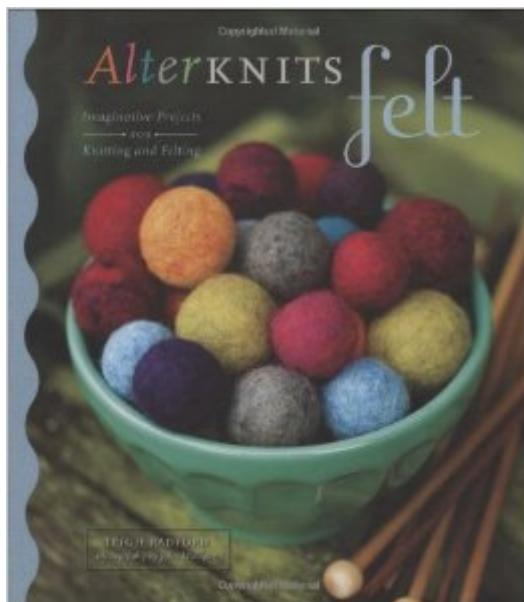


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# AlterKnits Felt: Imaginative Projects For Knitting & Felting



## Synopsis

There's something magical about felting knits: You start with a piece of fabric that looks and feels a certain way and, by exposing it to water and agitation, finish with one that looks and feels completely different. This fascinating transformation is what led author Leigh Radford to begin felting years ago, and has kept her intrigued by the process ever since. Now, in *AlterKnits Felt*, Radford pushes the boundaries of traditional felting, as she did with traditional knitting in her earlier book, *AlterKnits*. Through 30 colorful, vibrant projects, she shows readers how to knit and then felt their own handiwork, as well as how to create gorgeous felted objects from recycled knits and unspun fiber. An introductory chapter on felting basics explains everything you need to know to make the fabulous clothes, accessories, and home decor that follow. The projects range from a quick and easy circle coin purse, to a shibori bag, to a reverse-appliqued rug, each unusual in its own way, distinguished by a special surface texture, an innovative mix of techniques, or a quirky combination of yarns. *AlterKnits Felt* provides every crafter with the tools to explore and expand the art of felting.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

*AlterKnits Felt* is a standout book amongst other felting books - Leigh Radford has made her distinct mark in this fantastic book. Full of great explanations on what fibers do in the felting process, different processes are covered and of course, great!! projects ranging from small rings to larger totes. The instructions go further than your typical instructions - you're told why to do some steps so

as to make your felted item better in the long run and they're accompanied by really clear diagrams. A highly recommended book, especially if you're a fan of One Skein or AlterKnits!

This is a wonderful book and I'm really excited to make some of Leigh Radford's creations. However, this is a book with fulling and needle felting projects, NOT felting projects. Fulling is the process of taking already knitted or woven pieces and felting them (often in the washing machine). Felting is, by definition, working with unspun fibers. The picture on the cover may be a bit misleading since the balls are actually felted. The vast majority of the book's 30 projects are fulled.

Being a huge fan of Ms. Radford's previous books, "AlterKnits" & "One Skein Knitting" I am pleased to see that her third effort only gets better & better. The projects are thoroughly detailed, the use of color and imagination in their development is beautiful and inspired. Ms. Radford is a master and I always find projects in each of her books that a complete luddite like myself, can complete with confidence and satisfaction. A brilliant and unique addition to my library, and a fabulous kick-start to my own imagination.

From a small, adorable ring to a cover for an IKEA ottoman, there's something for all levels of ambition here. I really like the modern style of the designs. Some of the projects start off with something you've knit yourself while others have you start with a recycled wool sweater. I have to admit I like the looks of some of these recycled projects so much that I'm considering knitting my own sweaters just to recycle them into laptop sleeves or chair cushions. I really love the use of both color and texture in these projects. There's a nice span of techniques to get you there as well... texture is accomplished through shibori or cabling, color is added through knitting, needle felting, or surface embroidery to name a few options. The felted objects are either shaped through knitting or the felted fabric is cut into the desired shape. I really like the tone of the book too. I think this book and I are going to spend a lovely winter together.

I look to books like this for inspiration and find myself referring to it quite frequently. Nice mix of goodies to make. Not outstandingly innovative but good descriptions and, more importantly, directions.

This book contains the best advice about felting I've found. Such clever patterns included. Really love the circular zippered coin purse pattern. I've made several for gifts and everyone has loved

them. Fun to make and such fun to see the change in shape after felting. I think of them as jewelry pouches, but it has been interesting to hear everyone's different ideas for uses of them. This is a great book!

I haven't made anything from this book yet, but I just love the creativity. This is one of those books I like to go through just to get inspired. I bought another of the Alterknits books for the same reason and I like to support this kind of art. Highly recommend this book!

This book presents beautiful eye candy that inspires me to make, make, and make! Plus, the projects are fashionable, but with their own different twists. The projects range from purses and scarf-like creations to Christmas and home decorations. If I were looking for a felted/fulled objects book and had no prior knowledge of this book, this is the one I would go to first.

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