

Needle Felted Acorns

I am using acorn caps from a Bur Oak Tree in my Yard. You can use any type of acorns but these are large and have a fun "ruffled" edge that make them interesting.



This is an example of the acorn you will make!

You will need the following tools/supplies:

- a 36G or 38G needle for felting the core.
- a 40G needle for adding the top coat (colored wool) as this size needle will create a smooth surface and leave smaller holes.
- a felting mat/pad
- a hot glue gun for attaching the caps to the felted acorn nut.

****Optional**:** Drill with 1/8" size bit, Twine or ribbon

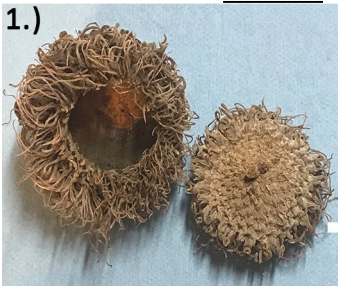


If you are collecting acorns for future projects here is what to look for. The nut portion will sometimes be gone but if not, wait until it is brown in color. You can then usually push it back and forth in the cap to loosen it. You may need to gently pry it out with a flat-head screwdriver. Be careful not to crack the cap!



Once the caps are empty, clean them a bit to ensure they are free of dirt and insects! I usually soak them in bleach water for 1-2 hours, then rinse and leave outside to dry in the sun.

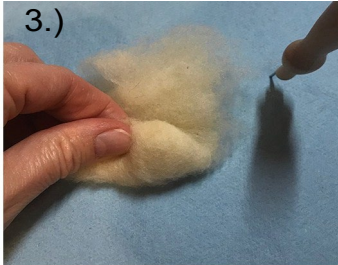
OK! now for the fun part!



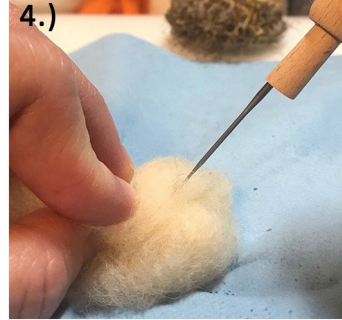
1.) Select an acorn cap. If you plan to make several at the same time, you may just want to look at your selection of caps to gauge the sizes of the acorns you will felt.



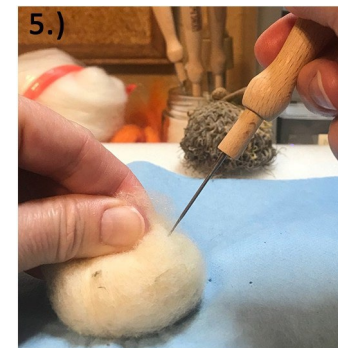
Start with 2-3 inches of core wool, depending on the size of the cap you're using. I use either a 36G or 38G needle to felt the core.



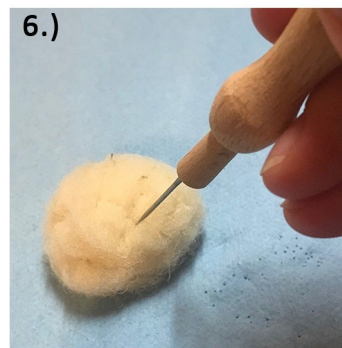
3.) Begin to roll the wool into a tight ball. You may want to stab the rolled portion a bit as you go to hold it in place.



4.) Keep stabbing the core until it begins to hold together.



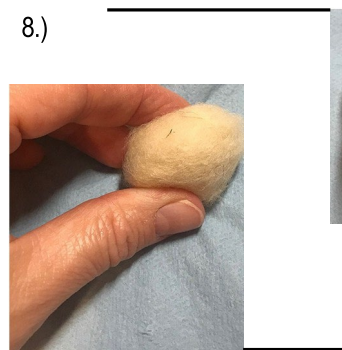
5.) As you get the ball shape started, roll the wool ball around and felt from all sides.



