

Nuno Felted Patchwork Scarf

Here I'm using silk scraps. Other fabrics can be used as long as they are all of a similar weight and of a type that wool will migrate through.



On top of a sheet of bubble wrap, layout the merino wool in the width and length of the scarf, allowing for a third shrinkage .

Use a template with masking tape underneath the bubble wrap if it helps. I like to mark out the edge of the scarf with wool first and then fill in the rest.



Here I've used two layers, one going down the scarf and another going across. Make sure there are no thin spots. This scarf is 64 inches long and 10 inches wide before felting.



Chop up scraps of fabric of a similar weight. Here I'm using silk. I keep it reasonably geometric as it's easier to cut and piece together.

Lay the scraps out on top of the wool, with no gaps in between.



* Small pieces of very thick felt about the size if your thumb nail can be placed under some of the pieces of silk, this will create small bumps when its felted which makes a nice texture. This is best done underneath a plain piece of fabric as it's hard to see when done underneath a piece with a heavy pattern.



Place strips of wool over the joins between the silk/fabric and also go around the edge of the whole scarf.



I've also included a few embellishments on some of the plainer scraps of silk...this is up to you.



Cover the whole scarf with a net to stop the fibres from disturbance while you add soap and water.

Make sure the water isn't too hot as this will felt the wool too soon before it's had time to migrate through the fabric.



Make sure that the soap and water is pressed really well through all the layers of wool and fabric.



Remove the net and tease in any stray wool at the edges.



Cover with second sheet of bubble wrap. Don't forget that the bubbles must be touching the wool like little massaging fingers.



Place a foam tube at one end and roll your scarf, sandwiched between the bubble wrap, into a sausage shape.



Wrap in a towel and secure with ties.



Roll back and forth 100 times.

Unroll and place your foam tube at the opposite end of the scarf. Roll back up and secure. Roll for a further 100 times.



If your scarf passes the 'pinch test' then it is time to shrink your scarf (Fulling). First throw it down on your bubble wrap for a few minutes.

Take it to a sink and continue to throw using **hot water** and soap. You will see the silk/fabric begin to buckle up as the wool shrinks. When this happens it's probably ready to rinse in cold water. You have to use your own judgement at this stage as to how long you continue to shrink your scarf.



Pull back into shape and dry.

When dry iron on steam setting, on the wool side. This is because you don't want to completely flatten all the beautiful wrinkles on the fabric side.

Your scarf should now be complete.