

FELTMAKING

- Types of feltmaking include: wet felting, Nuno felting (lamination), needle felting and washing machine felting. Each type achieves its own unique characteristics and techniques.
- Ideas can be sourced in the public domain, but the finished work should be the artist's own with his/her own voice apparent in the finished product.
- Felted objects are best enhanced with elements of surface design. After felting other decorative additions enhance the work. Machine or hand stitching can add texture and surface interest.
- Choose acid or fiber reactive dye for silk; use acid dye for wool and roving.

JURY CONSIDERATIONS**ARTISTRY (originality and creativity)**

- Is the voice of the artist apparent in the finished work?
- Is the design original to the artist?

WORKMANSHIP**GARMENTS and ACCESSORIES**

- Is the garment sturdy enough to hold its shape when wearer is sitting, bending, or stretching?
- Has an appropriate type of wool been chosen?
- Will the accessory stand up to continual wear and exposure to weather?
- If a decorative scarf, will it hold together under use? Is it resistant to snagging?
- If jewelry, is it felted very firmly? Has it been coated to avoid fuzzing or pilling?

RUGS, BOOTS, UPHOLSTERY, YURTS

- Has a heavier, coarser wool such as Gotland blends been used?

WET FELTING

- Has the work been created in even layers with no thin spots or lumps?
- Has the work been felted firmly enough with no loose fibers?
- Are the edges of the work of uniform thickness with no fraying? (The exceptions are intended sculptural features such as cutwork holes and decorative additions.)

NUNO FELTING

- Has the nuno felted wearable, accessory or yardage been firmly felted so it will not snag or be easily pulled out of shape?
- Are the thin areas sturdy enough for the intended use?
- If raveled edges are part of the intended design have they been protected from excessive stress by the use of "Fray Check" or a similar product?

NEEDLE FELTING

- If the needle felted item is intended to be wearable, has the back side been wet felted slightly to secure fibers and other materials from loosening or pulling out?

WASHING MACHINE FELTING

- Is the felted piece sturdy enough for its intended use and blocked into shape?

USABILITY

- Are garments sturdy enough to withstand stress? Are seams smooth? Are armholes comfortably sized?
- If necessary, has the garment been lined for added stability?
- Are accessories sturdy enough to withstand heavy wear? Are the purse straps firm and well anchored?
- Do vessels or other sculptural work have a sturdy base?
- Does a wall piece hang properly? Does it hang straight? Is it ready to exhibit?
- Are care instructions included?