

**GEEK
& CO.
CRAFTS!**

INSTRUCTION MANUAL

FELTING BAKESHOP



THAMES & KOSMOS



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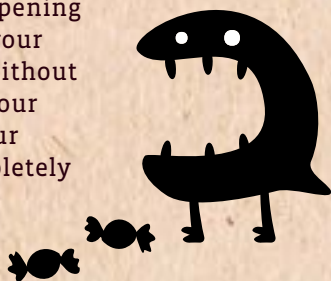


- | | | | |
|---|---------------------------------|----|-------------------|
| 1 | Balls of felting wool (6) | 8 | Sewing thread |
| 2 | Felting needles (2) | 9 | Foam platform |
| 3 | Polystyrene disks (2) | 10 | Wooden sticks (2) |
| 4 | Polystyrene balls (2) | 11 | Hair elastics (2) |
| 5 | Foam rubber sheet | 12 | Hair clips (2) |
| 6 | Multicolored glass beads (10 g) | 13 | Felt pieces (4) |
| 7 | Sewing needle | | |

YOU WILL ALSO NEED: Empty egg carton, clear plastic wrap, multicolored ribbons, paper candy cup, ruler, scissors, craft glue, old newspaper, pin, sweater (not too coarse knitted material made of wool or cotton, or fleece), sturdy thread, beads, felt-tip marker, tape

Dear Felt Confectioner,

Do you love sweets? Have you always dreamed of opening your own candy shop or bakery where you can be your own best customer? The time has finally come — without any risk to your teeth! This kit will let you create your own fantasy world of sugar out of wool felt. Let your imagination run free. Maybe you'll discover a completely new kind of candy and name it after yourself!





SAFETY INFORMATION

WARNINGS.

Not suitable for children under 3 years. Choking hazard — small parts may be swallowed or inhaled. This kit contains functional sharp needles. Do not injure yourself!

Keep the packaging and instructions as they contain important information.

Dear Parents,

This kit will teach your child simple techniques for making felted models of baked goods and candies. Whether it's a head-turning hair clip or something to stock a home-made candy store, there are plenty of super-sweet ideas!

The felting needles are very sharp, and pose a risk of injury if handled incorrectly. Be sure to **help your child with the first experiments, and only let your child start working alone once you are sure he or she has mastered the technique.** Felting with needles naturally requires a little patience. Encourage your child not to give up right away. It is completely natural for beginners to need a little time before they see a satisfying result.

Some of the craft ideas require sewn-on decorations. Help your child if he or she hasn't yet acquired enough experience with needle and thread.

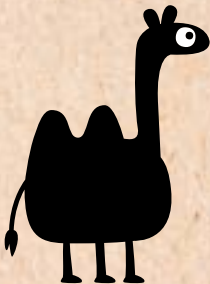
As a work area, a sturdy, well-lit table that can take a little abuse will be suitable. Some thick cardboard will offer extra protection from scratches. Do not let the craft materials get into the hands of small children! The **completed felt candies** are not baby playthings either, and they should be **kept out of reach of children under 3 years old**, so they don't put these felt objects in their mouths thinking that they are real sweets.

**We wish all of you sweet
tooths, young and old
alike, lots of fun in felting
candy land!**

PART 1

LET'S GET BaKiNG!

Felting is a very old craft that people have used for over **5,000 years** to make warm textiles. It was probably invented by **Asian nomads** — in other words, by people who moved around with their animals instead of living in one fixed place. From felt, they made not only **warm clothing**, but **tents** and **carpets** as well. Then, along caravan trade routes, the knowledge of felting was spread far and wide to foreign lands.



By the traditional method, wool and other animal fibers were processed by the technique of **wet felting**. In that technique, water and soap are applied to the wool, which is then vigorously

kneaded and rubbed. That causes tiny plates on the surface of the wool fibers to stand up and hook into each other. Over time, a solid material is formed.

This kit will teach you a more modern felting technique known as **needle felting**. The special needles you will be using, which are included in the kit, have tiny barbs all around the tip.

