

Feltmaking Surface and texture with Gill Brooks

WINTER 2 2 4 - 8 J U L Y





LEVEL: All levels

COST:

\$825 + 25 materials

Immerse yourself in a Winter week exploring colour, pattern and texture, incorporate unusual discarded and reclaimed textile/fabric ephemera to create unique and textural surfaces in felt.

This course will cover a variety of techniques including the use of pre-felts, resists and insertions, and the utilisation of a variety of materials to produce a collection of sample pieces showcasing a myriad of surface design and texture ideas and possibilities. Choosing 1 or 2 directions to explore further, apply your new skills to a project/s of your choice, be that vessel, bag, scarf, neck or jewellery piece.

Gill Brooks aka feltwilde is a fibre artist who has specialised in feltmaking for almost three decades.

Gill explores ways to create new surface designs and textures by incorporating her own off-cuts alongside reclaimed textile materials. It allows her to create unique felted surfaces with virtually no wastage. Gill's work has featured in felt textile books and magazines and sold in galleries and artisanal stores around NSW, including The Australian Design Centre in Sydney.

- Winter School runs for 5 days, Monday 4th Friday 8th July
- Classes are held from 9am to 4.30pm
- Classes finish at 2pm Friday followed by walkaround exhibiton 2-4pm
- Morning tea is provided
- Accommodation and Dining hall lunch packages available

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Feltmaking

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MATERIALS LIST

Please bring with you:

Felting kit:

Essentials

- 3 x lengths of bubble wrap
 - 1 piece: 50cm x 3m
 - 2 pieces: 75cm x1m (Officeworks)
- 1 x plastic container with a handle (cordial bottle or similiar) with holes punched in the lid for wetting the felt or alternate means of wetting down wool from a spout. (holes can be punched in class)
- 1 x adjustable plastic spray bottle/plant mister (supermarket/bunnings)
- nylon netting similiar sizing as bubble wrap or smaller pieces which can be used overlapped to cover your laid out wool and keep it in place whilst it's being wet down (old nylon curtains at op-shop or for new netting try spotlight)
- cake of soap preferably olive oil
- 2 x scissors for fabric & smaller pair with sharp tip
- shallow plastic tub or bucket with firm hand (to carry felt to sink)
- 3 x old bath/beach towels
- ruler
- thick marker/texta
- 600gms 1kg merino wool fibre (can range in micron from 17 22) in a range of colours. Some will be used for sampling so leftover wool fibre could be used, think about colours you'd like to use for your project of choice. Wool fibre will also be available to buy from the tutor in class.

Optional

- 3 x 50cm to 1mtr lengths of dowel or plastic piping of varying widths. Starting from dowel size up to approximately 10cm in width or anywhere in between - tutor will bring some but handy to have in your own kit
- other wool and fibres (silk/mohair/), scraps of sheer fabrics printed and plain, cotton
 and/or silk (tissue silk/georgette/muslin/voile/cheesecloth etc) op-shop finds (scarves/
 textiles/open weave knits) various natural fibre yarns. Anything you're drawn to that
 you'd like to experiment with and if you're unsure, bring it anyway. Tutor will be supply
 some of these and will be included in your material fees.
- knitting needles or crochet hook sizes 10mm and up and natural fibre yarns
- wear work clothes and flat shoes
- apron for wet work
- small selection of 'pre-felts' off-cuts or sample packs
 - list of suppliers for the wool tops and/or 'pre-felts: www.silksational.com www.fibrefusion.com.au www.kraftkolour.net.au www.treetopscolours.com.au
- mug for morning tea and water bottle

