

Supply List: Painting with Wool

In this workshop, you'll be creating one main piece over the course of the week, as well as a few smaller practice or exploratory pieces. The subject matter is completely up to you—landscapes, animals, botanicals, abstract—so feel free to bring reference images or sketches that inspire you.

Due to the nature of the medium, it's easier to work at a moderate or larger scale, especially for beginners. For your main project, choose a finished size that's in the range of 8x8 inches up to 11x14 inches. Smaller pieces can be any size you like for testing techniques and trying out ideas.

If you're just beginning to build your felting supplies, I've listed my suggested supply list below and offered some tried and true suppliers under Resources. To create in this medium, you'll need a work surface like a felting foam pad, a base fabric like wool felt, wool fibers, and a felting needle. There are many variations of the above supplies, but I've linked my favorites in the Resources section.

If you already have felting supplies, feel free to bring whatever you're comfortable using. You are always welcome to reach out to Dani for specific questions about supplies and guidance on subject matter and/or color choices regarding those subjects. (hello@daniives.com).

Felting Tools

- Needle Felting Foam Pads (2 total)
 - One should be at least 12" x 12" or large enough to fit your main project
 - The second can be smaller and will be used for practice pieces or travel within the studio
- Felting Needles
 - Size 38 Star: qty 4–6 (workhorse needle)
 - Size 40 or 42 Triangle: qty 2 (detail work)
 - Optional: Size 38 Triangle or any other sizes you enjoy using
- Felting Handles/Grips (optional)
 - Multi-needle tools that hold 2 or more needles at once
 - Single-needle grips/handles that can offer comfort

Background Fabrics / Base Textiles

- Wool Felt (1mm thick) in white or off-white:
 - Bring 4 or more pieces that are at least 8 x 10 inches. One should be large enough for your main subject.
 - One or two will be for practice, the rest for finished pieces

- 100% wool felt is best. Wool blends can be usable, but they can warp or stretch. Note: wool felt fabric is different than prefelt—avoid prefelt for this workshop.
- Optional: Bring a variety of other background fabrics if you'd like to experiment
 - Examples: linen, cotton, burlap, velvet
 - Avoid: stretchy or transparent fabrics
- If framing in an embroidery hoop: Make sure the fabric is at least 1" larger than the hoop on all sides

Wool for Painting

- Bring a variety of colors for your planned subject(s)
 - Carded wool batts are recommended whenever possible (not roving). Carded batts are composed of shorter (usually chopped) fibers that are laid out in a sheet. These shorter fibers allow for easy manipulation for blending and fine detail. It is more difficult to get the “painting” effect with roving. If you have wool roving, I can show you techniques for
 - Most suppliers offer wool in 1 oz or 1/8 oz increments — 1/8 oz is usually plenty unless your design is heavy in a particular color. Then you might get more of that color.
 - If your budget allows, the Every Color Pack from Felted Sky (link on the Resource List) is a wonderful way to start your color collection.
- Tip: For realism or creating lifelike dimension, bring multiple values of your key colors (e.g., light, medium, and dark green). I will also show you how to blend colors to increase your available palette.

Optional Finishing Supplies

- Embroidery hoops (6” or larger) for optional framing
- Other framing or mounting materials can be discussed during class

Design & Reference Materials

- Pencils, sketchbook or paper for drawing, planning, and taking notes
- Pen that marks on fabric or fine tip sharpie for image transfer if needed (uniball signo gel pen is my favorite)
- A few pieces of home printer paper
- Reference photos (digital, printed, or both)
 - For realism/portrait work: bring a printed image at the size you want to replicate (printed on regular office paper is fine)

Felting Supply Resources grouped by Supplier

Felted Sky <https://feltedsky.com>

- Foam Pads: <https://feltedsky.com/collections/mats/products/10x10-foam-mat>
- Needles & Tools: <https://feltedsky.com/collections/needles-tools>
- Wool Felt Fabric: <https://feltedsky.com/collections/prefelt-linen/products/wool-felt?variant=40578327969950>
- Linen Fabric: <https://feltedsky.com/collections/prefelt-linen/products/felters-fabric?variant=31181279985736>
- Wool: <https://feltedsky.com/collections/wool/products/felters-palette-1-8-oz?variant=31749274206280>
 - Every Color Pack (if you don't want to pick and choose):
<https://feltedsky.com/collections/wool/products/every-color-felters-palette-1-8-oz>

Living Felt <https://feltingsupplies.livingfelt.com>

- Foam Pads: https://feltingsupplies.livingfelt.com/Needle-Felting-Foam-12-x-12-Earth-Harmony-Series_p_1293.html
- Needles & Tools: <https://feltingsupplies.livingfelt.com/felting-needles> ,
<https://feltingsupplies.livingfelt.com/needle-felting-tools>
- Wool Felt Fabric: <https://feltingsupplies.livingfelt.com/wool-felt-sheets>
- Linen Fabric: <https://feltingsupplies.livingfelt.com/linen-fabric>
- Wool: MC1- <https://feltingsupplies.livingfelt.com/mc-1> ,
- Wool: Short Fiber Merino- https://feltingsupplies.livingfelt.com/Short-Fiber-Merino-Batts-19-microns_c_120.html

The Felted Ewe <https://www.thefeltedewe.com>

- Wool: <https://www.thefeltedewe.com/maori-fluffy-wool-batts> ,
<https://www.thefeltedewe.com/dyed-carded-wool-batts>

Additional Resources on my blog: <https://www.daniives.com/blog/2019/6/9/the-best-basic-supplies-for-painting-with-wool>