When you stick the needles into wool, their barbs pull the individual wool fibers along with them as they go in. That causes those fibers to get tied up with the surrounding wool fibers and stick together. Gradually, a solid mat is created out of the loose wool.

In this kit, we will be introducing you to an awesomely wild, crazy, and colorful world of felt. On the opposite page, take a look at the candy shop with shelves just waiting to be filled. Draw your favorite sweets or invent your own. Don't forget to give them a name, too!

**Grab your
needles, get set,
let's go!**

Open up your Candy shop!
Draw your very own sweets
on the empty shelf spaces.
Don't forget to name them!



SHOP



PART 2

FELTING CaNDieS

Felt lollipop

The first sweet for our shop will be a tasty lollipop. These candies on a stick have been around for over 80 years. So even your grandparents probably enjoyed them!

You will need:

Polystyrene ball, wooden stick, felting wool, felting needles, empty egg carton, clear plastic wrap, colorful ribbons

Here's how:

- 1 First think about what color you want your lollipop to be and pick out the matching color of felting wool. Then take the **polystyrene ball** and wrap a piece of colored **felting wool** once completely around it so you can't see any white areas.

Then stick the ball between the prongs of an empty egg carton. That way, you won't have to hold the ball while felting, and you won't accidentally stick yourself in the finger.

- 2 Now grab the thicker felting needle and begin felting the wool. To do that, stick the



needle forcefully through the wool again and again into the polystyrene ball at a specific location.

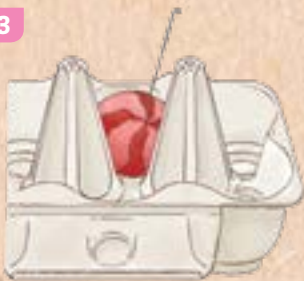
After a little while, you will notice that the wool is getting thicker and stiffer at that spot. When no more wool fibers are sticking up, rotate the ball a little and continue felting right next to the first location.

Keep going like this until your hands get tired or until the ball is completely covered with a stiff layer of felt. If any polystyrene is showing through, simply pull a little more felting wool off the wad, lay it over the white spot, and felt away.

2



3



4



3 If you like, you can also try laying **different colors** of felting wool on the ball and felt them into place. For this “finishing touch,” use the **thin felting needle**.

4 Now insert the **wooden stick**, pointed-end-first, into the felt ball. You can first paint it white if you like. Ta-da! Your lollipop is done!

To make it look just like a real lollipop from a candy shop, you will still need to wrap it nicely. Just take a little clear plastic wrap and wrap it around the felt ball. Pinch and twist the plastic wrap around the stick, and tie a loop around it. Does that not look totally delicious or what?



TIP!

Instead of the polystyrene ball, you can also try using a polystyrene disk to make a big flat lollipop. How about making a red-and-white spiral design? For felting the disk, take a look at the cookie instructions on page 7.

Felt pralines

You will need:

Polystyrene ball, felting wool, felting needles, colored glass beads, sewing needle, sewing thread, empty egg carton, paper candy cup

Here's how:

- 1 Start by completely covering the ball with brown or cream-colored wool as described on pages 4 and 5. Then continue with the second wool color: Pluck off a few fibers and roll them into a long, thin tube shape.

Then, starting at the very top of the ball, arrange the tube in a spiral on the ball. Try to press it in so it doesn't move.

- 2 Now proceed to felt the tube into place. The thin felting needle will work best for this. Begin at the top and push the needle through both layers of felt into the polystyrene ball beneath.

- 3 Once your wool spiral has been felted into place, you just need your paper candy cup to make it look completely authentic!



TIP!

Sew on some beads to add sugar sprinkles!



TIP!

Are you having a hard time deciding on a flavor? No problem. Just make a two-sided cookie — one side with chocolate and the other with jelly!



Tasty cookies

Are you just as crazy about cookies as the Cookie Monster? Then you're really going to love this felting idea!

