

# INSPIRED BY NATURE: THE LOTUS

## Materials list

A more detailed and illustrated Materials List is available in the course classroom immediately upon booking, as well as an extensive Materials List Q&A pdf. and a Suppliers List pdf.

### ESSENTIAL MATERIALS

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• good quality, close up reference images of lotus pods from all angles, and/or a dried lotus seed pod</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ruler x 2</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• set square (also known as a set triangle; a device to measure and mark angles)</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• pencil</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• marker pen</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• multi purpose scissors</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• fabric scissors</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• sewing needle</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• sewing pins</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• strong, fine polyester sewing thread in a colour to match the seedpod. If you don't have the right colour, use grey.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a knitting needle (any size)</li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 2mm or 3mm laminate floor underlay, approx. 80 cm x 80cm</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● a roll of reinforced tape (gaffer/duct/gorilla tape)</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● bubble wrap (or other preferred work surface that can be rolled up, such as non-slip drawer liner), min. size 90cm x 70cm. Small bubbles</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● some bubble wrap remnants (old/used, that would otherwise be thrown out)</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● water container</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● piece of net (to cover wool when wetting out)</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● towels (one large, one small)</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 2 bars of soap (100% natural olive soap is recommended)</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● digital (kitchen) scales to weigh out wool</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 48 grams of 23 micron Merino wool, for the <b>main body</b> of the seed pod. The choice of colour is entirely yours, but in order to focus on the sculptural techniques in this workshop, my advice is to limit yourself to a palette of 2-3 colours.</li> <li>● PLUS 5-10 gram of the same 23 micron Merino wool in the <i>same colours</i> as above, for attaching seeds</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 40 grams of 23 micron merino wool for the <b>seeds</b>, in colours/tones that either compliment or directly contrast with the main body of the seed pod. There is no need to limit yourself to a small palette (unless you want to).</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● approx. 5-10 grams of old or odd bits of wool - to be used for stuffing. This could be roving, batts or raw fleece</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 2 layered pre-felt (off-cut or purpose made), approximately 15 x 15cm (if incorporating seedless "craters" instead of, or in addition to, seeds). The colour of this pre-felt will be visible <i>inside</i> the craters, so choose carefully</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● very thin plastic painters drop sheet, available in DIY stores. The cheap budget/economy versions are best for our purposes. Often comes on a roll.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● thin strips of fabric or old nylon tights</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● small carding brush, such as a cat grooming brush, or a wire brush</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● selection of bulldog clips (19mm and 25mm) and any other small clips</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● (long nosed) pliers</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● a small sponge</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● a couple of wooden rolling pins, sawn off broom sticks, or wooden dowels in different size diameters. LENGTH: minimum 30 cm - maximum approx. 40 cm. DIAMETER: 2 (or 3) different diameters is ideal - aim for a range anywhere between 2 - 4cm.</li> <li>● You will only use these tools for a short amount of time in the sculpting process, so please don't invest too much time or money sourcing the 'ideal' object. You may find you already have suitable objects lying around that can be adapted (old broom sticks/rounded chair leg/ artist paint brush handle/rolling pin/dowel etc. ) - and it is really NOT A PROBLEM if the object tapers/narrows slightly at one or both ends.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● approx. 20 cm length of <i>ribbed cable conduit flexible tubing (unsplit)</i> in a variety of diameter sizes (<i>approx.</i> inner diameter 4.5mm, 6mm, 9mm) - These make great and cheap sculpting tools and are available on the internet by the meter. They can be cut to size with scissors. For suppliers or alternatives, see the Suppliers List pdf.</li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 packet of orthodontic elastic bands (1/4 inch or 6mm) - a packet usually contains 100 bands. Available on the internet. Note: Orthodontic bands are ideal as they are designed for, and can cope with, getting wet. Other very small elastic bands such as 1/4" dog grooming elastics may also be used, but opt for a natural (un-dyed) colour</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• electric heat gun (used for stripping paint)</li> <li>• if you don't have a heat gun: a zippo lighter OR a small kitchen blow torch OR some cotton wool + methylated alcohol</li> </ul>

## OPTIONAL MATERIALS

The following materials are not essential, but may give you a wider range of creative possibilities, may make your working space more comfortable, and may speed up your work process.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a centrifugal clothes spin dryer (highly recommended - no serious felt maker can do without). Second hand ones can sometimes be found online.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a set of 4 bed/furniture raisers (to raise the height of your table)</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• non-slip drawer liner to place under your towel and work surface</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• rolling bar such as a foam pool noodle or a wooden pole</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ball brause/sprinkler (if you have one, if not; hands are fine)</li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● some dyed or undyed fabric to incorporate into the felt. Avoid synthetic fabrics as these are harder to work with. Open weave fabric such as cotton scrim, or lightweight fabric such as silk chiffon are good</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● approx. 5-8 g. of dyed or undyed decorative fibres such as flax, linen, ramie, silk to incorporate into the surface of the felt</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● any felt making tools you may have, such as a palm felting tool - this can speed up the rubbing process significantly and is great if you suffer from painful hands. Various brands are available on-line</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● sheet of paper, approx. 30cm x 30cm (a roll of Kraft/parcel paper is ideal)</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● a couple of thin spongy dish cloths</li> </ul>

