



ONE OF THE TYPES OF CRAFT IS THE ART OF FELTING

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ABSTRACT

After Uzbekistan gained its independence, the restoration of national values and the application of their good traditions in modern life has become a topical issue. Today, at a time of rapid development of tourism in our country, foreign guests are very interested in national products, their types and patterns of decoration, their spiritual significance. However, at present, insufficient research has been conducted on the spiritual significance of Uzbek national patterns. Therefore, the systematization of gold embroidery patterns and the development of their spiritual significance is a topical issue.

While the study of the history of Uzbek national gold jewelry is the main task of qualified specialists, their systematization and styling, as well as their use in the artistic decoration of modern women's clothing is one of the most pressing issues today.

KEYWORDS: *Felting technology, felt, wool, soap solution, decorative items, environmentally friendly felting*

Felting (felting - English, from the German word felt) - is a special sewing technique of crafts, various large and small toys, decorative items, clothes or accessories are created from felt.



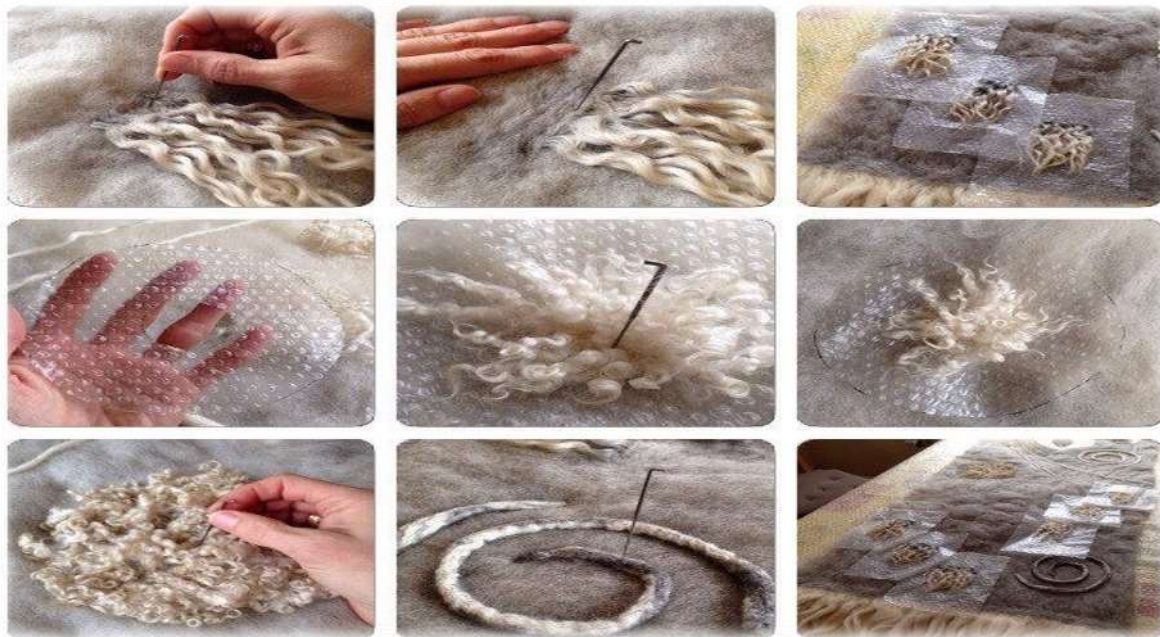


When creating a soft texture from felt, combining wool, silk and thread allows you to create different and wonderful works of beauty. Recently, due to the availability and ecological purity of the materials used, as well as the high aesthetic properties of the finished products, felt has become widespread throughout the world.

There are two types of wool felting - dry and wet. In dry felt, the wool is repeatedly pierced with a special needle until it is wet. In this process, the fibers stick together to form a dense and uniform material.

Wet soaking is done using soap or a special soapy solution. First, the woollen product is laid, moistened with a solution, and the felting process is carried out using friction.

Dry felt is used to create three-dimensional products such as toys, jewelry, figurines, designer dolls, as well as to apply drawings and patterns to felt crafts. Wet felt is suitable for making panels, clothes, in a word, flat products.