You will need:

Polystyrene disk, felting wool, felting needles, foam platform

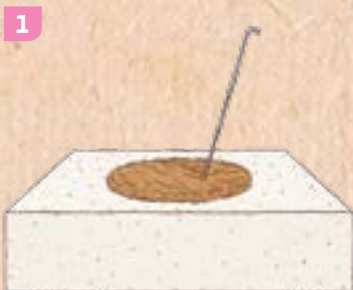
Here's how:

- 1 Felting a cookie is just as easy as making a lollipop. Start by wrapping the polystyrene disk in light brown wool. Again, make sure there's no white showing through.

Place the disk on the foam platform and stick the thick felting needle through the wool again and again until all the fibers are well connected.

- 2 Now it's time to give your cookie one more special flavor twist. How about some little **chocolate chips** made of dark brown wool, or a **dab of jelly** made of red wool?

Just pluck off a few fibers of the appropriate color and place them on the cookie. Work with the thin needle to felt the fibers into the light brown wool.



A bag of candies

How about making a bag of colorful candies like the ones you would buy at an old fashioned candy shop?

You will need:

Pieces of felt, foam rubber sheet, sewing thread, ruler, pencil, scissors, craft glue, old newspaper, pin

Here's how:

- 1 There will definitely be room in your bag for some good old-fashioned **hard candy**. To make some, take the pieces of felt and cut out rectangles 5 cm by 4 cm in size. Cut a zig-zag pattern into each of the narrow edges.

Next, look for an old sheet of newspaper and tear off little pieces and wad them up into balls the size of a marble.

Here's where things get a little tricky. You might want to ask a friend to help. You will be wrapping one paper ball in each of the felt rectangles. Be sure that the zig-zag edges are visible on the sides and that they don't get wrapped up too.

Cut two short pieces of thread and tie them on either side of the wrapped-up paper ball. Cut off any extra thread right next to the knot, and your candy is ready!

- 2 To make a yummy **layered candy**, use the four colored felt pieces and the foam rubber sheet. Cut pieces 2 cm by 2 cm in size from each of the individual sheets. Glue them together in groups of three using craft glue. Combine the colors however you like to create all kinds of flavors!



TIP!

If no helping hand is available, try holding the felt rectangles together with a pin while you tie the thread tight.

1



3 Even though **gummy candies** may have a tendency to stick in your teeth, there's no denying how tasty they are. How about making some gummy snails? Cut thin strips (about 1/2 cm in width) from two colors of felt. Apply a super-thin layer of glue to both strips, stick them together, and roll them up tightly. Ta-da! Your gummy snail is ready!

2



3



Super donut

What's round, sweet as sugar, has a hole in the middle, and is the favorite snack of cops? That's easy — a donut. Of course, it's an absolute must-have item for our bakeshop.

You will need:

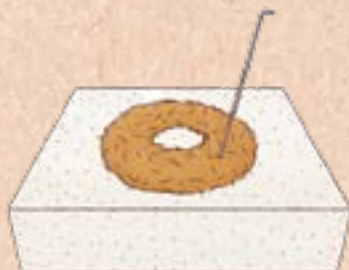
Felting wool, foam platform, pieces of felt, colored glass beads, sewing needle, sewing thread, scissors, ruler

Here's how:

- 1 Place the thick foam platform on the table and cover it with a circle of **light brown felting wool**. That will be the ring of dough for your donut. Now grab the felting needle and felt the first layer of wool into a solid ring. Correct the shape as you go to make sure the donut and the hole in the center stay nice and round.
- 2 Next, put some more wool on the ring, but **don't pull it all the way to the edge**. Felt this layer into place. Continue like this until your ring of dough grows nice and fat at the top. The top side of your donut is now done.
- 3 Make a second, equal-sized ring using the same technique. The next step will be to connect the two halves together to create a nice, thick donut.

To do that, place the two rings of felt one on top of the other. The surfaces that were touching the foam platform are the faces that should touch each other when you combine the halves. Insert the felting needle through both rings **along the edges** until they are firmly connected. Try to avoid sticking the needle through the thicker areas, or the donut will get flatter again.

