



Fungi Felt

Mushroom Kit and Workshop Service

Fabiola Hernández Cervantes and Linnea Moen
Co-design team: *Fabiola Hernández Cervantes and Linnea Moen*. Partner: *Navetta Galleria*

Fungi Felt is a workshop service concept designed for implementation at Navetta Galleria during the autumn and winter seasons. In guided needle-felting sessions, participants explore the tactile qualities of wool and the visual forms of mushrooms, creating their own handcrafted pieces inspired by fungal shapes and textures. In addition to the workshop format, Fungi Felt is available as a DIY kit that the partner can produce and retail in their shop. The kit includes carefully selected materials and tools, enabling customers to create their own mushroom-inspired woollen product independently.

Experiences in Finnish nature, picking mushrooms in the forest and foraging for popular edible species have inspired the creation of the *Fungi Felt* workshop and DIY kit. The idea for products and services inspired by wool and mushrooms emerged from Cervantes' encounters with nature, where

foraging and artistic ideas were transformed into educational practices through a workshop featuring locally sourced, naturally dyed wool to interpret local fungi (Figure 1). This process is presented in her book chapter reflecting on lessons of the Land (Hernández Cervantes, 2025).

After the initial ideation phase by Cervantes, the DIY kit prototype was further developed through a co-design process with designer Linnea Moen, who contributed to shaping product concepts inspired by the idea of 'listening to the forest through felt, fibre, and fungi.' The final co-created outcomes included a mushroom felting kit for crafting a brooch, a seasonal ornament, or a three-dimensional patch or magnet.

Subsequent prototype development focused on the three-dimensional patch, featuring two of the most commonly foraged mushrooms in Finland: the boletus (*herkkutatti*) and the chanterelle (*kantarelli*). The patches were co-designed by Lola and Linnea, and the DIY kit prototype was presented at the final exhibition of the VillaInno project. The kit contains felting needles, small amounts of wool, step-by-step instructions, and information about local mushroom species (Figure 2).

As a workshop service, *Fungi Felt* offers parti-

◀◀ **FIGURE 1.** Hernández Cervantes picking mushrooms with other mushroom enthusiasts, Photograph: Rafael Sola Llorente, 2025.

◀ **FIGURE 2.** *Fungi Felt* DIY Kit. Photograph: Fabiola Hernández Cervantes, 2025.



Designing a workshop service through nature and more specifically through mushrooms was personally a kind of stroll down memory lane. As a child living close to nature, mushroom picking was a passionate hobby, and returning to the theme of mushrooms after a long break felt like coming home. Exploring expression through a very forgiving material like wool, with memories of adventure and fun from childhood, was a very rewarding experience, and provided a creative break. Inspirations for the mushrooms in the DIY kit came from the combination of personal past experiences and autumn nature outside at the time of prototyping/designing. – Linnea Moen



FIGURE 3. Workshop held by Moen and Cervantes at the Villalno Final Event. Photographs: Fabiola Hernández Cervantes, 2025.

cipants an immersive, sensory experience of crafting mushroom-inspired brooches, seasonal decorations, and other needle-felted decorative pieces using locally sourced wool (Figure 3). The workshop combines craft with ecological knowledge about local mushrooms. The service can be presented as a seasonal workshop (autumn: mushroom foraging and crafting; winter: felting indoors at the Navetta Galleria café), and is aimed at the sustainable tourism field. The workshop is also thought to offer insights into Finnish mushrooms, an opportunity that can engage local mycologists and nature experts. During the piloting, Cervantes and Moen hosted three groups who crafted their own 3D patches. One of the groups was composed of foreigners unfamiliar with Finnish mushrooms.

The materials used for the felting were the following:

1. Carded wool from Pirtin Kehräamo in diverse colours. The colours we selected were the following: Keltaokra (#39), Lime (#19), Oliivi (#37), Ruskea (#322) and Ihonväri (#42).
2. A felting foam-pad.
3. Soft wool fabric circles as a base for the felting DIY kit.
4. Needle felting needles.

5. Possible to add yarn to embroider the patch into clothes or create small texture details.

6. Instructive leaflet.

Fungi Felt is an idea that grew from simple curiosity about combining two elements: wool and mushrooms; it has evolved from a personal to a participatory experience. Working together to co-develop the DIY kit gave us insights into what this project is aimed at: using wool craft as a method to notice and learn about local wool and local nature. This idea offers our partner, not only a fun activity to offer to tourists in her business, but a moment to become aware of the local nature – an invitation to sense the forest through fibres, since the project is mainly aimed at tourists in the form of a sustainable workshop that uses local materials and helps the newcomers to interpret local nature, also providing a product opportunity that the partner can produce with simple materials.

References:

Hernández Cervantes, F. (2025). Embodied mushroom learnscapes: Fostering the use of wool in artistic craft. In M. Huhmarniemi, K. Burnett, & A. O'Grady (Eds.), *Relate North: Lessons of the Land* (pp. 166–189). InSEA Publications.