

Fleecewood Felting Needle Selection Guide

Variations in the frequency, size and spacing of barbs, and differences in needle length and diameter (Gauge) make certain needles better suited to particular fibre types and stages of the felting process than other needles. There are 16 different needles in the Fleecewood range, which ensures an appropriate needle for a wide variety of handcraft situations, including felting coarse, medium and fine wools and other fibres of similar diameter; joining and thickening felt; sculpting; and adding fibre embellishments to felt and fabrics. Fleecewood felting needles are colour coded for easy identification using the internationally recognised WIZPICK system. The table will help you select the most appropriate needles for your project.

Colour	Length (inches)	Gauge	Barbs	Recommendations	Comments
Dynamic Needles Fast needles for coarser fibres such as cross-bred wools (Lincoln, Leicester and Romney), mohair hair, linen and hemp					
Lime	3.5	32	3 x 3 x 3	Very fast action for quick securing of fibres in thicker batts and 3-D projects. Leaves pronounced puncture marks.	Must change to Everyday needles once felting starts to cause penetration resistance to avoid needle breakage.
Green	3	36	3 x 3 x 3	Fast action for quick securing of fibres in thinner batts and 3-D projects. Leaves pronounced puncture marks.	Must change to Everyday needles once felting starts to cause penetration resistance to avoid needle breakage.
Everyday Needles for hardening and sculpting coarser fibres and early stage felting of medium fibres such as fine Romney, Corriedale, alpaca					
Pink	3	32	3 x 3 x 0	Moderately fast, general felting and sculpting needle for coarse wools and early stage felting of medium.	Make use of asymmetric action for sculpting and working horizontally in flat felt.
Red	3	36	2 x 2 x 2 x 2	Moderately fast, needle excellent for hardening and shaping 3-D projects.	Excellent general purpose needle for coarse wools. 4-sided star needle designed to penetrate firmer felt, so less chance of breakage when hardening felt.
Mauve	3.5	36	2 x 2 x 2	Moderate action useful for hardening and sculpting, but not so fast as Red. Longer needle useful for deep felting in some 3-D projects.	Similar to the felting needle sold by Ashford Handicrafts Ltd.
Peach	3	38	2 x 2 x 2 x 2	Slightly finer, moderately fast, general hardening and sculpting needle particularly suitable for medium wools.	Excellent general purpose needle for medium wools. 4-sided star needle designed to penetrate firmer felt, so less chance of breakage when hardening felt.
Burgundy	3.5	38	2 x 2 x 2	Moderate action, general felting and sculpting needle for medium wools and early stage felting of some fine wools.	Very popular needle for felting corriedale.

Colour	Length (inches)	Gauge	Barbs	Recommendation	Comment
Companion Needles for working with fine fibres such as Merino, Polwarth, angora, silk, soy silk, Tencel and Ingeo					
Brown	3	40	3 x 3 x 3	Fastest of the fine needles for early stage felting of fine wools, and sculpting and hardening medium wools. Leaves obvious puncture marks.	Change to slower fine needle when penetration resistance occurs to avoid breaking needle
Cream	3.5	40	2 x 2 x 2	Moderately fast, fine needle for hardening and sculpting fine fibres. Especially good for Merino.	Take care as fine needles break more easily
Yellow	3.5	40	2 x 2 x 2	Moderate action fine needle for finishing coarse wools and hardening and sculpting finer fibres.	Take care as fine needles break more easily
Gold	3	40	3 x 3 x 0	Moderate action needle for general felting of fine fibres	Make use of asymmetric action for sculpting and working horizontally in flat felt. Fine needles break more easily.
Orange	3	40	2 x 2 x 2	Narrow depth range and small barbs for shallow depth felting and finishing, attaching veneers and delicate fibres.	Take care as fine needles break more easily
Delicate Needles					
White	3	42	2 x 2 x 2	Moderate action, but very fine needle for Merino and other delicate fibres including silk.	Bends and breaks easily. Avoid sideways pressure.
Grey	3	42	1 x 1 x 1	Finest finishing needle for surface felting of fine wools including attaching veneers, delicate fibres and minimising puncture marks.	Particularly delicate needle creates smoothest surface texture in fine fibres, but is also slow.
Special Purpose Needles for making looped embellishment textures					
Blue	3	32	8 x 0 x 0	Action concentrated on one edge, makes this needle ideal for attaching coarse and medium fibres in loops using the "stitching" technique. Needle too coarse for fine fibres.	Prone to breaking when sideways pressure is applied.
Aqua	3	40	6 x 0 x 0	Action concentrated on one edge, makes this needle ideal for attaching fine fibres in loops using the "stitching" technique.	Bends and breaks easily. Be extra careful about applying sideways pressure.

Warning: • Felting needles have very sharp points. Take care not to prick yourself, because it hurts and can draw blood.

- Felting needles break easily if used incorrectly. Use only soft, penetrable surfaces under your work, and never apply sideways pressure to the needle.
- Store needles in an airtight container with dehydrated silica gel. Needles can be used effectively in wet felting situations but need to be dried thoroughly after use.