A variety of clothes created by felting technology is one of the favorite hobbies of fashionable and actively developing tailors. I want to talk about the history of this technique, what tools are used and what the finished wool products look like. Rest assured that felting is something everyone can do, and the amazing felting you see will inspire you to try this ancient but very modern technique.

Historical Perspective and Modern Development of Felting Techniques The history of wool felting is primarily associated with the settlers who first domesticated sheep. Natural wool has the ability to spin, that is, it can be shaped by felt. No other material can do this. The reason for this is that wool fibers have a layer of top layer. Under the influence of hot water and steam, pieces of wool fiber can stick together. However, the wool of the wild sheep almost does not roll, because it does not have a shell.

Scientists say that felting from wool is the most ancient way of creating textiles. But how did man guess that wool could be felt? The history of felting is also related to the legend of the Great Flood. It tells the story of how various animals, including sheep, were driven onto Noah's ark. They had to stay in small rooms, their hair falling on the floor they walked on. Pieces of wool occasionally fell under the hooves of the animals, and when the flood was over, the sheep were released, and the floor surface was covered with the first felt carpet.

Settlers were the first to appreciate the unique properties of felt. From housing, clothing (heels, coats and men's caps), interior items (carpets, rugs, pillows), livestock equipment (saddle parts, saddles and horse blankets, large felt bags for transportation, etc.) from containers (storage bags) and other small items, such as blankets for newborn calves.

People slept on felt, wore felt clothes, and horses were covered with felt blankets. Felt protected them from evil spirits and enemy arrows, saved them from heat and cold. They even used felt wool in blacksmithing and medicine (healing broken bones) and so on.

Felt appeared in Russia during the Mongol-Tatar yoke. Later, about two hundred years ago, in Russia, they learned to make felt boots from wool. Only in Russia, in addition to felt boots, felt clothes and hats were made, which were very popular.



The skill of wool felting has been passed down from generation to generation. Almost nothing has changed in felting techniques over the years. However, in our time, a new breed of sheep - merino - is being bred. They are famous for their fine and soft wool, which can be used to make very fine products.

Today, felting has become an interesting form of artistic expression. Felt artists even manage to invent new methods of felting wool. Felt accessories and felt decorations, clothes, felt pictures and toys have been in fashion for a long time. The combination of felt with ceramics, metal, glass becomes unexpected.

As for felt boots, their history in Russia began recently, about three centuries ago. The first Russian woolen products were bathing caps, hats and light shoes, which were called "chuni". The people who made them were called wool beaters in Russian.

The first mention of felt boots is found in the tale of Igor's march (12th century). But these shoes are cut and sewn. Valenki appeared in the form of one-piece felt boots only at the end of the 18th century in the Nizhny Novgorod region. However, residents of Myshkin, Yaroslavl region, claim that they were the first to make felt boots.

Initially, felt boots were very expensive, because there were few craftsmen who felt them, and the production technology was kept secret and passed down from generation to generation.

Valenki is protected and inherited. A young man in felt boots was considered an enviable groom in those days.

Royal men also wore felt boots. Peter I always demanded boots after his bath in winter. During the reign of Peter I, the production of felt boots was widespread. Catherine the Great also wore chesanki because her feet hurt. And Anna Ioannovna allowed her women to wear felt boots with formal dresses.

Lenin and Stalin in exile in Siberia also wore felt boots. Nikita Khrushchev spent his entire childhood in felt boots.

In winter, during the war, our soldiers wore only felt boots. Development of the northern regions was also impossible without felt boots.

Currently, boots are worn by units of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, Defense, Emergency Situations, various security forces, as well as fishing and hunting farms. White special scout boots were made for military intelligence at the same time.

In the last few decades, Russian winters have become milder and more slushy, so felt boots have been replaced by moisture-resistant shoes. However, people wearing felt boots can still be seen on the streets today. And for fashion designers, felt boots have become a hot topic of creativity.



