



Wool from scratch – create a flower brooch

With this technique you can create three dimensional embellishments by using roving and water soluble stabilizer.

You need:

- Roving in the colors of your choice
- Water soluble stabilizer
- Marking pen
- Fabric scissors (short blades and sharp end are good)
- Spring hoop
- hobby™ 350p Punching machine

Flower brooch

This way of needle felting can be used to create any three dimensional embellishment. Look in flower books for inspiration. The water soluble stabilizer gives you the opportunity to create anything from very delicate to more heavy embellishments.

Preparations

Draw an outline of a flower shape on the water soluble stabilizer with the marking pen. Hoop the stabilizer in the spring hoop. Place the hoop with stabilizer underneath the needle guard/cloth presser.

Loosen the needle guard screw and move the needle guard/cloth presser up or down until the indicator on the presser bar align with the best working height for your project.

The correct height for the needle guard/cloth presser prevents the project from lifting during the felting process and saves the needles from breaking. Tighten the screw.

Felting the roving in the hoop

Apply the roving. Pull an inch or two of the end of any color and lay on top of the drawn flower and use the shape as a guide. Start at the outer edges and needle felt roving to the stabilizer. Start at a slow speed, just tack lightly into place and then move over the entire roving piece.

Play and arrange colors as you move forward in the process. Use enough wool to cover the stabilizer, but avoid too heavy build-up.

Apply veins to the flower by twirling the roving. Keep each end of the twirled yarn tight with your hands and attach the vein in the shape you want them.

Use scissors to cut away the extended end at each vein.

When you are happy with your flower, use a new piece of stabilizer and draw a smaller flower shape and use the same technique.

Create a third layer by using the same technique, this one can be green like leaves or the color of the flower.

Finishing

Cut out the petals from the stabilizer.

Put the layers on top of each other and use the machine to felt them together.

Add some yarn in the center for an extra touch.

Tips

- Hold the roving up to the light to see the color combinations when you blend different colors.
- It is ok to go outside the outline edges but try to keep the shape as close to the original as possible.
- It is good to sometimes remove the hoop from the machine to feel the thickness of the wool with your fingertips. You can also hold it up to the light to clearly see which areas need more roving.
- If any of the veins stand out too much, needle felt a bit more roving over them to shade the color of the vein.