

Best Colors and Blends for Realistic Fur and Hair

PAT230301

Selecting the correct fiber colors to accurately represent realistic animal fur or hair on a person can often be a challenge.

We explore techniques in this tutorial that provide a simple method to identify which colors to blend, and how to blend fibers to match a subject.

We demonstrate how to make a color swatch library of both your solids and blends, making it a breeze to refer back to a given fiber color or blend in the future. The color swatch methods shared will give you handy visuals for works in 2D that are felted flat and for 3D works where the fiber is long.



This tutorial is packed full of tips and tricks including how to select a proper reference image, a Fiber Palette page template for a reference journal, and more!

See the Tutorial & Shop Supplies here:

<https://feltingsupplies.livingfelt.com/ww-carding-fur-and-hair>

Recommended Supplies Needed:

- Fibers:
 - Fine **Merino Tops** are used to make swatches and blend fibers in this tutorial, but you can also apply these techniques to any roving or sliver, including medium-coarse **New Zealand Corriedale**, or with battings such as **MC-1**, **Bergschaf**, or **Maori**.
 - For added sheen and silky appearance, consider adding **Viscose**, **Bamboo** or **Silk Tops**.
- Color Swatches:
 - 100% Wool Felt Sheet
 - WOW Felting Pad
 - 42 Triangle Needle
 - Scissors
 - Markable Keytags, ID Badge Clasps, Keyring, Pen
 - Miniature Cookie Cutter - Square

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Our Wild & Tame: Hair and Mane Packs in Fine and Medium are curated with the most common colors we recommend when blending fiber for hair and animal fur. Shop @ www.livingfelt.com

[Wild & Tame: Hair and Mane: FINE](#)

[Wild & Tame: Hair and Mane: MEDIUM](#)

Looking for a deeper dive on blending fibers for realistic needle felted animals?

Blending Batting: [Needle Felting a Realistic Short Hair Brindle Pitbull](#) with Eszter Baba is a great starting point for exploring realism in animals. Explore using wool batting to create a short haired coat on a miniature realistic dog sculpture.

Blending Sliver: [Needle Felting a Realistic Long-Haired German Shepherd](#) with Eszter Baba is the next step in needle felting realistic animal sculptures. This course blends both batting and New Zealand Corriedale to create a long-haired coat effect on a German Shepherd sculpture.

Blending Roving and Luster Fibers: [Rise & Shine Felted Rooster](#) by Irina Hughes explores blending bright, bold colors of bird feathers. In this course, you'll make blends with Merino Tops and Luster Fibers to create a silky smooth and fantastically vivid feathery plumage.

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Fiber Palette

Project:

Fiber:

H=Highlights M=Midtones L=Lowlights

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