

Cornish Sailing boat Needlefelting Kit.

Kit Contents Checklist

Before you begin, ensure your kit contains the following items:

- **Needle felting work pad**
- **2 Felting needles** (stored safely inside a protective clear tube)
- **Pre-drawn picture** on premium linen fabric
- **10 cm wooden picture hoop** (for framing)
- **Corriedale wool bundle** (hand-dyed ocean blue, raven black and rustic brown)
- **Merino roving** (navy, pale blue, sunny yellow, crimson red, and a purple mix blended with **Angelina fibre**)
- **Hand-sewing needle & strong thread**
- **Soft sticky pads** (for safe disposal of any broken needle tips)
- **Circular card backing** (for mounting your frame)



Safety & Setup First

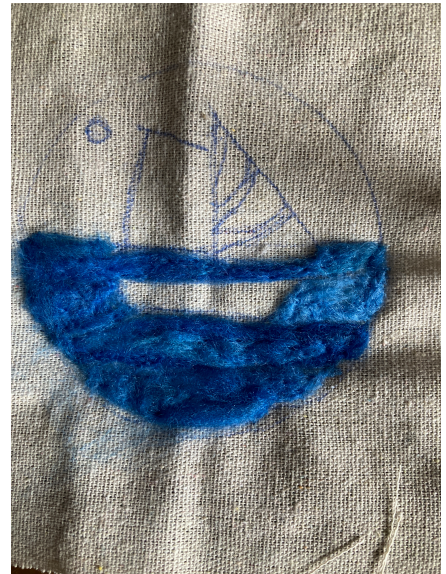
- **Unpack with care:** Open your bag, extract the wool pack, and locate your needle storage tube.
- **Select your needle:** Choose the **long needle** from the container to anchor all your initial base shapes.
- **Watch the barbs:** Examine the sharp ends carefully; they are covered in tiny, sharp barbs designed to lock the fibres.
- **Store safely:** Always place your needles directly back inside the storage tube immediately when not in use.
- **Handle breakages:** If excessive side-pressure snaps a needle. Ensure you trace and retrieve the broken steel segment instantly. **Safe disposal:** Wrap the sharp broken fragments inside a sticky pad before throwing away safely.

Step-by-Step Instructions

Step 1: Painting the Sea

- **Prepare your workspace:** Place your pre-drawn linen fabric completely flat across the centre of your high-density felting pad.

- **Visualize the design:** Treat this process as "painting with wool," binding the raw fibres smoothly into the template lines. Keep checking with the photograph.
- **Colour the ocean:** Using the hand dyed blue, gently pull out wisps of fibre to create waves. As it's many shades of blue, you can use this fibre for both water and sky. The sky needs to be lighter blue. Tap the fibres onto your design. Down/up tap tap. Don't stab your fingers or your lap! Rest the pad on a tray or table to work.
- **Build the texture:** Add some deep navy wool to construct the wave formations.
- **Work horizontally:** Work across the picture, from side to side to keep your background neat and uniform.
- **Layer the depths:** Alternate your darker and mid-tone blues to colour the sea areas both in front of and beside the boat hull.



☁️ Step 2: Adding the Sky

- **Switch your shades:** Put aside your deep ocean blues and gather your pale sky-blue wool variants. Work across your picture horizontally from edge to edge to build an even, atmospheric background.
- **Shape the clouds:** Use white or light blue wool to create clouds.
- **Place the sun:** Roll a tiny button of the yellow wool and tap it down cleanly with your needle to form a bright sun.



🚤 Step 3: Crafting the Boat

- **Felt the sails:** Select your red wool to create the sails, locking them down carefully right over your finished background sky layer. (1 square sail, 3 triangular sails)
- **Creating the hull:** Form the main boat hull directly beneath the sails using your rich, rustic brown Corriedale wool.
- **Master your stabbing technique:** Work horizontally across the hull in light, gentle, rhythmic "tap tap" movements.
- **Keep needles straight:** The working barbs live



entirely on the tip of your needles. Never bend, flex, or pry the needle or it will instantly snap. Don't leave a broken needle lying around or inside your work.

Step 4: Adding Fine Details

- **Swap your tools:** Switch over to the **shorter needle** to begin executing your precise, close-up detail work.
- **Rig the lines:** Roll fine strands of black wool between your fingers and felt them down carefully to define the vertical mast and intersecting sail ropes. Anchor your lines to the bow tautly... to the point at the front and to the stern (back) where the sails attach to the hull.
- **Define the sail:** Place a thin line for the boom horizontally straight across the top edge of your square sail.
- **Fly the flag:** Mount a striking triangle of yellow wool at the very peak of your mast to represent a flag.
- **Apply metallic shimmer:** Tease small amounts of your purple/Angelina fibre mix across the water surface to mimic shimmering sunlit reflections.



Framing & Finishing Your Masterpiece

Step 5: Mounting Your Artwork

- **Sew a border:** Thread your included manual hand-sewing needle with a robust strand of the strong thread.
- **Stitch the outer edge:** Pass a loose, uniform running gathering stitch around your artwork border, spaced 1 cm outward from your wool.
- **Position your wooden framework:** Place the smooth inner ring of your 10 cm display hoop flat underneath the centre of your fabric panel.
- **Gather the margins:** Draw your gathering thread firmly to synch the outer linen margins tightly across the inner wooden ring.
- **Stretching to mount:** Carefully manipulate your work until your wool design stretches perfectly out to the edge of the circle.
- **Perform a spot inspection:** Review your work for thin patches or bare linen gaps—this is exactly how your artwork will display... **Fill empty gaps:** If you spot thin



patches, add a tiny bit of extra wool to bare spots right now to completely hide the underlying linen.

- **Lock down the outer hoop:** Drop the outer ring (containing the metal hardware screw) onto the mounted work. Make sure the screw sits centred at the top of your picture. Finger tighten the metal screw until securely into position.



Step 6: Finishing the Back Cleanly

- **Trim excess fabric:** Use sharp scissors to cut down the remaining gathered outer linen edge to a clean, even 2 cm margin line.
- **Fold your borders inward:** Neaten the trimmed cloth edges by folding them cleanly inward toward the centre point of the rear cavity loop. Press and layer any remaining fabric flat against the inside back cavity of the hoop frame.
- **Apply glue line:** Run a line of craft glue carefully all along the outer edge of the supplied circular card backing.
- **Seal your backing:** Press the card down firmly onto the back of your picture to hide all raw edges cleanly out of sight.



Well Done!




You have successfully created your wool needle-felted painting!

Share Your Creation & Leave a Review!

We'd Love to See Your Cornish sailing boat!

Did you enjoy making your wool painting? Your feedback helps our small business grow! Please snap a photo of your finished masterpiece, share it on our page, and leave us a review on Facebook at **Cheeky Choughs**. Happy felting!

The Cheeky Choughs

-  **Website:** www.cheekychoughs.co.uk
-  **Facebook:** Cheeky Choughs
-  *Handcrafted in Pendeen, West Cornwall*