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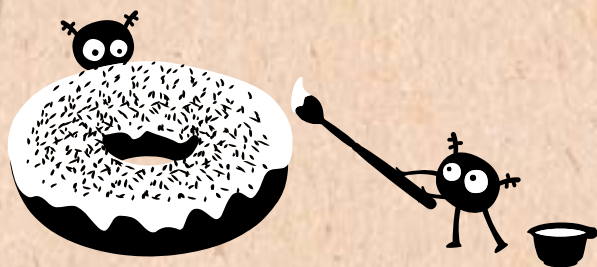


3



- 4 Now the donut will need a coating of icing. Search through the **pieces of felt** for a “yummy” color. Cut out a ring that is a little smaller than the donut. Don’t cut it too perfectly. Give the **outside of the ring a wavy edge**, to make it look like the icing is running down the sides. The hole in the center of the ring should be the same size as the hole in the donut.

If you like, you can sew a few **beads** from your kit securely onto the icing. Those will be the tasty-looking sprinkles.

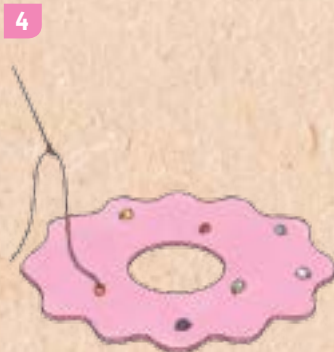


- 5 Cut off a piece of sewing thread about 40 cm in length, and thread it through the eye of the needle. Tie a fat knot in the end of the thread. Insert the needle through the edge of the icing from the rear.

Place the icing on the donut. Now, insert the needle through the “dough” and come back out again a little to the side of the first stitch. Continue like that until you have stitched around the entire ring of icing.

- 6 Finally, make a few stitches in the same spot to **bury the thread** as shown in the picture. Now it’s the inside edge’s turn.

Your delicious felt donut is now done. But please refrain from biting into it, no matter how tasty it looks!



PART 3

Sweet ACCESSORIES

A frosty pouch

A summer without ice cream? Unimaginable! So of course you'll need some frozen treats in your candy store. Our ice cream cone doesn't just look great, it's also useful!

You will need:

Felting wool, felting needles, foam platform, pieces of felt, colorful glass beads, sewing needle, scissors, thin felt-tip marker

Here's how:

1 First of all, you will have to felt the ice cream cone. Draw a **pointed triangle** on the foam rubber piece. Just be sure not to make it larger than your foam platform. That will be your **template** for the ice cream cone.

Cut out the template — but be careful! You want to cut away the **inner portion**, leaving the frame around it intact.

2 Lay the template over the foam platform. Fill the opening with light brown felting wool, and start felting. The template ensures that your felt shape will have nice straight edges. Keep felting until the triangle is nice and solid and evenly thick.

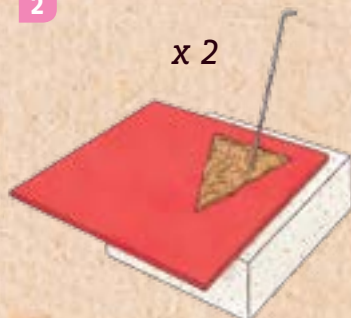
TIP!

You can use this template technique to felt any shape you like!

1



2



Wherever the mat of felt is too thin, simply add a piece of felting wool and felt it on. Once you're done, felt a **second triangle** just like the first.

- 3** All done? Now it's time for the **dark brown felting wool**. Pluck off a few fibers and roll them into three thin felt tubes. Lay these at a slant over the light brown felt and work them in well with the felting needle.

The dark brown felt strips are intended to create the typical waffle-cone pattern. But you still need three more strips to run across them. So roll three more felt tubes, lay them across the first three strips, and felt them into place. Do the same with the second triangle.

- 4** Of course, you will also need some tasty scoops of ice cream to go inside your ice cream cone. They are super-easy to create using our **pieces of felt**. Use the felt-tip pen to draw the shapes on two different-colored felt pieces. Make sure to make them the right size to fit your cone! Then cut out both scoops.

