



Felting Soap

By Becky & Allison Wisher

Welcome to the art of wet felting soap! By agitating alpaca (or wool) fiber around a bar of soap in hot water, you create a lovely and practical product. Let's start!

Short Video: Please visit our website www.CordialAlpacas.com to see the felting process in motion

or

Step-by-Step Instructions: See below. There are more helpful tips on the last page.

Step One:

Gather bar of soap, fiber, towels, and warm water (approx. 102 degrees)



Step Two:

Wrap 3 thin layers of fiber tightly around bar of soap—

1st width-wise,



2nd length-wise,



3rd width-wise



Step Three:

Hold fiber-wrapped soap in both hands and thoroughly wet in warm water



Step Four:

Squeeze fiber with both hands several times, turn soap over, squeeze with both hands several times, turn over, and continue repeating until fiber starts to entangle (felt) and cling to itself---approx. 1-2 minutes



Step Five:

Add more water. Gently rub and squeeze fiber on all sides. Gently rub back and forth and in circular motions—approx. 1-2 minutes. If corners/edges of soap become exposed, gently move fiber with fingertips to cover.



Step Six:

Add more water. Squeeze and rub fiber more firmly on all sides until snug around soap and is NOT fluffy anywhere—approx. 2-3 minutes



Step Seven:

Rinse gently in cold water to further tighten fiber and to rinse off suds. Gently squeeze out excess water.



Step Eight:

Pat dry on towel. Set aside and allow to air dry for 12-24 hours. Enjoy!



Helpful Tips:

- **Don't rush! Take your time for best results.**
- **Each felted soap will be unique since the fiber will move and entwine as you felt it.**
- **Any bar of soap may be used.**
- **We prefer 3 layers of thin fiber so the soap will suds through the fiber better and not be too thick as the soap shrinks from use.**
- **Keeping the water at a consistently warm temperature helps the felting process.**
- **Never have the water temperature hotter than you can place your hands in comfortably. Also, overly hot water will cause the fiber to felt almost instantly and not cling to the bar of soap.**
- **Squeezing the wet, fiber-wrapped soap at first helps keep the fiber in place as it begins to felt.**
- **If a corner of the soap remains uncovered or only thinly covered after the felting process, relax. The felted soap will suds a little easier and will be lovely and practical even if not completely encased in fiber.**
- **Great project to do with children or group of friends!**
- **Felted soap is very handy to take camping, on mission trips, or anywhere you would like a non-slippery soap and washcloth in one!**

Please visit us on Etsy for more of our alpaca fiber products:

www.etsy.com/shop/CordialAlpacas

**If you have questions, please feel free to email us at
CordialAlpacas@gmail.com.**