the name of the sheep on your kit is the sheep your wool came from ☺

A felting needle with a cork safety holder

A small bag containing 4 horseshoe nails (for your sheep's feet), yarn and hanger.



What you will need in addition to your kit:

Small felting mat (I use 2" thick foam core - like chair padding. I usually purchase these larger squares at JoAnne Fabric or Hobby Lobby); glue to hold your feet in, large sewing needle with eye big enough for yarn to go through, and scissors.



Warnings:

Felting needles are VERY sharp! Please use extreme caution when using your felting needle. All small pieces in this kit can be hazardous to small children. Please do not leave children unsupervised when using these kits and supplies.

Directions

Body

1. Take your largest section of fiber and roll into a tighter cylinder shape.
2. With your felting needle carefully poke in the ends a little to give the core of your fiber a little bit of firmness making sure to round the outer edges as you do so. (This will help with shaping). Then, lay your fiber on your felting mat and begin poking as you're turning your fiber. Continue this process until your fiber looks a little like a small egg like the photo shown. Once it is the desired shape, use your needle and poke gently until your fiber is firm. Set aside.



Head

3. Take your smaller piece of rolled fiber and roll into a cylinder shape. At one end, pull the fiber apart horizontally giving your fiber more of a triangle shape.
4. With your felting needle, carefully poke into the center at the widest part of the fiber. Then poke into the center from the narrowest end of your fiber. Lay fiber onto your felting mat and begin poking as you turn your fiber making sure to leave the widest part unfelted as this will be used to join the head to the body. Continue the poking process from center of each end to around until your fiber looks like the photo shown. Once it is desired shape, use your needle and poke gently until the face portion of your fiber is E firm. Set aside.



Ears

5. Take your small flat piece of fiber and lay on your mat as shown.
6. With your felting needle, poke at fiber gently creating a flat rectangular shape on the mat (you don't want to poke too hard as it will make your fiber unable to be pulled from the mat). Once shaped, gently pull the fiber from the mat, turn over, and repeat the process.
7. Once in a rectangular shape, take your felting needle and draw fiber from the center to a point in the middle as shown from both sides. Then use your needle to round the outside edges into ear shape. Again, remember not to poke too hard into the mat as you won't be able to remove your piece from the mat. Once the ears have been shaped and the center drawn in, gently remove from mat and turn over. This last step for the ears is just gentle poking to ensure the fiber is felted and shaped the way you would like. Once you have the desired shape, gently remove from mat and set aside.



Scarf

8. Take your colored fiber and lay in a long direction on your mat. Stretch as needed to measure approximately four inches. (See photo before and after)

9. With your felting needle, poke at the fiber gently on the mat creating a strand about 1/4" wide and three inches long. Once shaped and somewhat firm, gently remove piece from mat, turn over and repeat the process. Once completed the second side, pull gently from mat. Set aside.



Joining the Pieces

10. Take your body piece and head piece (widest side of head will be place on the body to attach the head. Place widest part of head on body, face should be pointing upward, and begin joining the loose fiber to the body. Once head is firmly attached, use your felting needle, blend loose fiber from head into body.

11. Once firmly attached, bend the face downward and felt at top of head and sides, then under the face to bring and hold face downward. Continue the process until you are happy with placement. See photo for my recommendation of the way it should look.



12. Attach the ears to the head by placing them with the center mark or ears approximately in the center of the head and the base of attaching at the neck. Use your felting needle and only poke down the center of the ears.

13. Once the ears are attached, take your scarf piece and wrap around the neck of your sheep. Felt it into place leaving a long tail down the side and up the back as shown.

14. Once scarf is attached, felt down the ears around it and shape ears in the position you would like. Then, felt the ends of the scarf piece in place at side and top, leaving enough to snip an angled shape



Feet
15. Take your horseshoe nails from the bag and put them in as shown on the bottom of your sheep, pointed side in, rough side out. Once place where you would like, pull one nail out and dip the pointed end in glue and put back into she sheep. Repeat process for remaining nails.



Hanger
16. Take your small strand of yarn from the bag. Fold in half and thread both ends through eye of needle. In the center of the back of your sheep, poke needle in and out of body and go through remaining loop of yarn. Pull tight. Tie knot at the end with two open strands. Use decorative hanger to hang yarn on and hang on tree.

