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Felt Frenzy: ***26 Projects for All Forms of Felting*** Heather Brack and Shannon Okey

Loveland, Colo.: In this day and age, felt is not just for pool tables—it's the newest craze for fashion-savvy crafters wanting to create completely original handmade fiber goodies. And, this one-of-a-kind fabric is easy to make. If you can shrink a sweater in the washing machine by accident, you can make felt.

Fiber artists Heather Brack and Shannon Okey demystify the art of felting in their new book **FELT FRENZY: 26 PROJECTS FOR ALL FORMS OF FELTING** (Interweave Press, \$21.95, May 2007). Aimed at the absolute beginner, this can-do spirited book is the all-in-one guide for instructions and projects in four major felting techniques: knit-and-shrink felting, wet felting, needle felting, and “recycled felting”—turning salvaged wool sweaters into useful felted pieces.

FELT FRENZY'S original projects range from whimsical, wild, and cute to classy, beautiful, and elegant. The ever-popular felted bag gets a face-lift with numerous patterns to choose from including a needle-felted plaid Bermuda bag, two-tone pocket purse, monogrammed handbag, and more. Learn to make felted flowers, hats, jackets, scarves, and even a nuno felted skirt. Needle-felt a pattern on your favorite fabric sneakers or decorate your home with pillows, Maki pincushions, and even Sheepy Scrubby Soap. There is truly a felted design for every personality to tackle, and the before-and-after felting photographs aid readers in controlling the felting process to fit their fancy.

As an added bonus, **FELT FRENZY** includes “design ideas” scattered throughout the book to give any project an extra creative boost. These suggestions not only help readers integrate felting into other fiber arts such as embroidery and shibori into felting, but also help them think outside the box to become a felting designer all on their own. **FELT FRENZY** also includes close to 50 felted yarn combination swatches that will help readers envision the results for their projects before choosing the materials.

Unlike other books about felting, **FELT FRENZY** is the only one that talks about all four techniques to make felt—making this an indispensable, one-stop-shop for DIY felting instruction. Armed with

FELT FRENZY, any crafter can attack all forms of felting, learn the ropes, and come away with a great project to show off—to be the felting envy of the crafting world.

How popular is felting?

- ***Time Style & Design*** reported in “Luxury Index A to Z: What’s influencing the way we live now?” that felt work has become “sumptuous art for the home.” (November 21, 2006)
- **Felt Club**, a monthly mini-craft fair “featuring the best and brightest of the SoCal craft scene,” has gained national recognition in publications such as *Daily Candy*, *Los Angeles Magazine*, *Adorn*, and *Make* for its wide variety of felted goods and other handmade gifts. Website: www.feltclub.com
- Sales of *Felted Knits* by Beverly Galeskas (Interweave Press, \$21.95), a book exclusively about shrinking your knitting, show no sign of letting up as the book returned to press a seventh time in 2006, for a total of 73,000 copies in print.
- Even Martha Stewart recycled felt as a means of making quick holiday gifts like mittens in her magazine *Martha Stewart: Living*.
- Felted handmade goods are hot seller at indie craft fairs and on websites like www.etsy.com. From coffee cup cozies to pretend cupcakes, bags, hats, and more: if you can make felt, you’re not limited in what you can make, just how you do it.

FELT FRENZY:
26 PROJECTS FOR ALL FORMS OF FELTING
by Heather Brack and Shannon Okey
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About the authors:

Heather Brack is an editor and writer who enjoys spinning, knitting, and other fiber arts. She is a contributor to the books *Knitgrrl*, *Knitting for Dogs*, and *Small Dogs, Big Hearts*. She lives in Cleveland, Ohio.

Shannon Okey is a writer, knitter, spinner, and fiber artist. She has appeared on several crafty TV shows, including the DIY Network’s *Uncommon Threads* and *Knitty Gritty*, and HGTV’s *Crafters Coast to Coast*. Her books include *Knitgrrl* and *Knitgrrl 2* and *Spin to Knit* (Interweave Press, 2006). She is a city coordinator for the national indie craft show Bazaar Bizarre and lives in Cleveland, Ohio.

About Interweave Press LLC:

Interweave Press, a unit of Aspire Media, is one of the nation’s leading media companies with businesses centering on magazine and book publishing, interactive media, and events for craft enthusiasts. The Interweave Press Publishing Group features 12 subscription magazines and many more special interest publications published once or twice a year. Interweave Press has more than 250 books in print and annually publishes about 25 best-selling, how-to craft books on the same subjects as the company’s magazines. Additionally, Interweave Press operates eight annual craft enthusiast events and has an extensive Internet presence that includes nearly 30 websites.

Linda Ligon founded the company in the 1970s when she began publishing *Handwoven* and *Spin-off* magazines. Since then, the company has grown to employ more than 100 people throughout the country, with corporate headquarters located in Loveland, Colo. For more information on Interweave Press, please visit www.interweave.com or call (970) 669-7672.