

Wren ★ Feathers

Hand-felted doll slippers

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This is SO easy and fun, as well as a great way to use up little leftover bits of yarn. If you have some gauge swatches gathering dust, this could be a great use for them too.

You can use any **feltable** wool yarn. Make sure it doesn't say "superwash" or have anything else in it, like acrylic or nylon. It's important to knit with a needle size a little larger than what's specified on the yarn. I used Lion Brand Fisherman yarn (worsted weight) with a gauge of 4 sts/in on 10.5 US needles.

This will shrink down to fit a variety of dolls such as **Magic Attic, Maru and Friends, Girl for all time, Sasha, and other dolls with similar size feet**. If you make the rectangle smaller, you can make it fit smaller feet like Hearts for Hearts. For larger feet like **AGs**, just increase the size of the rectangle!

You need to knit two rectangles roughly 4.5" (12cm) wide by 3.75" (9.5cm) tall; a little larger is fine, it just takes longer to felt. For me, with a gauge of 4 sts/in that meant 18 sts and 16 rows on a 10.5 US needle.



Knit two rectangles, don't bind off, just run a long tail back through the loose ends that were on your needle. Pull them tight, tie off, and then stitch that into a flat toe.



Sew halfway down the rectangle and tie off. Sew up the back seam, which should be your cast-on edge, not the loose mess you see on mine. (Optional) stitch down a little triangle to make a flat heel.



It should look like this now.

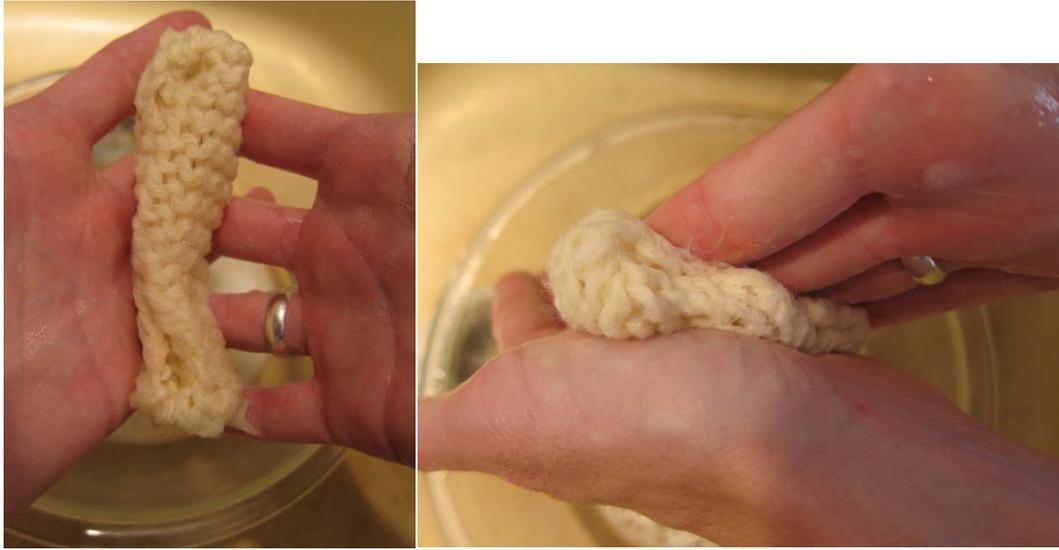
Now comes the fun part!



Prepare two bowls/containers of water. One is plain, cold water, and the other is very hot tap water with some dish soap. This would be a fun project to do with a child, with you in charge of the hot water bath and the child in charge of the cold water. You'll keep felting until it looks like the one on the right in the pic above.



Soak for a little while (a minute or two) in the hot, soapy water to make sure it's thoroughly wet and soapy.



Start out with a rolling motion, like you're rolling a snake from play-doh. Do this both ways – horizontal and vertical. Felting is happening when it's hot, soapy, and being agitated.



Switch to the cold water bath, swish and squeeze it around a bit to “shock” it, squeeze out very well and go back to hot. The whole felting process for one slipper takes maybe 10-15 minutes, longer if you need it to get smaller.



Keep the doll nearby and periodically try it on her. Cover foot with plastic wrap if needed. This slipper is NOT finished yet. When it's finished, it should fit the foot well, and your stitches should no longer be visible. When it's finally the size you need, rinse in cold water with a little bit of vinegar, then plain water. Shape to the doll's foot, remove, and put somewhere warm to dry.



These would be so much cuter decorated with embroidery, felt cut-outs or needlefelting. I was SO tempted to kool-aid dye the yarn before knitting, but using undyed yarn meant absolutely no danger of stains to the doll's feet.