I would like to share the personal experience of my colleagues and achieve professional enrichment on the example of making felt boots using the wet felting technique. In addition to the wet felting technique, in my creative work I use the dry felting technique, which allows you to create incredibly beautiful, voluminous products: toys, souvenirs, jewelry.

Selection of materials and tools

Different types of wool are used for felting. It should be noted that the quality of the finished product depends on the quality of the selected material.

A few years ago, it was almost impossible to find wool for felting in Russia, and this type of sewing was simply not available to many people. Now it is available in every sewing store, but its properties are different.

The best quality wool is produced by Australian and New Zealand merino, so it is especially valued among skilled felters. This wool can be used to make very fine art felt. Merino wool is the main type of wool used for felting.

Types of wool

1. *Sliver - guard hairless combed sheep's wool. It is used as a basis for felting. Put wool of a different color on top.*
2. *Tow - pile left after combing, consists of short hairs. It is used to create felt and also to stuff toys.*
3. *Semi-soft wool - felt wool with a diameter of 25 to 29 microns. It is widely used by fillers for dry and wet felting.*
4. *Fine wool - wool with a diameter of 19 to 25 microns. It is preferable to use semi-thin. Easier to roll, thinner products.*
5. *Up to 19 microns is the finest wool and the most expensive.*
6. *Vyblenka - bleached sheep wool, combed and stretched. Can be used as a base. Easily painted at home.*
7. *Camel - combed camel hair. Does not require a wool base.*
8. *Mahir (angora) - wool of angora goat. It can be used for decoration. It has a lovely silky sheen.*

Many other types of wool and animal hair are also used as felt additives, which allows you to achieve unexpected and wonderful results.

For example, silk or a mixture of wool and silk fibers, soybean fibers, bamboo fibers, nettle fibers, cotton, viscose, felt acrylic and other types of synthetic and natural fibers, angora rabbit, alpaca, llama, bison, dog hair.

Making products using the felting technique (for example, felt boots)

Before starting work, you should set yourself the following tasks:

- development of product design, which should be arranged according to shape, color, style;
- show your knowledge and skills in making felt boots modern and practical;
- Product analysis.

And now I am ready to share my experience with you, to tell in detail how to knit woolen microboots.

Materials and equipment needed for the production of felt boots:

- Wool for wet felting (80 - 100 gr),
- Packaging film (with explosive balls),
- Mosquito net or tulle,
- hot water,
- dishwashing detergent,
- pot,
- rolling stock
- Sponge for washing dishes.
- Needle for felting.
- Scissors.
- A pen and a sheet of paper.

CONCLUSION

Felting from wool requires a lot of perseverance and patience, but rewards the craftsman with excellent products. In my educational and pedagogical activities, I actively use "Felting", as a type of art and craft with deep roots, which does not require complex devices and rare materials, and is highly practical.

With the help of felt, you can dress, wear shoes and make the house comfortable. Felt boots and slippers, coats and vests, warm hats and funny hats, jewelry, toys, pictures. You're only limited by your imagination, and we know it's limitless.

I worked in felting technique for almost a year. What conclusions can I draw:

First, it is absolutely safe and environmentally friendly.

Second, it's very exciting. By creating a work, a person forgets his problems.

Thirdly, such work helps to develop creative abilities. From wool, you can make very simple (beads, flowers) and very complex (bags, paintings, panels, outerwear) products. Develops imagination. Any flower can be created from wool, it will be amazingly unique, because wool is as delicate as flowers. Woolen toys are very warm and cute.



Fourth, not only adults, but also small children can feel wool, for example, beads or thick ropes, from which you can make a toy (for example, a funny caterpillar or a butterfly) or an ornament - to develop motor skills very useful.

Fifth, it is very pleasant to work with wool - it is a soft, warm and lively material.

Seventh, it is useful from an economic point of view: for the family budget, this type of sewing is a real find.

In the classes, students voluntarily join the felting technique and participate in creative projects to create finished products, as a result of which they have the opportunity to decorate themselves, the environment, as well as make wonderful gifts for relatives and friends.

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