

INTRODUCTION TO FELT TECHNIQUES

2 DAY COURSE: Thursday 28th —Friday 29h July 2022

10am – 4pm

FEE: £112

including lunch and refreshments



TUTOR: Lisa Fretwell

Day one: Introduction to the course

To begin our workshop, there will be a short presentation about the history of felt making and the variety of techniques that are used. We will have a look at some well known artist's work as inspiration to begin the summer school.

Then during the remainder of the morning we will:

- Look at and handle some felt samples.
- Discuss equipment and materials.

We will spend the rest of the day, drawing the bird, briefly, to get an idea of what the basic shapes are. Then you will learn to create textures using different needles. Next, I will show you how to shape the felt to make wings and the wire to make the legs.

Day two: Needle felted bird

During the second day you will start making the final bird.

By the end of the day you will know how to:

- Make legs from wire and attach them to a ball to make a body
- Learn how to shape the needle felt
- Make eye holes and attach beads for eyes
- Display all the final pieces and discuss the results as a group

Materials required

Please bring the items listed below for the two-day summer school.

Materials for the felting process

- Notebook/sketchbook and pencils
- Images of a chick (or your chosen small bird) from different angles.
- An apron
- Small scissors

Felt specific materials

- About 100g merino wool tops in colours to match your bird, plus white to use as a base colour for all the pieces. I suggest that you select **4 colours** as a palette to use all week, including white and yellows if you would like to make the chick. (You may need more or less than this depending on your projects)
- An embroidery needle and threads
- A beading needle, transparent/coloured thread and a two black beads
- A felting block, sponge or a block of polystyrene
- Small fabric scissors
- A thimble if you have one

Optional

- A felting needle if you have one
- Multi-coloured craft feathers to attach to the bird's bottom!

Students can buy wool fleece directly from www.winghamwoolwork.co.uk, and other materials from local shops, or bigger stores such as Dunelm or any small sewing shop.