

208-3

Barbara Crawford creates fabric using the nuno felting technique.



3 Techniques to manipulate and create fabric in 1-2-3 easy steps for fashions and accessories

Supplies: Nuno Felting

Silk chiffon very loose weave (3.5mm -8 mm)

Bubble wrap (not large bubbles)

Nylon tulle, fine mesh as for wedding veils

Palmolive dishwashing liquid (green original)

Rubber bands

Swimming pool noodle for larger projects

Pipe insulators for smaller projects

Various wool roving

Spray bottle

Yarns , ribbons , sari silk thread , sari silk ribbon, angelina mylar fibers(just about anything you want to throw in)

Old towel

Nuno Felting : #1

1. Lay out the bubble wrap with the bubbles up , lay the silk on top of the bubble wrap .
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2. Using random design or deliberate artwork , start pulling the wool roving and placing it on the silk , the heavier you layer the silk the heavier the piece will be , so take care here. You can put in vines or leaves , flowers or just throw it on !
 3. Once the first layer is put on , then put on other fibers and threads and Angelina
 4. Final layer is small wisps of wool and neutral color , you must put these wisps on things that won't work through the silk which is just about everything else , that way it is trapped und the wisps of wool and those wisps will make their way through the silk.
 5. Once everything is the way you want it , place the nylon tulle over your work , this is your sandwich now the tulle holds everything in place .
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6. Mix warm water with Palmolive 2 parts water 1 part soap into a spray bottle , spray your piece so that it is all wet , all the way through the bottom piece but not so much that your swimming in it.
7. Roll the entire piece on to the noodle or pipe insulator , and using about 10 rubber bands , secure the nuno tube you just rolled , the more rubber bands the better chance of not shifting on the inside.
8. Put on some lively music and start rolling , you need to roll your piece about 250 rolls the first time , use plenty of pressure , and agitation along with the soap and water these are the 4 basics you need .



9. Stop and check your roll , unroll it and then start to gently remove the tool , if it is starting to stick that means it is working . Pull it off completely and then put it back into place , (if your tulle is not sticking

at all then you are not adding enough pressure and you have to start again)If the tulle is sticking so much that you are having a difficult time then you rolled too long without checking in between , or maybe you have a lot more pressure , so be aware of it .

10. Re-roll it up on the noodle and start rolling again , do another 250 to 350 rolls , as long as you are adding pressure and agitation to push everything through.
11. Unwrap the roll again , remove the tulle and turn it over to check to see if the fibers are coming through the back , if they are and there is plenty coming through the back then you are done if not then get rolling.



12. Take the finished piece to the bathtub and rinse out the soap with warm water , remove excess water in towel, now , start throwing it , throw it against the wall or the bath tub itself , every time it flies through the air and hits the surface it is shrinking to make a permanent home on that silk , once it' crinkled enough and you do want anymore shrinking the stop and hang dry , actually you can add your beads right now during the drying process, so that it tightens around the thread . Now hand dry !

<http://www.crawforddesigns.net/catalog/catalog.php?item=179&catid=56&ret=catalog.php%3Fcategory%3D56>



Ruching your silk: #2

Optional : Simplicity's Needle Felting machine

By Hand supply list :

3" thick foam

Large multi needle tool (link: <http://www.crawforddesigns.net/catalog/catalog.php?category=62>

Silk Dupioni (JoAnns)

If using the machine remove 5 needles for this and work with only 7 , you can create rows and patterns in the silk dupioni. If done on machine its not necessary to to wash , but if you would like to take the sizing out and create a soft feel then follow the next step.

If using the by hand method : place the silk on the foam base , then just punch , punch punch !
Once you are done , just take it and throw it in the washer with warm water and soap , then a really hot dryer , this will create a soft elasticized fabric .

Steam iron the silk dupioni before laying out your pattern .

Hand Needle felting : #3

Supplies:

Block of foam 2 “ thick or thicker
38 gauge barbed needle felting needle
Wool roving



To create a separate dimensional flower or buds or centers , it can only be done with a single needle and by hand .

Place a small tuft directly onto the foam , begin to poke it to felt the fibers to itself , as you continue to poke , you will see that the fibers are starting to compact, so use the tip of the needle to start shaping it , if it is flowers then pull in from the edges where you want the shape of the petals to be . If it is the flower center then keep poking it and turning it with the non working hand so that you can get a round shape . The more you poke it the more compact it becomes.

As far as the vine on the vest front , place the foam to the back of the vest front and needle felting by pulling off a long string of wool roving or use yarn and needle felt in place by poking , then place your flowers along the vine and needle felt only the centers to the vest front , (you can also if it fits , put it up under the machine and just needle felt it in the center until attached .

With the flower center place them in the center (be sure that the vest front is on the foam , when putting everything in)hold the center with the non working hand , just put your thumb on it to hold it and from the sides start needle felting the center into the flower and down into the vest fronts .





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