

Needle Felted Pinball Bumper Necklace

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Tools used in this project

- [Foam sheet](#) (1)
- [Sewing needle](#) (1)
- [felting needles](#) (1)

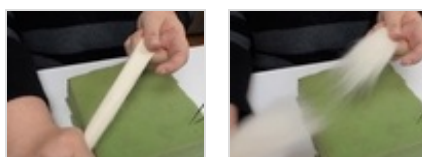
Parts relevant to this project

- [wool roving](#) (1)
- [Sternlab LED Sewing Kit](#) (1) *(optional)*



Step 1 — Needle Felted Pinball Bumper Necklace

- Gather tools and materials



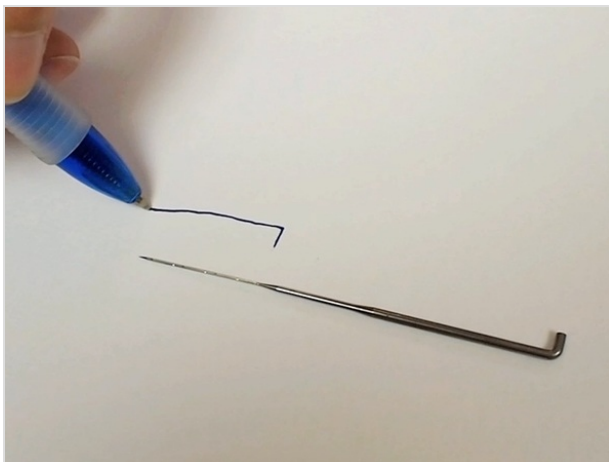
Step 2

- Grip the wool roving with your hands a good distance apart, and pull gently.




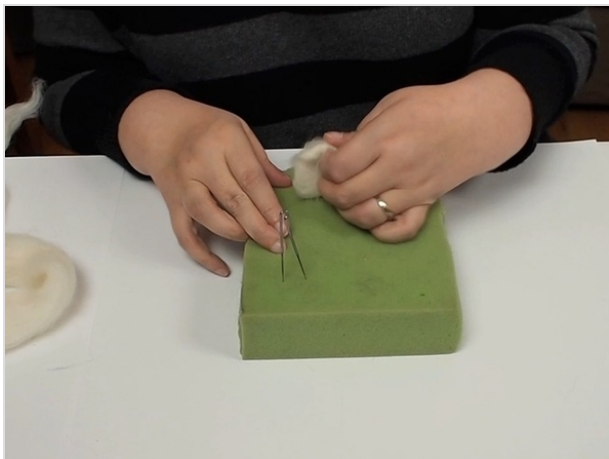
Step 3

- Twist up the fibers. The more criss-crossed they are, the easier it is to felt.
- Fold it together into a disc-like shape and begin to poke it with felting needles.



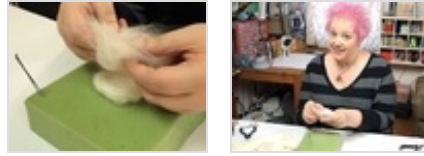
Step 4

- Safety! Felting needles are the sharpest sharp thing you've ever played with, unless you're a surgeon. 
- Always watch your hands while felting.
- Never felt tired.
- Use shallow, soft pokes instead of heavy pokes.
- When you do stab yourself, just put a bandage on it and keep felting!



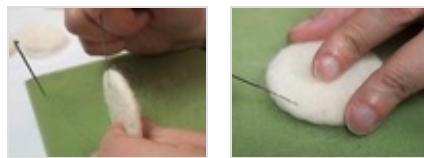
Step 5

- Once it starts to form a shape and is a little bit combined, pull the disc off the foam and turn it over.
- Continue poking.



Step 6

- After a while, there won't be any more loose fiber to poke.
- Loosely twist up another wisp of wool roving and wrap it around your disc.
- Lay it down on the foam and keep poking until all of the new fiber is incorporated into the disc.



Step 7

- Twist, wrap, and poke many more layers of roving.
- When it's nice and thick in the middle, but the edges are still fuzzy, use tiny pokes along the edge of the disc.



Step 8

- Create one large backing disc and one smaller accent disc and check that the sizing is how you like it.
- Felt shrinks as you work, so allow for things to get a bit smaller during finishing.



Step 9

- Twist up a small wisp of fiber for the accent design.
- Lay it on the surface, overlapping the edges.
- Poke in a straight line across the disc.
- Pull the long tails toward the center and tack them down.



Step 10

- Now do the details for the top disc using tiny wisps of fiber.



Step 11

- If you want your pinball bumper to light up, cut a hole in the back disc with very sharp scissors, then widen the hole with needle-nose pliers.
- Affix the LED with wire or conductive thread to the battery holder. See the [soft circuit sample project](#).
- Felt around the LED and affix the top disc.



Step 12

- Affix the finished pendant to a necklace.

Photography by Becky Stern.

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