

Scrap Basket



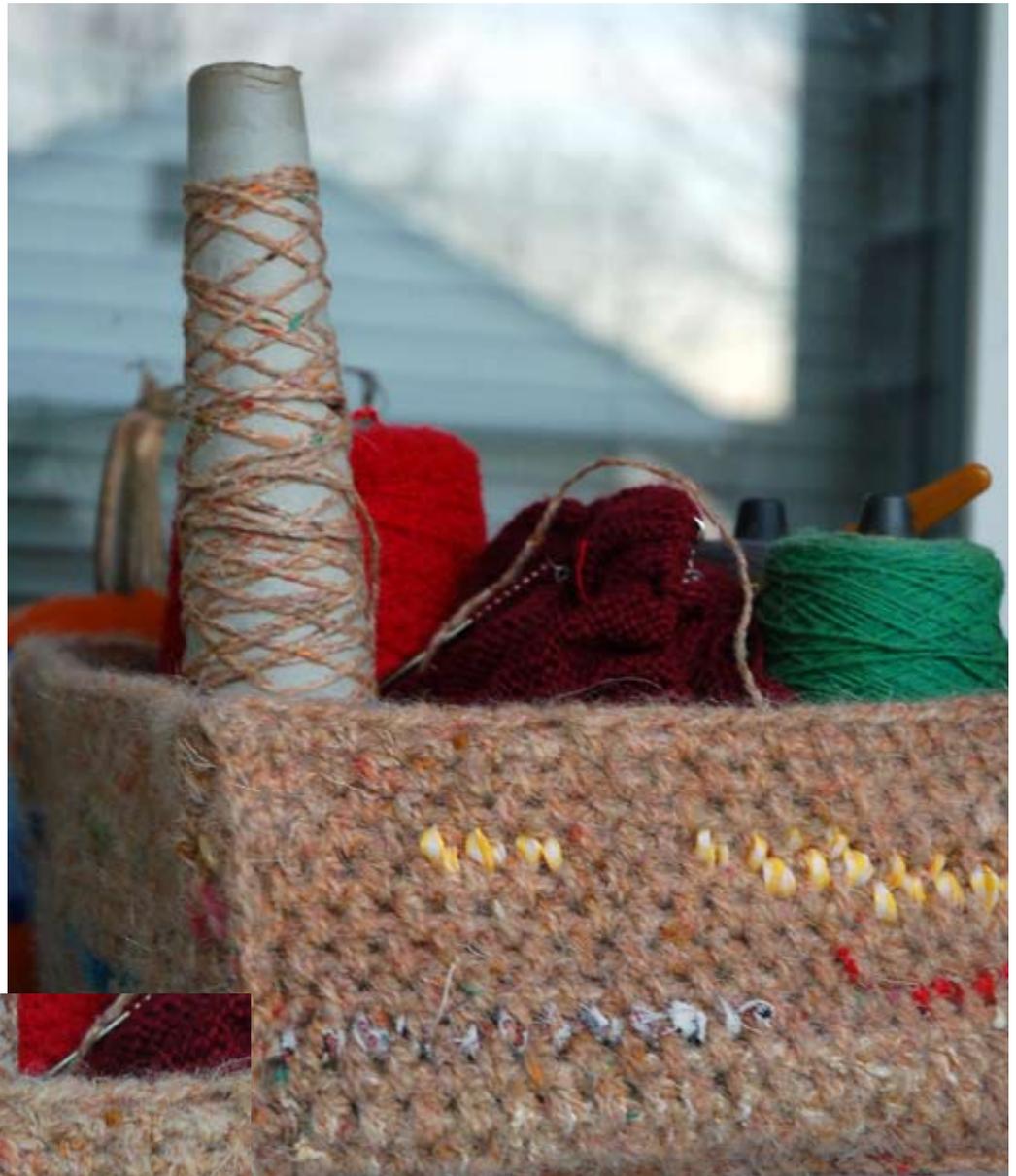
Ingredients:

7 oz of shetland wool
(wool that will felt)

Many scraps of yarn, fabric strips and ribbon, each piece at least 12 inches long

Size G (4.25 mm) Hook

Top loading washer



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Directions:

Throughout the basket, pick up and crochet scraps in with the shetland wool. Don't drop the wool, just pick the scraps and crochet the two "strands" at the same time. Then drop the scrap when you get to it's end. Don't worry about weaving in ends, after felting you will be able to just trim it all down.

Bottom

Chain 23 with shetland wool

Row 1: Skip 2 chain sts, 1hdc into next chain; 1hdc in each chain stitch to end, turn.

Row 2: Chain 2 (counts as first hdc), 1hdc in each chain stitch to end, turn.

Rep 2nd row until the fabric is a square. Cut yarn, pull through loop, and weave in all ends.



Sides (make 4)

Chain 23.

Row 1: Skip 2 chain sts, 1hdc into next chain; 1hdc in each chain stitch to end, turn.

Row 2: Chain 2 (counts as first hdc), 1hdc in each chain stitch to end, turn.

Rep 2nd row until the fabric is 6 inches tall. Cut yarn, pull through loop, and weave in all ends.

Assembly

Single crochet the pieces together. Sides to the bottom and then the sides together.

Felting

Toss in the washer on a hot wash and a cold rinse. You see, the hot opens up the barbs in the fibers, they aggitate all together, then the cold rince shocks them closed again. At the laundry mat "colors" was the right setting for me. Not "bright colors", but just "colors". It's a good idea to take it out and check its progress after the wash cycle and before the rince cycle. If it's not felted enough, just start the wash cycle over again. It can take anywhere from 1 to 4 washes depending on your machine.

Pull over a box and let it dry that way, it will help to keep it's shape better that way.

Once fully felted (fulled), cut too 4 inch slits 1 inch from the top of two sides for the handles, only if you want them though.

I ran my basket through two times, but it's not quite all the way felted. So I'm going to run it with the towels and rugs and etc until it's all nice and felted. The main thing is I want to loose the stitch definition so I can cut the straps without it unraveling. It's really important that when you cut it (when I cut it) it's felted enough so it doesn't unravel. So how can you tell when it's felted enough? When you can see stitch definition anymore. It's that simple.

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