

Mother of the Forest and her Children

Materials List

1. Wool felt - Hand dyed, variegated felt looks beautiful for the body of this mushroom mama - have a look at the *Magical Wool Felt Workshop* to see how I dye my felt. Beautiful earthy tones will work well. You can either choose one colour for her body and bodice or different colours for both. You'll also need some felt for her apron & apron pocket.

2. 100% Wool stuffing for stuffing the body & making the head.

3. Embroidery cotton/floss - in colours to compliment your body felt, bodice & apron. Plus colours for the eyes and mouth (if you choose to do a formed face). I love DMC & DMC for the eyes & mouth.

4. Coin or circle cut from thick cardboard - to weight your doll (I used a 50 cent piece) The cardboard often found on the back of a pad of watercolour paper works well.

5. Cotton chennile stick/ pipecleaner 15.5cm + 2 squares of tricot (3.5cm x 3.5cm) for hands

6. Cotton quilting thread/strong sewing thread - in a colour tone similar to your doll skin fabric (for making the head and attaching the hands). I like to use Gutermann Quilting Cotton. Gutermann polyester thread is a good alternative. Embroidery thread will also work.

7. English Leicester or another breed of sheep/ lambs wool locks/ fleece (washed but uncarded) in a dark colour for her hair. If you can't find these some wool slivers or roving would also work.

8. Woven fabric - to make her scarf. I used a beautiful wool muslin, but you could use linen, silk or more open-weave types of cotton such as double gauze or cotton muslin.

General Doll Making Supplies

- **Tricot (doll making cotton interlock fabric)** - in your choice of skin colour to make her head.
- **Tubular bandage (also called gauze) in size 1.5cm or similar for those making a formed face with eyes/mouth** - size 1.5cm - a length of 15cm will be enough for one head. Stockings are an alternative to tubular bandage.

Forest Folk Mama head circumference 10cm (9.5cm once contoured)

(You can also make a head with larger size gauze (4.5cm+) and cut it open to make a 'free form head' rather than stuffing wool into the tube.

We will do this technique for the Forest Folk Children.

- **Red beeswax crayon** - to give your mama doll some rosy cheeks.
- **Sewing needles** - Quilt basting needles (these are very long thin sharp needles and my favourites for doll making). Embroidery and chenille needles may also be useful.
- **Scissors & pins**
- **Chopstick for stuffing**



Meet Forest Folk Mama...

Forest Folk Mama has been busy in her little corner of the forest gathering supplies for the cooler months. She wears an apron with a big pocket for all those little treasures her children find for her, a warm woollen shawl adorns her neck and a snug mushroom cap keeps her wild hair in place. She can usually be found foraging deep in the forest, a basket on one arm and a few little forest children in toe.



Forest Folk Children

To make your little forest folk you need similar supplies to your forest folk mama. These are briefly listed below along with any other specific notes to make your children of the forest.

1. Wool Felt - earthy tones
2. 100% Wool Stuffing
3. Embroidery cotton/ floss
4. Coin or circle cut from thick cardboard - (5 cent coin)
5. English Leicester or other locks/ fleece for hair
6. Light weight fabric for frill/ collar - cotton, linen or silk
7. General Doll Making Supplies

Measurements for little doll heads

6cm head circumference - made using a piece of tubular bandage opened out. See video for more details.



Mushroom Caps

Materials List



About...

A simple little mushroom cap that can be used for all sorts of seasonal projects.

Mushroom Cap + Wet Felting Supplies

1. Carded wool (wool batt or sliver) - for the mushroom caps.

Mushrooms grow in a huge variety of magical colours. I went for a more traditional toadstool red!

2. Non porous material to make an egg shaped mould - I used some plastic easter egg covers, but balloons are another option. You could also use some nuts or seed pods or anything else **egg shaped** that you can felt around. A round shape can also work.

Small sized caps - an egg mould approx. **13cm x 11cm**

Large sized caps - an egg mould approx. **16cm x 13cm**
(measuring the circumference in both directions).

3. Wet felting Supplies

- Dishwashing soap - the dishwashing liquid soap you have in your kitchen will work well - I like to use a natural eco dishwash liquid. You can also use olive oil based bars of soap.
- A few old towels + tea towels - to place underneath where you are felting and another to wipe the bubbles off your hands.
- Bowl (if you aren't working at your kitchen sink)
- Wooden spoon

Quick Guide - Wool for Felting

Wool batt - made on a drum carder and looks like a blanket of fibres - they can be pulled apart into roving and are great for wet felting, needle felting. *A great base for wet felting playmates, little bowls and most projects as it felts very easily.*

Wool sliver - Similar to carded batts as the fibres aren't perfectly straight (usually pulled off a batt) - this gives the wool a fuzzier texture and makes it perfect for wet felting, wool painting and needle felting. *I use Corriedale Slivers for most of my needle felting, wet felting projects. Also great for Story doll hair.*

Wool roving - the fibres have been aligned parallel with each other to give a smoother preparation (usually for spinning). Sliver is turned into roving by aligning the fibres. Roving has a slight twist to the entire rope of roving. *Lovely for story doll hair, wool painting, wet felting and needle felting.*

Wool tops - are combed fibres, so all the fibres are straight and aligned giving a very smooth and silky wool *Perfect for fleece fairies.*

