



Felt:FYI *fiber*

Let's talk about fiber, the foundation of all textiles. Dietary fiber helps our digestion and optical fibers transmit light. If we touch, our nerve fibers are stimulated. In textiles, a fiber is a strand of material that can be **natural**, **manufactured from natural materials**, or **synthetic**.

Natural Fibers. The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) states that a "natural fiber" refers to any fiber that exists as such in the natural state.



wool fiber

That includes fibers from plant sources and animal sources, of which **wool** is the most popular.

National Nonwovens uses wool from the Merino breed of sheep in all its WoolFelt® product lines. Merino wool is regarded the finest according to strict industry standards because it has a

luxurious softness compared to coarser grades of wool.

Manufactured Fibers from Natural Materials. These fibers are plant-based or cellulosic. This category is complex and often confusing to consumers because of the "natural" and "manufactured" classifications. National Nonwovens manufactures felt using two types of manufactured fibers that derive from natural materials: rayon and bamboo.

Rayon, primarily made from wood pulp, was the first manufactured fiber and the textile industry adapted it as the term for all organic viscous fibers. It has many appealing properties such as superb softness and drape. When National Nonwovens blend rayon and wool together, the best characteristics of both fibers are utilized. As a result, our WoolFelt® blends are enormously popular and are typically preferred over other felts because of their versatility and value.



bamboo-rayon fiber

by the FTC. Bamboo fibers are extremely smooth and soft. National Nonwovens' XoticFelt®, made from bamboo fibers is noticeably softer than other felts. It also uniquely absorbs dyes for luxuriously rich and vibrant colors.

Synthetic Fibers made from Polymers. Felt in this category typically include acrylic, polyester, or nylon fibers. Acrylic is the highest quality of all the fibers in this class and is what National Nonwovens uses in its FiestaFelt® and GlitzyFelt product lines. Acrylic fabric is lightweight, washable, and inexpensive compared to felt products made from natural materials.

Fiber Expertise & Quality

National Nonwovens has hundreds of different nonwoven products in highly engineered technical markets with unique fiber constructions. To be successful with this extreme diversity, an expansive fiber inventory and fiber library is crucial.



(above) Fiber library at National Nonwovens showing over 100 different types of fiber.

(below) table with the four types of fibers used in National Nonwovens' Craft & Hobby Felt Products

Fibers - Craft & Hobby Felt Products	
Natural Fibers	
WOOL (WoolFelt)	<i>WoolFelt is made from Merino sheep, the highest grade wool</i>
Manufactured Fibers - Natural Materials	
BAMBOO (XoticFelt)	<i>Bamboo fibers come from the pulp of bamboo plants</i>
RAYON (blended felts)	<i>Cellulose fiber, primarily made from wood pulp</i>
Manufactured Fibers - Polymers	
ACRYLIC (FiestaFelt & GlitzyFelt)	<i>Synthetic fiber made from chemicals</i>