

Nuno Bead Meditation Material List

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Craft House evening 6:30-9:30pm Friday 2 Oct and 9:30-4:30 Sat. 3 Oct

A lot of time goes into each bead, in a 1.5 day workshop you will generally not finish enough beads for a whole necklace, but will be well on your way. The first evening will be spent creating the felted mosaic from the fabrics you bring. Then on the second day we will cut and sew the beads from the mosaic and work on creating cording. Dig deep into those stashes and bring some amazing fabrics to play with!

Fibre Requirements

Exotic and unusual fabrics: We first need to create a 1 metre square mosaic of felt with interesting nuno textures. Each piece of fabric should be **no larger** than 15 cm x 15 cm. It's important to try and keep in a colour family (ie. earth tones, red /black/grey, creams, brights, etc...). It's also important to try and identify a "look" or "feel" that you are trying to express (ie. Indian sari influenced, vintage lace look, a Japanese feel, American Southwest style, African influenced...). Now try and gather textured fabrics and prints that express this feel. It is better if the design on any printed fabrics is small. Remember you will only be making small beads the size of a fifty cent piece. Thrift shops are great for finding interesting and affordable bits of fabrics.

Here are a few types of fabrics that are worth exploring. Be really adventuresome! Try much heavier fabrics than you would normally use, try more modern synthetic fabrics. If it won't felt down, we will stitch it down! If you like its texture and the colour give it a try!

- knitted fabrics with texture (cables, moss stitch....) or you can simply bring along any wool knits that have already been felted
- Embroidered with sequins
- Velvet and velvet burn out
- Thai Silks
- Lace
- Synthetic fabrics with interesting patterns/textures
 - Techno glitzy fabrics - Linens
- Stretch netting/lace fabrics
- Embroidered borders

Haberdashery

-Variety of sewing needles: beading needle, sewing needles, Chenille needle size between No. 18-21 or Sharp Tapestry or better yet a Long Darning needle, size between No. 16-20 with large eye.

- Variety of threads that contrast and/or match your fabrics. Threads are very important. I have a huge selection to work from. Some shiny, some matt, some linen, some silks, some thick some thin, etc. I'm sure if you bring a selection we can all share around.

- Thimbles are useful
- Scissors, normal and small sharp pointy ones are good

- Beads – small seed beads or similar types to hand sew on as decoration – optional
- Large beach glass beads or other beads (fimo, resin...) that have a pretty large hole and might look good with your fabrics – often better to source these after you have most of your beads made for the necklace - optional
- Cording for the necklaces. This is a big subject. We will learn to make our own cord from fabric I will supply or you can bring something that looks good with your fabrics. Bring any other materials you think would be appropriate and interesting for cords. I will also bring some other types for purchase. If you don't have anything on the day, it will be fine. The choice of what cord to use takes some time and thought. We can work on this together.

Wool for Felting:

Bring 100gm – 200gm of Superfine or fine Merino tops (18.5 – 21 micron). Try bringing a couple of different colours that **tone** with your fabrics (ie brown fabric bring brown or beige wool) and also bring wool to **contrast** with your fabrics (ie, if you have a brown fabric bring red wool). A wool batt is fine, but be aware it will have a very predominant effect in the way the felt and the beads look.

Felting Equipment

- Bubble wrap or non-stick matting, slightly longer and wider than 1 metre square for rolling your felt, whatever you are happy using is fine.
- If you have a small piece of non-stick matting bring it along as I find it useful to keep your work from sliding around.
- Lightweight plastic sheeting, at least TWO pieces longer and wider than 1 metre square
- Pole or pool noodle slightly wider than 1 metre
- Several old towels
- Olive oil soap or Natures Organics Earth's Choice liquid dishwashing soap is a good choice as it has a pH of 6.5-7.5.
- Bottle with fine holes for wetting out
- Netting to cover work for wetting out
- Bucket
- Notebook, pencil
- Lunch
- Name tag
- Plastic painter's tray (make sure it has lots of ridges) OR Glass Washboard OR Ikea has a plastic cutting board with ridges on back – these will be used as a fulling surface.