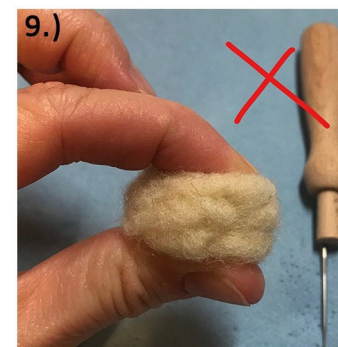
6.) Be sure to keep rolling and turning it over so you have an evenly felted shape.



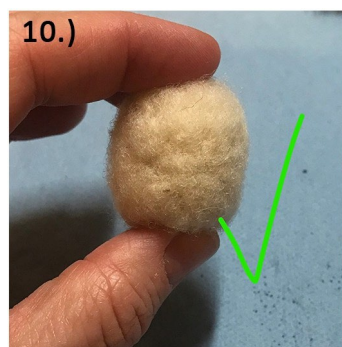
7.) It may help to roll the ball between your hands a bit to help get the shape just right. It should be somewhat oval or egg shaped.



8.) Check the firmness and make sure there aren't any flat or "too squishy" areas.

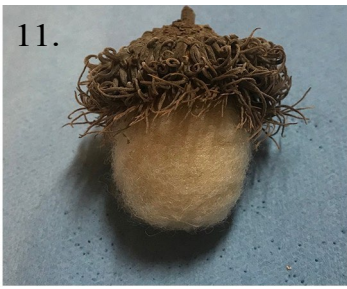


9.) This one is too "squishy"=)



10.) This one is "just right". It should be hard to squeeze between your fingers.

(this is somewhat subjective and not a rule. The ball can be as soft or firm as you like. But, a softer acorn may not hold up as well in the long run.)



11.

Check the fit. Add wool or keep stabbing as needed. (tip: leave the core slightly smaller than the planned finished size.



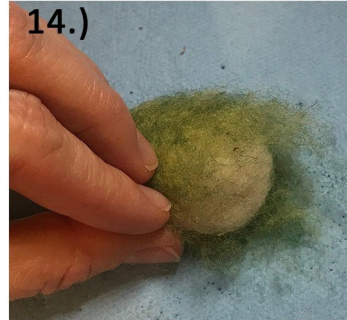
12.)

Pull off a bit of wool from the colored MicroBatz wool. Grasp the edge with one hand and pull gently.



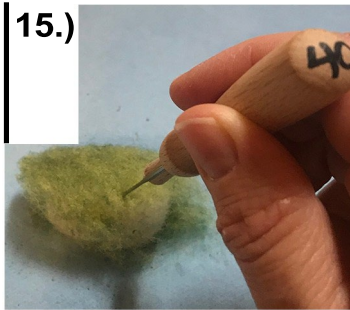
13.)

If it doesn't easily pull away, spread your hands farther apart on the wool.



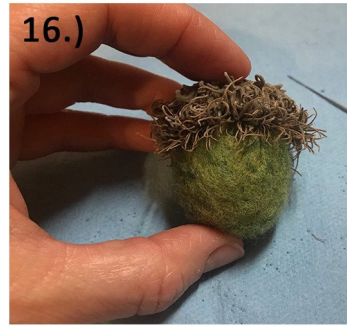
14.)

Lay the wool on your felting surface and wrap around the core evenly. Use just enough colored wool to cover the white core color.



15.)

Using your 40G needle size, felt the top coat color onto the core.



16.)

If necessary, add additional small amounts of your color until the core is completely covered. Felt until smooth and most of the "fuzzies" are gone. Check for size and adjust as needed.



Optional Steps:

Preparing the acorn caps for hanging:

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.



Attaching the Cap:

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.

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

Fibers Of My Soul now carries 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 visit FibersOfMySoul.com or email us at FibersOfMySoul@gmail.com

Wool and supplies sourcing

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 supporting my small business! If you have any questions about this tutorial or my products, please feel free to reach out to me through my website, FibersOfMySoul.com or on social media at [@FibersOFMySoul](https://www.instagram.com/FibersOFMySoul).

Happy Felting!
Treka