



## Felt & Nuno Felt Cowl - Neck Warmer

~ Wear it Many Ways! Great Beginner Project! ~

## ABOUT THIS PROJECT

I came up with this design while making samples for a larger project. It is always helpful to make samples to determine how your chosen colors, fibers and patterns work together. Samples also help you plan designs for larger projects, and can help you determine the number of layers needed for a particular thickness, the amount of wool needed in weight and the shrinkage estimate for a given project. Samples can also be skills builders for practicing particular layout patterns and practicing your fiber pulls...in this case, pulling off thin tufts! This project has proven to be a great way to make a truly usable sample for a lightweight product and to test designs and color themes.

I initially made a square sample for a larger project, a comprehensive felted purse workshop that will be available in our new online school after it launches in 2020. While making that sample, I got the idea for another project and then felted that. It is a fun one that I am continuing to refine and plan to share in the future.

While felting the above "mystery" project, I came up with this neck warmer - head/ear warmer. I like to stay cozy but do not like fussy wearables and this all day wear / sport weight cowl is just perfect for people who are looking for light weight warmth and comfort. You almost forget you have it on!

It is comfortable and light weight enough to wear all day, it can go from head to neck in a matter of seconds, and can easily be squished down and stuffed into the pocket of your coat. It would work for a woman or man, boy or girl depending on how you design the surface layer.

It is easy to hand wash and reshape, or even to shrink back down if you lend it to a friend with a bigger head ;). It would make a fabulous gift...and the colors/design can be catered to any taste. I also predict it would be a great seller at shows when cold weather is near or present!

The black and blue one featured on the model is made with 16micron Merino top, a base layer of silk gauze 3.5mm, and a variety of design elements including silk hankies, bamboo, tussah, viscose, up-cycled silks and even Kona cotton. The total weight is 1.2oz. Approximately .6oz of wool was used.

The brown and pink one featured on the model is made with 19 micron Merino top, and a variety of design elements including silk hankies, sari silk waste, bamboo, tussah, viscose, and up-cycled silks. The total weight is 1.6 oz. Approximately .7oz of wool was used, along with a few heavier weight silks.

You can also make it to be reversible, and it can be made with or without silk layers.

## SUPPLIES USED:

[www.livingfelt.com](http://www.livingfelt.com)

2.95-2.75

- ❖ [Merino Tops in 19mic or 16mic](#) .5oz - 1oz
- ❖ [Sill Gauze 3.5mm](#) or [Margilan Silks](#) Use Yardage or cut from a scarf
- ❖ [Embellishment fibers](#) such as
  - Tussah Silk
  - Sari Silk Waste
  - Silk Hankies
  - Bamboo Top
  - Viscose
  - Wool Nepps
- ❖ Silk Fabrics of your choice for design
- ❖ [Ball Brause](#)
- ❖ [Felting Mesh](#)
- ❖ [Thin Resist Material](#)
- ❖ [Olive Oil Soap](#)
- ❖ [Thin Plastic Sheeting](#)
- ❖ [Bubble Wrap](#)
- ❖ \*\*Get all of the "tools" in our [Wet Felting Tools Bundle](#)

**Gather the materials above, cut out your resist, and join in the fun!**

**Watch the video tutorial here:**

<https://tinyurl.com/nunofeltcowl>



**Final dimensions 10.5" - 11" wide x 8.5" - 10.5" tall**

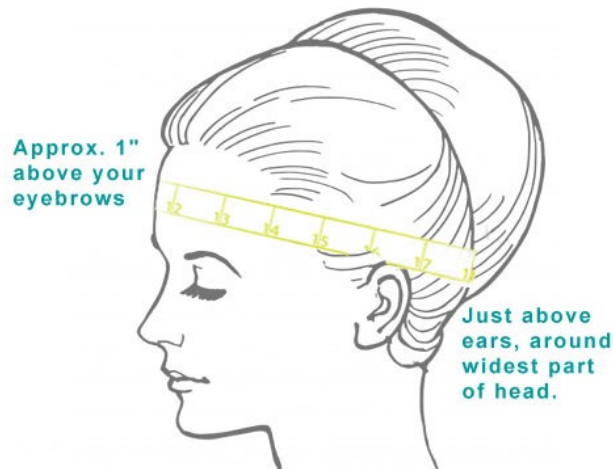
**The interior of the black is silk gauze, the other is wool and embellishment fibers, silk fabrics were only used on one side.**

## CREATING THE RESIST

If you cut the resist into the dome shape as shown on the next page, you will be able to use it for other projects that we will be sharing in the future.

The height should be 23" - 24" . The width will be determined by the head size of the wearer. If using similar fibers and fabrics, plan for a 30% shrinkage rate in width. For wearing as ear/head warmers, you will want a snug fit, with room to fold it and you also want it to be flexible for shaping and stretching where desired. (we will get 40% - 50% shrinkage in height)

### Measuring the Head



### Example

**Head measurement of 21"**

**Head measurement  $\div$  2 = 10.5"** This is our desired end width of our felted product  
(As measured while laying flat and measuring the inner width.)

It is ok if it the end product is 10.25" or 11.25", etc. and you are likely to see variance within your finished piece depending on your chosen design elements. Some will shrink more and some will shrink less. This can be stretched a bit if needed. The most important end result is that it can be comfortably pulled over the head and ears.

**Template = desired measurement  $\div$  (1-shrinkage rate)**

If we estimate a 30% shrinkage rate in width, that means our finished piece is 70% of the starting measurement: **10.5"  $\div$  .70 = 15"** This is the width to make your template.

Following our example on the previous page, our resist would be this shape and in the measurements shown.

