

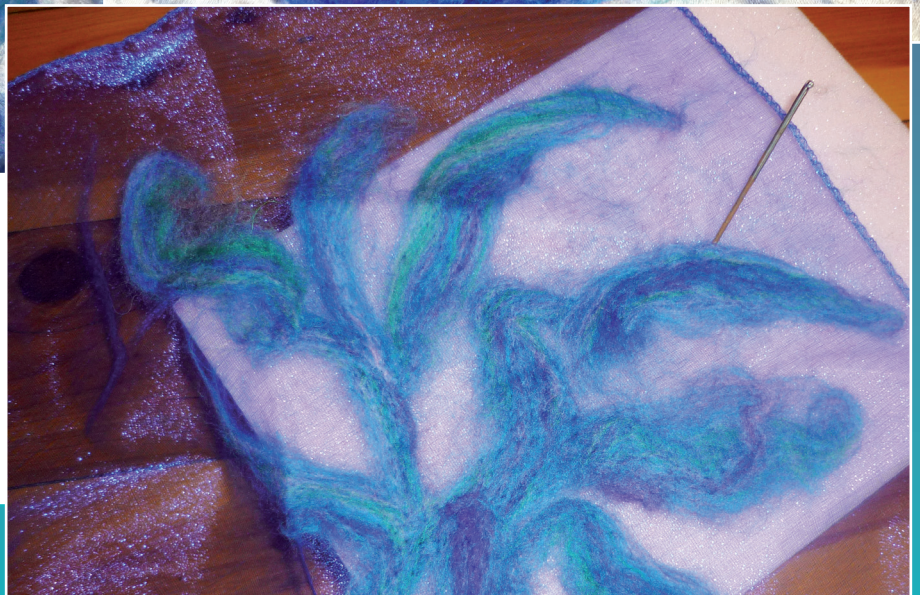
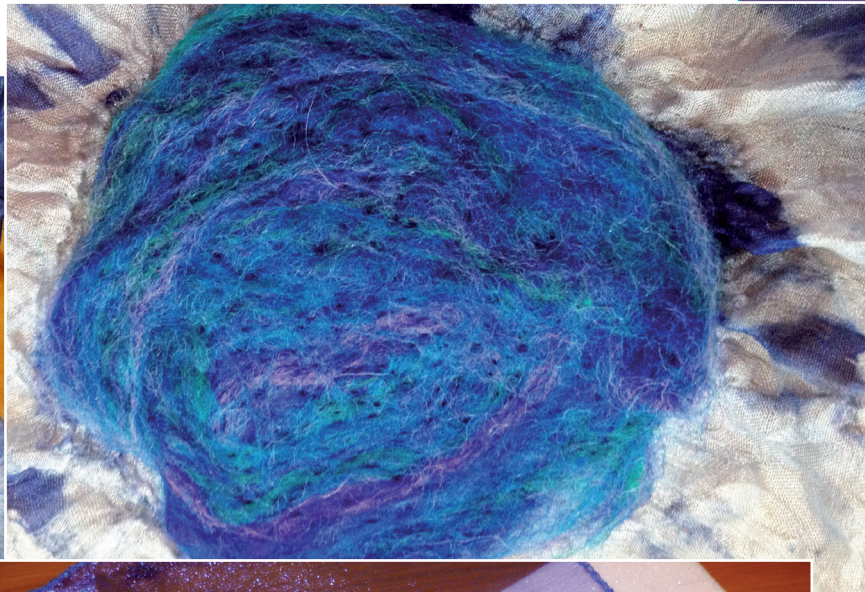
NEEDLE FELTING

Needle felting is a popular fibre art and craft activity that creates felt without the use of water. Special needles that are used in industrial felting machines are used by the artist as a sculpting tool. The “barbed” needles have notches along the shaft of the needle that grab the top layer of wool tops and tangle them with the inner layers as the needle enters the woolen felt. Since these notches face down towards the tip of the needle, they do not pull the fibres out as the needle exits the wool tops. Once tangled and compressed using the needle, the felted item will be strong enough to be used for creating jewellery or sculpture. Using a single needle, or a small group of needles (2-5) in a hand-held tool, fine details can be achieved using this technique, and it is popular for 2D and 3D felted work.

Place a piece of fabric over the felting block.

Sheer fabrics like organza work very well.

Place pieces of wool over the fabric and, using the felting needle push, the wool through the fabric. To finish you could further embellish with beading and machine or hand embroidery



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