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# Shibori Knitted Felt



## Synopsis

Knitters who already love knitted felt for its softness and durability take their skills to new heights with these wonderful projects for garments, accessories, and home fashions. By incorporating Shibori, the Japanese art of manipulating fabric to create unusual textures and color effects, these projects delight with their fanciful bobbles, pleats, ruffles, and embroidery stitches. Designs include a delicate frilled scarf embellished with beads, a pair of Turkish shoes, an embossed throw, a pleated cape, a water-bottle cover, and a striped "bump" bag made by tying marbles into the fabric before washing to create a bubbled texture. A guide to felting basics, lists of yarn types and equipment, and washing-temperature charts to ensure exact shrinkage are included, and beautiful photographs, step-by-step instructions, full-color illustrations, and sidebars filled with tips and techniques make the projects easy to envision and complete.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"What you get are beautifully organic looking and feeling projects. Layers of texture, depth of color and shape, a wonderful adventure in knitted felt."Â  &#151;knitty.com"A whole new world of Shibori."Â  &#151;CraftGossip.com"Charming. . . . Small, useful projects like handbags, flowers, and cushions enable readers get to the 'fun' part of transforming their knitting into textured felt with minimal effort."Â  &#151;Monsters and Critics.com"What's great about this book is how encouraging it is about readers trying their own thing . . . a must for anyone who likes felting."Â  &#151;About.com Guide to Knitting

Alison Crowther-Smith teaches popular workshops in knitting and felting and has worked as a design consultant for the Rowan company.

This is a book for those who already are familiar with the properties of felted objects. Although there are explanations for the novice, the projects themselves would be a bit intimidating for the uninitiated. I will probably try a project or two, but I purchased this primarily for the explanation of how shibori techniques work with regular felting, and for that, it does the trick.

If you like Shibori felted knits, you will like this. Mostly textures that looks like balls popping out from putting marbles, walnuts, etc. in the pre-felted yarn with rubber bands. I think the book is good but wonder how many projects with round balls shapes I really want, probably not a book's worth. Also crimping with Bull Nose Clips, etc. The book is excellent but Shibori knits not really my cup of tea. I will probably make something from it but it won't be my life's work!

This book is filled with outstanding designs that you will want to try. I have done the Shibori felting before, but have seen many new techniques that I will be trying. Unlike some book on Shibori knitting and felting this book offers projects such as wearable art, home furnishing items and lovely gifts to make.

This book was a big disappointment. If you already know how to felt knitted pieces, you've got 85% of what this book has to offer. There is only one project that I would make from the book and that's the cover pillows--and they are just knitted squares with contrasting bobbles. There are some new techniques that I haven't seen before, like pleating knitted fabric with non-shrinking thread before felting to create a rippled effect, but frankly I don't think the effect is all that attractive. I would only make something from this book if I had exhausted all the other projects I want to knit and that would take a looooong time.

If you already have experience with felting (fulling) knitted fabric, then I would pass on this book. It does have *some* interesting ideas and details for those less experienced with felting, so I gave it 2 stars (but, at the end of this review, I list 3 books that are much, much better - for beginners, as well as experienced). This is not a book about needle felting, or creating a felted fabric that has not first been knitted. This is a book about knitting for the purpose of felting. Now, I love knitting for the purpose of felting (especially accessories and bags of all sizes and shapes), and I have been felting

for a few years now. This book did not present me with anything new - and I found it uninspiring. Did I mention that I LOVE felting, and the fabric it creates? Well, I have felted many different wools, but none were soft enough to wear as a scarf wrapped around your bare neck. There are at least five (5) felted scarves in this book. My family laughed at me when I asked if they would wear a felted scarf around their bare neck - "no way". Although I enjoy the feel of felted fabric, I would not wear it directly against my skin - no way ! An article of clothing that is to be lined with a soft fabric - yes, I (and my family) would wear a lined felted garment, but not the felted fabric directly on skin... The book does have 3 bags - but they are very basic, for beginners, and uninspiring. The book has a couple of blankets and throws - again, not inspiring. The author suggests one of these blankets could be a baby's blanket... I can not imagine placing a baby directly onto (or tucked under) felted wool. The book does have some felted pillows and other home accessories - but again, I found them uninspiring (yes, I sound like a broken record... uninspiring...). If you've never felted... well, you \*may\* like this book. But, I would suggest that you check the library or book store first. I DO recommend the following books on felting (no affiliation): "Knit One, Felt Too" by Kathleen Taylor; "Felted Knits" by Beverly Galeskas; "Fabulous Felted Bags" by Nicky Epstein. These are just 3 very good books on felting (fulling) - there are more out there. I do not recommend this book - if you think you'd like it, well, try to get a look at the library or local book store first.

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Shibori Designs & Techniques Simply Shibori  
Shibori: The Inventive Art of Japanese Shaped Resist Dyeing  
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