

Wet Felted Acorns

Step by step instructions for creating beautiful fall acorns



Supplies:

38G Felting Needle and felting surface
Core Wool
Short Fiber Wool Batt in your choice of color
Acorn Caps (Be sure they are free of dirt and insects)
Room Temperature water in a bowl
Liquid Dish soap
Heavy Bubble Wrap or Bamboo felting mat
Hot Glue
Optional
Drill with 1/8" size bit
Twine or ribbon



Start with a 6-8 inch length of core wool and a 38G needle



If your core wool is more than 2 inches wide, split it lengthwise so that each length is about 1-2 inches wide.



Take one length of wool and roll it **tightly** into a ball. (you want your core shape to be slightly smaller than the finished "nut" that will be topped with the acorn cap. My acorn caps are large, 2-3" in diameter)



Needle felt it lightly just so it holds its shape.



Wrap the ball of wool **tightly** with a second length of wool. Roll this length of wool perpendicular to the direction of the first length of wool.



Needle felt lightly to hold the shape.



I typically create multiple cores at once.



Wet each core in a solution of lukewarm water with a few drops of liquid dish soap. Be sure to wet completely.



Roll the wool ball in your fingers very gently. The shape should remain round. If you press too firmly it will flatten or distort.



Now add your colored wool layers to completely cover the core. Add just enough wool to just cover the white color of the core.



Wet the ball of wool again and add a tiny drop of soap to your palm. Again, begin to roll the ball in your hand very gently.



If you are pressing too hard, you will notice the color layer bunching up. Reduce your pressure and rewet if it starts to wrinkle or feel dry. Continue rolling until the colored layer of wool feels firm and can no longer be pinched away from the core.



If you are felting just a few acorns, you can now place them in a large plastic bowl with a lid (squeeze out most of the water first). Shake the bowl vigorously for several minutes in all directions to continue the felting process. I have added a couple plastic toys that will help speed up the felting process by further agitating the wool balls causing them to further felt and firm up.



If you are making a larger quantity, you can place them in a dryer with wool dryer balls or tennis balls. Set the dryer on low or no heat and run for about 10 minutes.



Once the wool balls feel firm to the touch, remove them from your bowl or dryer and rinse under cold water to remove all the soap. Then rinse with hot water followed by more cold water. This shocks the fibers and helps lock them into place better.



Squeeze as much water from the wool balls as you can and then roll them into an oblong shape.



Press between layers of a towel to take more water out. Then lay them out to dry. If it is a warm and sunny day, I will put them outside on a cookie sheet. Otherwise, they will likely need to dry indoors for at least 24 hours.



Preparing the acorn caps:

If you want to be able to hang the acorns, you can attach a loop of twine or ribbon to the cap. Start by drilling a hole near the top of the cap with a 1/8 size bit.



Tie a loop of twine.

Thread the twine through the cap from the inside using a bent wire as your "needle".

Be sure your knot is big enough that it won't pull through the hole.



Add a dollop of hot glue to the knot to secure it.

Then add a ribbon of glue around the inside edge of the cap. Press a wool ball into the cap and set aside to cool/dry.

Cap sizes vary, so try to match your wool ball size to a corresponding cap. I usually dry fit all the acorn balls to their caps first before starting to glue them.



That's it! You should now have a collection of beautiful acorns that you can use to decorate your fall table, mantel, or a fall wreath etc.

Wool and supplies sourcing

For felted acorns, I recommend our core wool and "MicroBattz" short fiber felting wool.

Fibers Of My Soul and Wooleyboogers Felt Creations now carry a wide variety of felting and spinning fibers, needle and wet felting tools and felting kits! If you would like to purchase fiber or felting tools for this and other projects, please contact us:

FibersOfMySoul@gmail.com or on Facebook/Instagram
WooleyboogersFelt@yahoo.com or on Facebook/Instagram

The Acorns used in this tutorial are from my Bur Oak Tree – the caps are typically 2-3 inches in diameter. Depending on the season, I may have acorn caps available for purchase! However, any acorn can be used.

Thank you for purchasing this tutorial! If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to reach out!

This tutorial was painstakingly created by small business owners and is intended for use by the purchaser only. If you loved this project, Thank you! Please tell your friends and share our contact information so they can purchase one too!