



# JO-ANNE BARR

## Textile Artist, Felter, Hat Maker, Educator, Farmer

Hi! I'm Jo-Anne (Jo) Barr – a textile artist, felter,

**hat maker, educator, and farmer based in  
Currabubula, rural NSW.**

**I specialise in creating unique, three-dimensional  
wool felt sculptures using Australian fibres. My  
passion lies in sculpting felt into vibrant, one-of-a-kind  
hats that are not only comfortable and practical, but  
also full of character. My work aims to blend  
craftsmanship with self-expression – creating  
wearable art that's both functional and deeply  
personal.**

**Felt is my language – and hats are how I tell stories of  
colour, character, and connection.**

I have been making hats for over 35 years and have been felting for 8 years. I am mainly self-taught through experimentation and focus on working with only Australian fibres including merino and polwarth wool, alpaca, possum and wallaby. I rely heavily on my Textile science background to experiment with the synergy between fibres, the felting process and sculpting techniques.

My education background enables me share my passion for the art of felt making and hat making in my workshops throughout Australia.

### Education

#### **Bachelor of Applied Science**

Specialising on Textiles and Food.

#### **Post Grad Diploma in Education**

#### **Diploma in Agriculture**

#### **Cert IV Training and Assessment**

#### **Courses**

Face-to-face and Online courses in hat making and felting with Zsophia Marx, Lina Stein, Dawn Edwards, Charity van der Meer, Lena Archibald and Neil Grigg.

Various on-line  
business development courses

### Awards

#### **Fleece to Fashion - F2F**

Established Designer Encouragement

#### **The Australian Sheep and Wool Show Bendigo - Woolcraft**

Placed in felted accessory in 2023 and 2024

#### **Local RAS Shows**

Numerous placings in local shows 2023, 2024 and 2025

#### **Entrant Henty Field Days Natural Fibres Competition**

2023, 2024 and 2025

Placed in felted accessory and Millinery classes in Walcha, Armidale and Tamworth Shows - 2023, 2024, 2025

### Exhibitions

#### **Festival of the Fleeces**

Merriwa Gallery 2023 - joint exhibition

#### **Ceramic Break Sculpture Park**

Warialda April - May 2025

#### **International Felters - Online Hats off Exhibition**

2024

#### **Workshops**

Felt workshops conducted in Victoria at the Centre for Rare Arts and Forgotten Trades 2024 and 2025

Various felt sculpture workshops in many locations across NSW, QLD, SA and WA.

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