- 5** Start by sewing the partly-melted scoop onto the wider end of your triangle. Then it's the second scoop's turn. Finally, sew a few bead sprinkles securely onto the round scoop. And that completes your refreshing summertime snack made of felt!

>>> **Continue reading on page 14!**

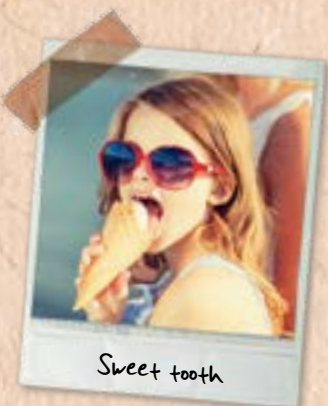
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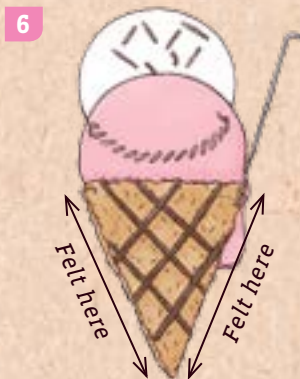
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4



- 6 But hold on a minute — what about the second triangle? We will need that to make a little purse or pouch out of the ice cream cone. Grab your felt cone with the ice cream scoops and turn it over. Place it on the foam platform. Now lay the second cone precisely over the first and use the felting needle to **felt** the pieces together along the left and right **edges of the waffle cone**. Your very own personalized ice cream cone is finally ready. Perfect for keeping your change in!



Felting cool designs

You can use the felting technique to spice up a boring old sweater or sweatshirt! First ask your parents to be sure you have permission.

You will need:

Foam rubber piece, felting wool, felting needles, foam platform, colored glass beads, sewing needle, sewing thread, *thin felt-tip pen*, scissors, colorful ribbons, sweater (not too coarse a weave, made of wool, cotton, or fleece), tape

Here's how:

- 1 Start by thinking of a **design** to liven up your sweater. In our example, we'll be felting a piece of candy. Of course, you can choose whatever design you like. Let your imagination run wild!

Draw the design with a felt-tip pen on the **foam rubber sheet**. Then carefully cut it out as described on page 12.

- 2 Next, you will have to think about the spot on the sweater where you want to attach your design. Put on the sweater and stand in front of a **mirror**. Hold the template in various locations to see where it looks the coolest.



Once you have decided, mark the spot by sticking a **frame made of tape** around the template. Have a friend help you if necessary.

- 3** Take off the sweater again and spread it out flat on the table. Place the **foam platform** inside your sweater, exactly under the spot you marked with tape. Then take your template and place it in the center of the frame of tape.

Lay some of your **favorite felting wool** in the template and start felting. If the color of the sweater still shows through at any spot, just add a little wool there and work it in. Finally, pull the template off the sweater, take out the foam platform, and remove the tape. Your new, improved sweater is ready to take out on the town!

2



3



TIP!

We sewed nifty little bows onto the candy and added a few beads as well. You can do that too!

Important: Please wash your decorated article of clothing by hand or using the washing machine's gentle cycle.

Sweet jewelry

Have you felted too many things for your shop to hold? No problem. We have some ideas for turning your felt candies into other neat things!

You will need:

Felt candies, hair clips, hair elastics, sewing needle, various beads, sturdy sewing thread, scissors, craft glue

Here's how:

1 Candy necklace: What's a nice outfit without some jewelry to go with it? With your felt candies and a few beads, you can create a nifty necklace in the blink of an eye. Just cut off a piece of thread long enough to let you put the necklace over your head once it's completed, and thread it through the eye of the needle.

Next, slide beads and candies onto the thread one by one. Once all your pieces are threaded on, pull the thread out of the needle and tie the ends.

2 Hair elastic and clip: Simply attach your favorite candy piece to a hair clip with a drop of glue, or sew it onto a hair elastic with a few stitches of thread! In no time, you'll have a hair decoration to go with your necklace.



Candies as far as the eye can see



1





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