

## Wash + Filz-It Floor Cushion

### Difficulty Level



### Felting Guide

**Very important** Before starting, always read the following sections on Knitting and Felting in the Washing Machine and Needle Felting. These are full of useful tips to ensure your designs are always a success.

The measurements given in the method for the felted panels are a guide only. The felting process depends on many factors, including how the wool has been dyed, how loosely or how tightly you knit, from the temperature of the water when being washed, from the washing program, and even how full the washing machine is. Also, every machine washes differently. Your felted item can thus turn out smaller or larger than the measurements given. If you have never felted a knit or crochet item in the washing machine before, start with an item where size is not so important. Even if the felted size should be different from ours, you will still have a beautiful home made item.

#### Materials

The yarn Wash+Filz-it! Tweedcolor consists of 76% new wool and 24% polyamide, each 50g ball has a length of about 70m. With such a high percentage of new wool this yarn is not machine washable, and consequently perfect for machine felting.

#### Tension felting

Only by working a tension square will you be able to determine the correct needle size to use and the correct washing program for the felting.

To do a tension sample cast on 4 stitches more than given for the appropriate pattern on the correct needles, work 4 more rows than given, then cast off all stitches.

With a piece of waste yarn embroider running stitches around the centre area, enclosing the number of stitches and rows as given for the tension sample. This area should measure about 10 x 10cm [4 x 4"]. If it is bigger, you knit too loosely and need to knit firmer and/or use smaller needles. If it is smaller, you knit too firmly and need to knit looser and/or use larger needles. Felt this sample in the machine under the same conditions as you will later felt the completed item. Then block the sample into shape well, allow to dry, then measure out the marked out area; this is now smaller than when it was not felted.

If the square is not felted enough, you can always wash it again, select a different program with more spins or even a higher temperature.

If the square has been felted too much, you will need to use a program with less spins and/or a lower temperature.



## Wash+Filz-it!

To estimate the width and length of your felted item, measure the width of the felted square and divide it by the width of the unfelted square, then work alike and divide the measurement of the felted square in length by the length of the unfelted sample. Multiply the width or length of your knitted accessory by this number.

#### Felting in the Washing Machine

In general, felting in the washing machine is done at a temperature of 40°C. Use a colour detergent or all-purpose detergent, but not a detergent for woollens and no fabric conditioner.

To make the most efficient use of the washing machine, and also to increase the felting effect, wash the items together with hardwearing coloured items, jeans or towels, but never wash them together with new towels since these can still lose fibres that will then bind with the items to be felted. Different designs and colours can be felted together.

When washing with light colours and/or if you add jeans or coloureds to the machine, always add a colour protect sheet. Select a program that has a higher water level, e.g. delicate cycle with spin, but not a special program for woollens.

In the washing machine the parts will shrink by about 30%; these figures are only a general guide.

**If your item is still too big or has not been felted enough after the first wash, wash it again at 40°C, or even at a higher temperature, or select another program, see also the section on "Tension and Felting".**

## Shaping and Drying

After washing, pull your felted item firmly into shape, as given in the Method, and press the seams apart well from the inside. Rounded shapings are easily worked over a fist. Hats are easily shaped using a suitable form (e.g. wig stand, inflated balloon), and allowed to dry on the shape.

With some garments, e.g. hats with long tips or the thumbs of mittens it is easier to shape the points using the handle of a wooden spoon.

side alike to the resp side edges of 2nd cover, leaving about 30cm open for the wadding.

Felt the cover in the washing machine, see our Felting Guide, then pull rmly into shape and allow to dry.

Stuff the dry cover rmly with wadding and close opening. With a rm thread pull the cushion tog through the middle with a few stitches, then sew button to upper side of cover, see also photo.

## Frequently Used Abbreviations

alt alternate/ly; altog altogether; ch chain; cm centimetres; col colour/s; g grams; htr half treble; K knit; LH left-hand; P purl; rem remaining/remainder; rep repeat; rev st-st reversed stocking stitch; RH right-hand; RS right side; dc double crochet; sc single crochet; sl-st slip stitch; st(s) stitch(es); st-st stocking stitch; tbl through back of loop; tog together; tr treble; WS wrong side.

## Instructions

All measurements in the Method apply before felting unless given otherwise.

## Materials

### YARN

**Wash+Filz-it!** Tweedcolor , 850g #01082 petrol tweed color.

6-7mm needles, and one weaving needle.

About 1000g polyester wadding. 1 oval button, about 6.5cm long.

## Size

### Before felting

width about 80cm, length about 90cm.

### After felting

width about 50cm, length about 50cm.

### STOCKING STITCH (ST-ST):

knit on RS rows; purl on WS rows.

### TENSION

#### before felting:

about 12 sts and 20 rows

#### after felting

about 19 sts and 36 rows, each to 10 cm.

## Instructions

### METHOD

knit 2 sides of a cushion cover.

For each side about 80cm wide cast on 97 sts and work 180 rows even in st-st = about 90cm. Cast o all sts.

Now knit the edging as foll: for about 9cm in width cast on 12 sts and work 340cm even in st-st (= circumference of cushion cover).

Cast o all sts. Sew cast-on and cast-o edges tog.

### TO MAKE UP

sew one long edge of the edging tog with cast-on edge, the side edges and the cast-o edge of one side of cushion, and sew 2nd long

