



Book Cover with 3D Flowers

Materials:

For the book cover:

- Book
- Wool fabric, size of the book, plus 10 cm (4") on each side and 2 cm ($\frac{3}{4}$ ") top and bottom (see illustration 1 on next page)

For the flowers, leaves, and other embellishments

- Needle-punch felt
- Knitting yarns
- Silver machine embroidery thread and pink sewing thread
- Unspun wool, for felting
- Glass beads

In addition:


- *hobby™ 350 p* Punching machine
- PFAFF® Sewing machine
- Fabric scissors
- Beading needle
- Straight pins
- Felting base or bamboo sushi mat
- Sponge
- Spray bottle
- Baby shampoo
- Small bowl

Cutting:

- 1) Cut the wool fabric so that it is approx. 2 cm ($\frac{3}{4}$ ") larger than the open book on the upper and lower edges and approx. 10 cm (4") wider on each side edge. (illustration 1)
- 2) Seam allowances are not needed, since this fabric doesn't fray.



Flowers:

- 1) The three-dimensional flowers are felted in place with the punching machine.
- 2) The needle-punch felt serves as the base.
- 3)  Needle-felt the first novelty knitting yarn onto the base in circles, working from the center out and leaving the center free!
- 4) Repeat with two or three other knitting yarns, always working in a circle and leaving the center free.
- 5) You will notice how each circle curves up and becomes firmer during the needle-felting process.
- 6) Needle-felt the desired number of flowers onto the felt base, leaving small spaces between flowers.
- 7) Cut out the flowers.


Leaves:

- 1) Set up your felting surface.
- 2) Pull off a piece of unspun wool, measuring approx. 2 cm ($\frac{3}{4}$ ") wide and 20 cm (8") long. Lay the wool on the work surface. Fill the spray bottle with hot water and a small amount of baby shampoo. Spray this mixture onto the piece of wool to dampen it.

- a)  **If you are using a sponge, work as follows:**


Roll the wool gently back and forth on the sponge to interlock the wool fibers and make the wool "cord" more compact.

Increase the pressure until the cord is as compact as desired.


- b)  **If you are using a bamboo sushi mat, work as follows:**

Lay the piece of wool on the mat and dampen it as previously described. Then fold the mat over the wool, with the wool lying along the fold.

Roll the mat back and forth, with only slight pressure at first, and then increase the pressure until the cord feels as firm as desired.

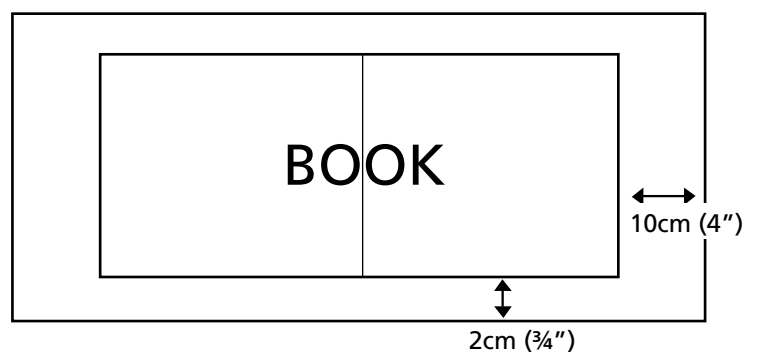
- 3)  **Now continue as follows for either a) or b):**

- 4) Spray the wool cord with the hot soapy water again and roll it in a tight ball in your hand. Roll it again on the felting surface, pulling felted sections apart (the fibers can be easily pulled apart).

- 5)  Cut small pieces of the felted cord, of various lengths. Roll them back and forth on the felting surface again to close the cut edges.

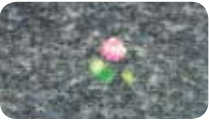
- 6) Rinse the "leaves" under running water and press them in a terry cloth towel. Lay the leaves in the desired form and let them dry.

Illustration 1







Embellishing the book cover:

- 1)  You will now use the punching machine to embellish the front side of the book cover. Lay each flower and leaves in the desired position. Needle-felt the upper end of each leaf in place. Lay short pieces of yarn and embroidery thread in the center of the flower and needle-felt only these threads in place, until the flower is firmly attached.
- 2) Attach all flowers and leaves in this manner.

Sewing:

- 1)  **Make a decorative cord to tie the book cover closed, as follows:**
- 2) Cut 3 or 4 pieces of novelty knitting yarn, each 60 cm (24") long.
- 3) Thread your machine with silver machine embroidery thread in the top and sewing thread in the bobbin.
- 4) Select zigzag stitch and adjust width according to the width of the yarn. Lay the pieces of yarn together under the presser foot, twisting them slightly together. Stitch over yarns with zigzag stitch. Continue twisting and stitching to the end of the yarn pieces.

- 5) Cut the resulting decorative cord in half and knot one end of each piece, approx. 1 cm (3/8") from the end. The end of each piece will be fluffed with a needle, later.
- 6) Fold the side edges in 10 cm (4") which will be the folded edges of the front and back cover. Punch a hole in the fabric on the fold, half way down the side. 
- 7) Now needle-felt the unknotted end of each cord to the inner side of the fabric, close to the
- 8) Run the decorative cords through the small holes, to the outside.

Finishing:

- 1) Fold in the side edges 10 cm (4") and pin the edges in place.
- 2) Working from the outer side, machine stitch the upper and lower edges closed.
- 3) Embellish the upper and lower edges with beads, as desired.
- 4) Sew beads to the knots on the ends of the decorative cords. Use a needle to fluff up the ends of the cords.

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